

From: [Elizabeth Bryant](#)
To: [Kelly Schmidt](#)
Subject: Re: Bronze Award Project
Date: Friday, April 2, 2021 2:38:01 PM

Hi Kelly,

Do you have a Zoom link for Monday's Commission meeting?

The girls have been busy working on their presentation!

- Elizabeth

On Mar 5, 2021, at 10:24 AM, Kelly Schmidt
<kschmidt@cityofdrippingsprings.com> wrote:

Elizabeth:

I would suggest that the girls scout the parks and have "general" areas that they will want to place the caches in. My thought is that the Commissioners will have questions about that. Some will not want to encourage "off trail" traffic so the girls should be prepared to address those concerns. Right now- all meetings are via Zoom so perhaps that will be a better forum for them.

I'll attach the email you shared.

Kindest regards,

Kelly Schmidt

Parks & Community Services Director, MSRLS, LGI, CPRP
Office | 512-894-2400
Cell | 737-701-6569

[<image001.png>](#)

From: Elizabeth Bryant <elizabethrbryant@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 10:18 AM
To: Kelly Schmidt <kschmidt@cityofdrippingsprings.com>
Subject: Re: Bronze Award Project

Hi Kelly,

Yes, please go ahead and put the girls on the Agenda. This is definitely going to be a challenge for them (they are both very shy), but it will be a great experience for them and growing and developing confidence in their ability to communicate and be persuasive is part of the purpose of Higher Awards and Girl Scouts in general.

Do you have any idea of how likely approval will be? We are hoping to go ahead and start scouting parks in the interim, so if approved, they can get going on the rest fairly quickly.

Thank you for your help in this!

- Elizabeth

On Mar 2, 2021, at 7:42 AM, Kelly Schmidt
<kschmidt@cityofdrippingsprings.com> wrote:

Greetings Elizabeth!

When scouts approach the Parks and Community services department with an idea for a program or a project I ask that they present their idea to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Our next meeting is the first Monday in April. This is such a great experience for them and it allows our PRC to engage the public and provide recommendations on such proposals. It will then usually go before city council as a consent agenda item.

Would you guys like me to place this proposal on the next agenda? We are currently still meeting via zoom. Can the girls put together a little slide presentation to educate the Commissioners about geocaching? They are a very visual group.

Kindest regards,

Kelly Schmidt

Parks & Community Services Director, MSRLS, LGI, CPRP
Office | 512-894-2400
Cell | 737-701-6569

<[image002.png](#)>

From: Kelly Schmidt <k.b.schmidt.30@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 6:31 AM
To: Kelly Schmidt <kschmidt@cityofdrippingsprings.com>
Subject: Fwd: Bronze Award Project

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Elizabeth Bryant** <elizabethrbryant@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Mar 1, 2021 at 6:58 PM

Subject: Bronze Award Project

To: Kelly Schmidt <k.b.schmidt.30@gmail.com>

Hi Kelly,

I hope you and Summer are doing well. A while back, I mentioned that two of my 5th graders were thinking about making their Bronze Award project the placement of several geocaches in one of the local Dripping Springs Parks. The Bronze Award is the higher award available to Girl Scouts in the 4th and 5th grades, involving 20 hours each towards a project that serves their community at the time of its completion, as well into the future. They have drafted an email to you, requesting permission from the the city of Dripping Springs to pursue their project, which I have included below (I helped them brainstorm some ideas, but they wrote the letter themselves).

Dear Ms. Schmidt,

We are Makynden Willis and Parker Roche, Girl Scouts with adventure troop 44321. We would like to ask for permission to place 4 to 6 geocaches in one of our local Dripping Springs parks for our Bronze Award project. We feel that adding geocaches would be good for our community in several ways.

Geocaching keeps people active and healthy by hiking and climbing through the woods to locate the geocache. It encourages people to get outside and explore nature in a fun new way. Many people come to our local parks to enjoy the playgrounds, hiking and walking trails, soccer fields, swimming pool, shady places to picnic -- geocaches will provide people with another activity to do in the parks in Dripping Springs.

Geocaching is an activity the whole family can enjoy. Families are spending more time together with the COVID pandemic and they can all go out and geocache as a family. Each geocache is a surprise, so it can have different things that different family members can enjoy.

Additionally, geocaches will draw people to Dripping Springs who haven't been here before. They will see the new geocaches in Drippings Springs and want to explore a new location and park more than one they have been to before because it is new.

We have also thought about some of the problems geocaches

might cause, and have come up with ideas to help prevent those. To help keep our parks clean, we will place stickers inside the lids of our caches reminding people to pick up trash. We can also be careful of what we put into the geocache. Maybe we can use things that are safe for nature if they get left out like trash does. To avoid disturbing wildlife, we will place our caches close to trails. We would look at maps and work with our leader to determine the best places that will leave nature as naturey as possible and not mess with the environment or an animal's house.

Sincerely,
Parker Roche
Makynden Willis

Assuming we receive permission, our next step would be to scout the DS parks and decide which we think would be most suitable for the project — we would communicate with you again to confirm permission for that park. After that, the girls and I would do some more extensive scouting to decide on placement and size each cache. We would again, communicate those locations to confirm permission from you. Upon placement and registry with geocaching.com, we could also provide you with exact coordinates — in case you wanted to provide this information independently of geocaching.com.

Please let me know if you have any questions, concerns, or stipulations to the project. The girls really hope you will approve it!

Elizabeth Bryant, Outdoor Adventure Troop Leader (44321); Co-SUD 669
elizabethrbryant@gmail.com
512-497-5989