

PARK COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEON VALLEY, TEXAS
October 12, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

The Park Commission of the City of Leon Valley, Texas met on the 12th day of October, 2023, 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 6:35 p.m., with the following Park Commissioners in attendance: Roger Christensen, Elaine Valdez, Thomas Benavides, Nancy Marrufo, Joyce Trent, and Ann Sawyer. Also present was City Staff member David Dimaline.

2. Review and Approval of the September 14, 2023 Regular Park Commission Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Valdez made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 14, 2023 Regular Park Commission meeting. Commissioner Sawyer seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Citizens to be Heard.

There were no Citizens to be Heard.

4. Old Business

a. Discussion and Action – Arbor Day Poster Contest Awards

Commissioner Tom Benavides explained the Arbor Day Poster Contest and reported that a total of 56 posters were received from Leon Valley Elementary and that the students participating ranged from 1st grade to 5th grade. He then stated that a total of 23 posters were received from Pat Neff Middle School, and students participating were from the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Commissioner Benavides also reported that teachers from both schools expressed their appreciation in being included in the Arbor Day Poster contest and that the students really enjoyed working on their artwork. Commissioner Benavides explained that all the posters were set up on the back tables and were ready to be evaluated by each of the Park Commissioners and that there was a total of 3 categories to be judged. He explained that Category 1 included grades 1, 2 and 3, that Category 2 included grades 3, 4, and 5, and that Category 3 included grades 6,7, and 8. He stated the categories were set up on separate tables. Commissioner Benavides also explained the importance of Arbor Day as an opportunity for community outreach, in addition to giving out two free trees per person.

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The Park Commissioners spent the next 30-45 minutes evaluating and scoring the posters. Commissioner Benavides then reported that each of the posters would be displayed at the Leon Valley Public Library, that certificates would be signed by Mayor Riley, and an age-appropriate prize book about trees would be provided to each of the participating students.

Staff member Dimaline stated that he would notify the Park Commission as soon as the certificates and books were ready to be delivered to the schools. He noted that in the previous year, there had been a delay in receiving the books, but the goal would be to try and deliver the prizes to the students before the Thanksgiving holiday.

b. Discussion – 2023 Swimming Pool Seasonal Report

Mr. Dimaline stated that he did not have a report to provide to the Park Commission, as the Forest Oaks pool wasn't closed until October 1st and the data was still being collected. He explained that he would provide the report for the Park Commissioners at their November meeting.

5. New Business

A. Discussion and Action – Holiday Meeting Schedule (Commissioner Roger Christensen)

Chair Christensen asked the Commissioners if they wanted to meet in December or cancel the meeting due to Holiday schedules. Chair Christensen called for a vote to cancel the December meeting, and the item passed unanimously.

B. Commissioner's and Staff Comments

Commissioner Trent mentioned a homeless person was found in the Huebner Onion House and asked if the homelessness has been an issue in the parks.

Commissioner Sawyer said that she was excited to be a part of the Arbor Day Poster Contest. She also asked if there was any work being done with school zones. David Dimaline noted she may have heard about the school zone project that is going in on Huebner Rd. between Hoofs and Redbird and that a contractor had been selected to perform the work; however, there had been a delay receiving the hardware and the mast arms. He noted the anticipated end date for the project would be in early 2024.

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Commissioner Valdez said she really liked the completed Linkwood Trail, and that it looked nice. She requested more park benches and more trees for this trail.

Commissioner Marrufo thanked Commissioner Benavides for his work on the Arbor Day poster contest, and that she was glad to participate.

Commissioner Benavides said he received an email from the Mayor regarding the November 3rd tree planting event at Driggers Elementary. He noted the event would be held at 8:00 a.m. and would involve the planting of 120 trees. He explained that the Bexar Branches Alliance was the sponsor of the tree planting event. He mentioned he would add the total trees to the goal of 10,000 trees planted by 2025 and noted that the city was currently at 7,095 trees, if the 120 trees to be planted were included in the total.

A general discussion followed, and it was mentioned that the city could place an article in the Lion's Roar newsletter to impart the information to the public about the goal of 10,000 trees planted by 2025. Commissioner Benavides said that Bexar Branches Alliance was a good resource to help us reach our goal.

Chair Christensen requested that a presentation be provided on the Parks Bucks program to include a current balance.

6. Adjourn.

Commissioner Valdez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Marrufo seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.



Roger Christensen - Chair



Date