

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
OF THE CITY OF LAMPASAS, LAMPASAS, TEXAS
JACK CALVERT MUNICIPAL BUILDING
302 EAST THIRD STREET
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Lampasas met in regular session on the above date with Chairperson Robin Gradel presiding:

Parks Board Members Present:

Shirley Blake
Clay Harrington
Harvey Stinnett
Robin Gradel
Mindi Pratus
Shane Jones
Tasha Bates

Parks Board Members Absent:

Diane Davis

City Staff Present:

Chris Eicher, Parks & Recreation Director
Vicki Tower, Parks Secretary/HR Coordinator

REGULAR SESSION

I. Call to order

Chairperson Gradel called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. Open forum for citizen comments and questions (limited to five (5) minutes per person)

Janet Crozier with Lampasas Community Gardens, told the Board that they have a need for some ADA garden beds. Crozier explained that they need the sidewalk extended to the gate of the Community Garden to allow ADA access to the Community Garden. Chris Eicher, Parks & Recreation Director, told the Board that the City has received quotes for the sidewalk extension to the Community Garden and it should be complete soon, weather permitting.

Robin Gradel, speaking as a citizen, told the Board that due to vandalism in our parks, she feels there is a need for security cameras in our parks.

III. Discussion and possible action regarding possible enhancements to Cooper Spring Nature Park

Chris Eicher, Parks & Recreation Director, told the Board that he met with Harrell Clary, Board member of the Cooper Spring Nature Park Foundation, this week regarding some possible enhancements to Cooper Spring Nature Park. Mr. Clary provided Eicher with a list of some proposed changes and enhancements to Cooper Spring Nature Park.

Since Mr. Clary was not able to attend, Eicher reviewed Mr. Clary's list of proposed changes and enhancements with the Board.

Topics of discussion included:

1. *No fishing, no horses, no bicycles, no motorized vehicles, no removing plants or wildlife*
2. *No Parking signs along Hackberry*
3. *Move LAFTA Park sign in front of nature park entry*
4. *Relocate 4'x16' nature park sign to south of park entry*
5. *Public ceremony at unveiling of plaque recognizing the Johnsons' contributions to Cooper Spring Nature Park*
6. *Water usage*
7. *Street crew mowing higher on the bank of Hackberry*

- Chris Eicher, Parks & Recreation Director, told the Board that there is an Ordinance already which prohibits motorized vehicles in the parks.
- The Board had mixed feelings regarding banning fishing, horses and/or bicycles from the Cooper Spring Nature Park.
- Eicher explained that the City keeps up with the water usage through the meter readings.
- Eicher explained to the Board that there are wildflowers growing along the bank of Hackberry and Mr. Clary would like for the City not to mow them down.
- It was the consensus of the Board that the City needs to continue to mow and maintain this area due to line of sight.
- It was the consensus of the Board that people need to be able to park along Hackberry for events and activities.

Projects needing funding

1. *Paving*
2. *Mulch for flower beds*
3. *Cooper Spring Nature Park sign on bench in front of entry (\$4,300)*
4. *Water gap funding (\$3,000)*
5. *Sidewalk in front of parking area (extension to the north) before paving*

- Eicher told the Board that the Street Department handles the paving projects and this area has been included.
- Eicher told the Board that City will begin working on FY 23-24 budget soon.
- It was the consensus of the Board that Harrell Clary needs to present these proposed changes and enhancements to Cooper Spring Nature Park to City Council.

Board member Jones moved to not designate “No Parking” along Hackberry Street, on both sides. The motion was seconded by Board member Harrington and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried. (Davis absent)

IV. Discussion and possible action regarding design planning and location of fitness equipment at 580 Sports Complex

Mindi Pratus, Lions Club member, discussed with the Board, design planning and location of fitness equipment at 580 Sports Complex.

Topics of discussion included:

- Lions Club would like to utilize the existing sidewalks at 580 Sports Complex
- Lions Club didn't complete LCRA grant application in time for the first round, but they will be submitting it in the second round in July
- Lighting – need to have an idea before the Lions Club submits grant application in July
- Benches

There was no action taken.

V. Discussion and possible action regarding tennis court lighting

Chris Eicher, Parks & Recreation Director, discussed tennis court lighting with the Board.

Topics of discussion included:

- Current lighting at tennis courts are pretty dim, they are not facing the right direction and are not actually sport facility lights
- Can try altering the angle of the lights for now to see if that will help some
- Will try to put tennis court lighting on CIP list

There was no action taken.

VI. Discussion and possible action regarding pool fees

Chris Eicher, Parks & Recreation Director, told the Board that adult lap swim opportunities have been offered during regular pool season. Adult lap swim can be offered before or after regular pool hours, depending on Lifeguard availability. Due to the popularity of this activity, Staff recommends adding Adult Lap Swim to the fee schedule.

Board member Pratus moved to add adult lap swim to the fee schedule at \$40 per month, similar to the water aerobics fees. The motion was seconded by Board member Stinnett and with a vote of six in favor and one opposed, (Blake), the motion carried. (Davis absent)

VII. Discussion and possible action concerning approval of minutes dated January 19, 2023

Board member Jones moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Board member Harrington and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried. (Davis absent)

VIII. Discussion and updates regarding Comprehensive Plan

Chris Eicher, Parks & Recreation Director, told the Board that he doesn't have any new updates at this time.

IX. Discussion regarding General Park Maintenance and Community Projects

Chris Eicher, Parks & Recreation Director, discussed General Park Maintenance and Community Projects with the Board.

Topics of discussion included

- Disc Golf – marking proposed layout of course
- Hike & Bike Trails at 580 Complex – reached out to IMBA to re-visit this and see about getting quotes for them to show us conceptual design and flag it so the City could possibly cut the trails ourselves
- Hostess House Addition and Renovation – bids are due at 2pm on February 21, 2023
- Skatepark – should be complete in about 2 ½ weeks
- Researching design and costs for possible kitchen and storage area at Campbell Park Pavilion
- Little League – March 4, 2023 is opening day
- Texas Multi-Chem will be installing sod next week at Turner Complex
- Pool Season prep
- Will be posting for pool positions this month
- Boys & Girls Club Soccer at Gavin Garrett fields
- Need surveillance cameras for all parks
- Waiting on quote from S&S Bridge for pedestrian bridge rehabilitation
- Quote for new lighting at Turner Complex – approximately \$850,000.00

X. Any item the Board would like to have placed on the next agenda

- Pickleball courts

XI. Adjourn

Board member Harrington moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m. The motion was seconded by Board member Stinnett and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried. (Davis absent)

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Robin Gradel, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Vicki Tower, Parks Secretary/HR Coordinator