

**PARK COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEON VALLEY, TEXAS
FEBRUARY 8, 2024, MEETING MINUTES**

The Park Commission of the City of Leon Valley, Texas met on the 8th day of February 2024, at 6:30 p.m., at the Leon Valley Conference Center, 6421 Evers Road, Leon Valley, Texas, for the purpose of the following business, to-wit:

LEON VALLEY PARK COMMISSION MEETING, 6:30 P.M.

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Determine if Quorum is Present.

Chair Roger Christensen called the Park Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., with following Park Commissioners in attendance: Vice-Chair Bolton, Elaine Valdez, Thomas Benavides, Nancy Marrufo, Joyce Trent, Diane Frazer, and Ann Sawyer. Absent and excused was Commissioner Julie Carreon-Martinez. Also present was City Councilman Will Bradshaw, Staff Liaison Melinda Moritz, and Mr. Robert King from Skate Ecosystem, and numerous skateboarding enthusiasts.

2. Review and Approval of the January 11, 2024 Regular Park Commission Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Benavides had mentioned the tree count after all events was incorrect and asked that it be corrected. Vice-Chair Bolton made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2024 Regular Park Commission meeting with the correction. Commissioner Valdez seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Citizens to be Heard.

There were no other citizens present; however, Chair Christensen asked the Commissioners if they could move item 5.a. to the front of the agenda, as they had a presentation to give and had brought guests to the meeting. The Commissioners agreed and the item was heard.

4. Old Business

a. Discussion – Park Capital Budget

Staff Liaison Moritz gave the Commissioners a copy of the Park Capital Acquisition list. Some suggestions for inclusion in the FY 25 budget were shade covers for the Raymond Rimkus Park basketball court and the Silo Park playground and fitness equipment, a poured in place rubber playground flooring for the Raymond Rimkus Park playgrounds to replace the engineered wood mulch, and some funds for adaptive reuse of the LV Community Pool facility. Ms. Moritz stated that she would get estimates and include the ideas in the capital plan.

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b. Discussion – Revising the Park Master Plan (Commissioner Roger Christensen)

Staff Liaison Moritz stated that she would update the relevant sections and bring the proposed survey to the next Park Commission meeting for the Commissioners review.

Chair Christensen asked the Commissioners to review each section and make recommendations, paying special attention to the major boundaries of each zone, being Huebner, Grissom, Bandera, and Loop 410.

5. New Business

a. Discussion – Presentation – Skate Ecosystems (R. King)

Ms. Moritz introduced Mr. Robert King from Skate Ecosystems. Mr. King gave a presentation about how his company could renovate the Leon Valley Community Pool facility site as a small pump track skate park. He stated that residents wanted to use a skate park that was close to their homes and then showed several examples of small skate parks. He noted that the City of San Antonio was planning to incorporate smaller skate parks in their neighborhood areas because of requests from their citizens. He explained that skaters in the Bexar County region were being underserved.

Commissioner Valdez asked if the skate parks were “all abilities” parks. Mr. King replied that they were, as the berm forms provided for children with special needs. He noted that sustainability measures were also incorporated into the design which included landscaping, shading, and seating areas that could also be used for skating. He stated that the type of freeform concrete structuring attracted spectators as well.

Commissioner Marrufo asked for a cost estimate. Mr. King stated that they could construct a park for under \$200,000 and that typical parks are around 40-55 dollars a square foot and that taller, more complex bowls increase the price, while the features under 4' tall with trails are a lower price point.

Commissioner Frazer asked if the skate park would incorporate the entire area of the facility. Mr. King stated that they would start with just the pool footprint and then the city could enlarge the park over time with a phasing plan.

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Chair Christensen said that there was a skate park located about 3.5 miles from the Leon Valley city limits. Mr. King explained that the new designs are more user-friendly and are multi-use as compared to the older style of skate parks. He gave an example of the Lakeway Skate bowl as being too difficult for most inexperienced riders, as few people can ride and perform tricks. He also stated that some of the older skate parks were made of asphalt and that the surface was not conducive to skating. He noted that there were no pump track style skate parks in the San Antonio area. He stated that their designs are all-wheel friendly and made for all ages and that they integrate landscaping and shade within the park footprint for passive water harvesting and sources of shade/rest areas.

Mr. King then expressed his desire for the opportunity to create a concept drawing that would fit into the trail system, or a pocket park activation area alongside one of the existing trails that has close access to parking/ amenities. He noted that it would cost the city approximately \$2,500 for the concept drawing.

Council Member Bradshaw noted that the City of San Antonio's Falcon Park was about ten minutes outside of Leon Valley and that there were three more within proximity.

Several skate enthusiasts in the audience spoke. Mr. David Cook stated that he lived in the Northwest Crossing area, but he would not use the skate park closest to him as the sides were too steep. He noted that skating was an activity for all ages, was very inclusive, that they helped to build community, and made good use of the existing environment. He also noted that his family had been using Raymond Rimkus Park due to its appeal. Mr. Reagan Beris explained that the area needed a beginner type track for younger children.

Chair Christensen thanked Mr. King and the skaters for their presentation and attendance at the meeting.

c. Reports – Subcommittees

Pool Subcommittee - Commissioner Sawyer stated that since the city decided to close the LV Community Pool, the swim team was having to rewrite their schedules. She noted that they would have information regarding the swim team shortly.

Tree Subcommittee – Commissioner Benavides stated that they would be giving away 300 trees at the upcoming Earthwise Living Day event and that they needed

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volunteers to staff the booth. He explained that the event would be held on Saturday, March 2, 2024, from 9 am to 1 pm. Chair Christensen volunteered to work the booth along with Mr. Benavides. Commissioner Frazer stated she would also volunteer at the booth.

6. Commissioner's and Staff Comments

Commissioner Frazer commended the Tree Subcommittee for their activities and noted her appreciation for the new trees at Driggers Elementary School.

Commissioner Marrufo stated that she appreciated the skate park presentation and because of that, is now able to envision what that might look like.

Commissioner Trent stated that she also appreciated the skate park presentation.

Commissioner Valdez stated that she had recently learned about principles for future parks and that she had looked at Denton's Clear Creek Center. She noted that the Earthwise Living Committee was concerned about sustainability in parks and city-wide.

Vice-Chair Bolton reminded everyone to review the park survey at the back of the Park Master Plan.

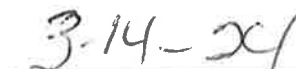
Chair Christensen stated that the next meeting would be held at the Conference Center and that the April meeting would be held at the Leon Valley Ranches Park.

7. Adjourn.

Commissioner Marrufo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Frazer seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.



Roger Christensen - Chair



Date