

Leon Valley Park Commission Meeting Minutes

The Park Commission of the City of Leon Valley, Texas met on the 12th day of January 2023, at 6:00 p.m., at the Leon Valley Conference Center, 6421 Evers Road, Leon Valley, Texas, 78238 for the purpose of the following business, to-wit:

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

Park Commission Chairman Roger Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:24 p.m., with the following members in attendance: Vice-Chairwoman Danielle Bolton and Commissioners, Evan Bohl, Julie Carreon-Martinez, Ann Sawyer, and Nancy Marrufo. Absent were Commissioners Elaine Valdez and Diane Frazier.

Also present at the meeting was Staff Liaison Melinda Moritz, Assistant Public Works Director David Dimaline, and resident Mr. Brian Sawyer.

2. Review and Approval of the November 10, 2023, Park Commission Minutes – (Commissioners)

Commissioner Marrufo moved to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Commissioner Bohl, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Citizens to Be Heard

There were no citizens wishing to speak at the meeting.

4. Old Business

There was no business to discuss.

5. New Business

A. Discussion – Tree Advisory Board Duties and Members

Staff member Dimaline explained that the Tree Advisory Board (TAB) had been sunsetted by the City Council, and then explained the TAB duties to the Commissioners. He stated that a couple of members of the now defunct Board would be reassigned to the Park Commission, upon their request. He noted that the duties of the TAB were in the Leon Valley Code of Ordinances and included the planting of 10,000 trees by the year 2025, and that they had counted seven thousand having been planted to date. He stated that the TAB actively gave away trees at the twice

annual Arbor Day events, as well as the Earthwise Living Day event. He noted that due to the prevalence of Oak Wilt disease in the Forest Oka's and Monte Robles Park areas, the TAB had also been focusing efforts on educating the public on the prevention of this disease. A general discussion was held on the remainder of the duties, the tree mitigation fund, the Texas Forest Service, illegal pruning, and the trees in area parks. Staff member Moritz stated that the Commissioners might consider removing some of the duties from their task list and that she would need to revise the Ordinance accordingly. She gave each Commissioner the list of duties and sked them to come prepared to the next meeting to revise the list.

B. Discussion and Action – Booth at Earthwise Living Day Event (M. Moritz)

Ms. Moritz stated that the Park Commission usually reserved a booth at the Earthwise Living Day event to promote the parks and outdoor activities in general and that members of the Park Commission typically manned the booth. Chairman Christensen asked Ms. Moritz to bring a duty roster to the next meeting for persons to sign up to attend.

C. Discussion - Skate Park, Pickle Ball Court, and Rock Climbing Wall (M. Moritz)

Ms. Moritz explained that the City Council would be holding their annual Town Hall meeting on February 28th and that some of the items to be discussed were the addition of several new park amenities, using a portion of the remaining American Rescue Act funds, to include possibly remodeling the Raymond Rimkus Park tennis court to be a dual court that would allow persons to play Pickle Ball and the addition of a rock climbing wall and skate park. She noted that each attendee would be asked to rank their choices and encouraged all Park Commission members to attend the meeting.

6. Commissioner and Staff Comments.

Commissioner Bohl stated that he was glad to attend the meeting and that his New Year's resolution was to increase the number of ideas for the park system and work towards making them a reality.

Commissioner Carreon-Martinez stated that she was also happy to attend the meeting and was excited about the new topics.

Chairman Christensen noted that he had attended the Leon Valley Huebner Creek Greenway Hike and Bike Trail Segment I groundbreaking ceremony, stating that it had been well attended and promoted good publicity for the trail.

Vice-Chair Bolton stated that the new in-ground lights crossing Evers Road at the library were a welcome addition and that they were sufficiently bright enough to alert vehicles

of persons using the pedestrian crosswalk to the park. She also noted that she was concerned about being able to attend future Park Commission meetings, as the start time had been changed from 7:00 pm to 6:00 pm. She asked if the meeting time could be moved to 6:30 pm.

Chairman Christensen stated that by general consensus of the members, he would be fine with a later start. The Park Commissioners agreed to the new time. He then congratulated the Public Works Department for the Holiday Lighting ceremony and lights.

Commissioner Sawyer noted that the pedestrian crosswalk on Evers at Grass Valley didn't seemed to be used anymore and that there were no school crossing guards at the location either.

Commissioner Marrufo stated that she was excited about the possible new additions to the park system and was anxious to see them be developed.

8. Adjourn.

Chairman Christensen asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bohl made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Vice-Chair Bolton. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Roger Christensen, Chairman

Date