



## **Leon Valley Park Commission Meeting Minutes**

**The Park Commission of the City of Leon Valley, Texas met on the 13th day of October 2022, at 7:00 p.m., at the Leon Valley Conference Center, 6421 Evers Road, Leon Valley, Texas, 78238 for the purpose of the following business, to-wit:**

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

Park Commission Chairman Roger Christensen called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m., with the following members in attendance: Vice-Chairwoman Danielle Bolton and Commissioners Diane Frazier, Julie Carreon-Martinez, and Elaine Valdez. Absent were Commissioners Evan Bohl, Marilou Matthews, and Nancy Marrufo.

Also present at the meeting were Community Events Coordinator Crystal Miranda and Staff Liaison Melinda Moritz.

### **2. Discussion – Rules of Decorum (R. Christensen)**

Chairman Christensen explained the Park Commission's Rules of Decorum to the Commissioners. A general discussion was held, and a handout of the rules was given to each Commissioner.

### **3. Election of Officers**

Mr. Christensen asked for nominations for the position of Chairman, stating that he would be interested in retaining the position if the Commissioners so chose. Commissioner Valdez made a motion to accept the nomination of Mr. Christensen to the position of Chairman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Frazier and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Christensen then asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair. Mrs. Bolton nominated herself, explaining that she would be willing to continue in her previous role as the Vice-Chair. Commissioner Valdez seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

### **4. Review and Consider Approval of the June 9, 2022, Park Commission Meeting Minutes.**

Vice-Chair Bolton made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, which was seconded by Commissioner Frazier. The motion carried unanimously.

## **5. Citizens to be Heard.**

There were no citizens present.

## **6. Reports - Activities or Events that Impact Parks and/or Access to Parks:**

### **A. Discussion and Recommendation – Alcohol Consumption at City Pools**

Chairman Christensen stated that before they discussed this item, he wanted to remind the Commissioners how to place an item on the agenda, stating that the Commissioner needed to have a second from another Commissioner and that they needed to come prepared to discuss the item and its solution.

Commissioner Valdez opened the discussion, stating that she had firsthand experience in managing pools, as she was the representative for the City of San Antonio pools. She noted that it had been brought to her attention that the city allowed alcohol consumption at the pool facilities. She noted that the City of Hollywood Park had recently forbidden the consumption of alcohol at their pools and that she had polled cities within the New Braunfels, Castroville, and San Antonio metropolitan area and found that none allow alcohol at their facilities. She directed the Commissioners to a fact sheet she had placed in the packet explaining why drinking alcohol around pools and water in general was not a safe practice.

She noted that she had been approached by several citizens while at the pools that voiced their concerns and had reported some disruptions due to alcohol consumption, and that the safety of the young lifeguards should also be considered. She stated that she hoped the Park Commission would make a recommendation to the City Council to prohibit the consumption of alcohol at Leon Valley pool facilities, based on the safety concerns.

Commissioner Martinez noted that she had seen some disruption as well and noted that the drinking she had observed was at pool parties that had small children in attendance. She stated that she felt uncomfortable having her children around adults that had been drinking at the facility. Commissioner Frazier noted her agreement. Vice-Chair Bolton noted that allowing alcohol consumption at the pools could result in a liability issue for the City.

Commissioner Valdez made a motion to recommend the City Council amend the Leon Valley Code of Ordinances to ban alcohol consumption at city swimming pool facilities.

Chairman Christensen stated that he could understand not allowing alcohol consumption at the Leon Valley Community Pool, as that pool was more family oriented, but that the Forest Oaks facility had a large party room and outdoor barbecue picnic facilities offered for rent. A general discussion was held regarding

the pros and cons of allowing alcohol consumption at the pools. The conversation topics included small children observing the behavior of the adults, the lifeguards being too young to enforce the removal of a patron, and whether there had been reported incidents of drunk and disorderly at the pools.

The motion that had been made by Commissioner Valdez prior to the discussion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **B. Presentation – July 4<sup>th</sup> Event Recap and Planning Efforts (C. Miranda)**

Community Events Coordinator Crystal Miranda gave a presentation recapping the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration that was held at Raymond Rimkus Park and explained that they estimated over 15,000 persons attended the event. She explained that the budget for the event was \$123,120 and that expenses totaled \$115,147. She went on to state that at the after-event debriefing, concerns included the 5K run being started late, the need for more Police Officers, ambulances, volunteers, and food trucks and booths. She noted that they had a need to barricade entry points sooner rather than later and should explore the timing and the date of the event. A general discussion was held concerning fencing, booths, amusement rides, fireworks and band noise, the type of music and band, and how to volunteer for the event. Chairman Christensen asked Mrs. Miranda to return to the Park Commission in the spring of 2023 and give a presentation on the plans for the next 4<sup>th</sup> of July event. Mrs. Miranda stated that she would.

#### **C. Discussion and Recommendation – Soofa Signs (C. Miranda)**

Mrs. Miranda gave a presentation on digital sign stands called Soofa signs, stating that she hoped to be able to install these signs at Raymond Rimkus Park, at the library, and at City Hall. She noted that the sign options included ad-sponsored and that the cost would be \$16,000 per sign. She noted that the city had been asked to communicate better with the citizens that these signs would help in that regard. Several questions were asked including whether they could be used as wayfinding signs, could they be in a different language, who would control the content, could they be turned off at night, and how it was connected to the internet. Mrs. Miranda answered the questions and asked for a recommendation from the Commissioners.

Vice-Chair Bolton motioned to recommend approval of the purchase of four Soofa signs at the \$16,000 rate. Commissioner Valdez seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

#### **D. Discussion and Recommendation – Skate Park Design at Shadow Mist Park (Commissioners)**

Ms. Moritz gave a presentation on the development of a skate park at Shadow Mist Park, stating that she had reviewed several proposals from other cities and had most favored the Spa Skate Park Designs as the most desirable company to use for this construction, as they would bring in skate professionals and hold public meetings to determine the design, while working to stay within budget. She noted that the budget would exceed the \$70,000 that had been put in place for this improvement and that they were most probably going to have to spend \$250,000. She noted that the company had given a good recommendation that the skate features not be placed to the rear of the lot but be incorporated nearer to the front to discourage any potential vandalism and/or obnoxious behaviors from park users.

Questions were asked about the method of financing and design, and whether the city should advertise for Requests for Proposals (RFP's) from other companies. Vice-Chair Bolton made a motion to table the item to the next meeting to get more information, which was seconded by Commissioner Martinez, and the motion carried unanimously.

## **7. Commissioner and Staff Comments.**

Chairman Christensen noted that a letter and final report had been received from the Capital Facilities Oversight Committee and that a copy had been placed at each Commissioner's seat. He then asked the Commissioners to consider moving the timing of the meeting from 7:00 pm to 6:00 pm and that he would place that item on the next agenda for their consideration. He welcomed the new members to the Park Commission.

Commissioner Frazier noted that she enjoyed being a part of the Park Commission.

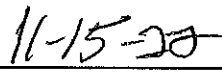
Commissioner Valdez encouraged everyone to vote.

Commissioner Martinez stated she was happy to serve on the Park Commission.

## **8. Adjourn.**

Chairman Christensen asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Valdez made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Vice-Chair Bolton. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

  
Roger Christensen, Chairman

  
Date