

**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING**

April 11, 2023

<u>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
Tony Guerrero	Brad Bentsen
Chris Voss	JC Calderon
Jesus Mendiola	Jorge R. Chapa
Maggie Guajardo Pena	Rick Contreras
Mark Minton	
Melissa Reyna	
Karina Garza	

**Call to Order**

Tony Guerrero called the meeting to order.

**Another Opportunity**

Mr. Bentsen let everyone know Juanita Alvarez would be transferring to the Human Resources Department. After a brief sharing of thank yous and good lucks Ms. Alvarez departed the room. Everyone wishes Juanita the best of luck at her new position.

**Roll Call**

Mr. Guerrero called roll and a quorum was met.

**Prayer**

Chris Voss led us in prayer.

**Approval of Minutes**

The Board Members approved the minutes for the March 14, 2023 Board Meeting were unanimously approved. Mark Minton made the motion to approve seconded by Maggie Guajardo Pena.

**Update on Parks**

The Parks Department helped out Virgen de Guadalupe Catholic Church in gathering 2 trailers of palm leaves, maintaining La Lomita Chapel grounds, trash cans and other items that would be needed to make this ceremony successful.

Library had an Easter Egg Hunt, Mission Chamber of Commerce had a rummage sale at Market Square, Pantry had a Food Distribution. For all these events the Parks Department provided setup to include chairs, tables, sound system, trash cans that were necessary to make the event(s) successful.

2 ADA ramps were built at Speer Memorial Library. This item had been brought to the attention of several people.

The Strike Team installed posts at several locations at Laurel Hill Cemetery as vehicles were observed driving our some loved ones plots.

Irrigation Crew finished installing a system for the recently planted Oak and Mesquite trees at Bentsen Palm Park.

After heavy rains came down in the Mission area our Heavy Equipment Operators were out scraping and sweeping the paved trails at Mission Hike and Bike Trails.

The Horticulture Crew is busy maintaining the Butterfly Gardens at the main building as this heavy rain has been keeping everyone busy.

Jose Dominguez and his crew have been busy squaring up the fields at Jaycee, Nell Tolle and Bentsen Palm in preparation of the upcoming Boys and Girls Club leagues. Children able to fill out 60 teams was the turnout for these leagues making it incredible.

### **UPDATE OF RECREATION**

Finished Men's Wednesday Night Basketball league with the Cyclones beating the Ball Hogs in the championship game. 5 of the 6 teams confirmed they will be playing in our next league. We are trying to also trying to start a Monday Night Basketball league.

We will start for our summer leagues which will include, in addition to Basketball, coed softball, softball and kickball. Teams have shown interest but none have come in to pay. We hope to start 2-3 leagues by the week of June 5, 2023.

Have been making sure that the Parks crews have the right dimensions for the Boys and Girls Club games. It will be rewarding to get the children out in the sun and getting exercise.

Winter Texans are continuing to go back home for the summer but we have blessed by averaging 21 people a session and up to 30 when we host Monday Nights.

Continue to monitor the tennis courts around the City. The Courts at Birdwell Tennis Center require more attention with the windscreens, basketball nets and the light messages we receive from Musco to check fuses.

Music at the Park will once again be a great show. Layoz, Alexis Chapa, Mission Cheerleaders will again put on a great show. A Rock band and Cresendo will close out the show. Come by you will have a great time.

Spring High School Volleyball league started April 2, 2023. We have 12 teams from Rio Grande City to PSJA and Edinburg coming to our league.

### **Aquatics Update**

Lap Swimming continues both mornings and afternoons.

USA Swim Team went to a meet in Brownsville and took 15 swimmers and did very well. Many Gold, Silver and Bronze medals earned by many.

Bannworth Pool is being used the Sharyland Jr. High swim teams. The groups of people enrolled in swimming are big with over 100 swimmers.

The irrigation system is now complete with a system covering the whole area of Bannworth. The landscape will now be looking up.

Rick Contreras, Aquatics Manager, has started with his lifeguard classes. He will give these classes in the hopes of hiring many of them on as summer staff. There was plenty of response this year after last years down here. Aquatics had to close 12 sessions last year due to not enough lifeguards.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Bentsen advised he Board there are 3 finalists for the Lions Park project. The group tasked with seeing this project through will now evaluate the 3 and ask review questions

We received a \$200,000.00 grant for work at Mission Hike and Bike Trails. This will include 1 ½ to a 2 ½ inch overlay for the whole 5 miles and work on the bank to protect from the mudslides we now have there. That project will wait a bit as most of the work will be done inhouse by Parks and Public Works.

Tatan, Jaycee and Hollis Rutledge are getting shade structures over the playgrounds and the contractor has already set some poles at all 3 Parks. He was working at a rapid pace when rains came to slow him down. Mr. Bentsen asked him to go work other projects so he left for 3 days but is now back.

The Board decided to raise the entry fee at the Pools from \$1.50 to \$2.00 or the 20 swim pass from \$22.50 to \$30.00.

2 big events will be hosted right after the Music at the Park include a Autism Superhero day to be hosted at Bannworth Park from 10 to 2 pm. Many people are expected to be there. Later the day with City will host Spring Rally at the area City Hall and 5 by 5 Brewing. Expected to be in attendance or being celebrated will be Dia del Nino, CDBG, Library, and many more organizations.

After much discussion the Board decided Oblate Park would be the best park to include Pickleball courts on the tennis courts.

### **Adjournment**

Mark Minton made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Chris Voss. The Board voted unanimously to approve.

**SHARY GOLF ADVISORY BOARD**

*March 14, 2023*

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- Mr. Ben Lau called the meeting to order.

**II. ROLL CALL**

- The following board members were present: Mr. Martinez, Mr. Salinas, Mr. Lau, Mr. Flores, Mr. C. Garza
- The following board members were absent: Mr. Ocana, and Mr. T. Garza
- The following staff members were present: Mr. Flores, Golf Director

**III. Approval of Minutes**

- The minutes from February 21, 2023 were approved

**IV. Public Participation**

- Mr. Victor Salazar is a current member of the golf course, the survey mentioned the golf advisory board meeting. He asked if as a citizen he could attend the City Council meeting to raise any concerns. He would like to see the conditions of the tee boxes, fairways and greens. He feels that he thinks he could accomplish things together.
- Mr. Charles Hiller, he offered his help to improve course conditions
- Mr. John Riley winter Texan that brings in a Sunday Couples league for Bentsen Grove RV park. Mr. Riley mentioned that most of the golfers have left Shary to play other courses because of the conditions of the greens. He also thinks we should have Marshals to watch over the course. He also thinks we need more help behind the counter and said that there was a time when there was no beer.
- Mr. Robert Flores has the same concerns as the previous speakers.
- Mr. Martinez introduced new board member Mr. Carlo Garza

**V. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- Golf Director's Report
  - Golf is good, sold a lot of beer. We made \$ 104,696 in February 2023 which is \$ 17,247 more than the previous fiscal year.
  - We had almost 300 more golf rounds in this fiscal year.
  - The winter Texan season was excellent, lots of rounds
  - We had large high school golf tournaments in February.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

- Discussion on Duties, Responsibilities and Expectations of Greens Superintendent
  - Mr. Efrain Gutierrez was introduced as the new Superintendent. He has over 30 years of experience in the golf business. He is happy to take on the challenge of making the golf course back to his prime. Mr. Martinez feels like the golf course is in the worst shape it has been in a long time, and there are many issues like pumps and extra play that factor in to that but he is excited to start on this new journey as we make the course better. Mr. Martin Flores he is excited to have Mr. Gutierrez on board and he understands that resources are always an issue and he would like to hold a fundraising golf tournament to get some things we might need to help out. Mr. Salinas mentioned that he had played golf at Pharr's city golf course and they had not always been in good condition but did see improvement of the years. Mr. Gutierrez feels that Shary has a lot of character and believes he can bring it back up to a gem of the upper valley. Mr. Lau mentioned that the irrigation is a big issue and in the past we have been cut off of water for 40 days from the United Irrigation District. It is our main issue but Mr. Lau is here to support in any way. Mr. Mario Flores will be expecting a monthly report for the advisory board meeting and an overall plan for the improvement of the golf course. Mr. Mario Flores will need this plan to work on the budget correctly.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

- Golf Course Needs
  - None

**VIII. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

- Mr. Mario Flores is excited to have Mr. Gutierrez on board and the season is ending and has been extremely busy. We are trying to get sand and get the pumps working again Mr. Gutierrez reached out to the previous superintendent to help adjust the gallons per minute to allow us to run on one pump. The hiring of the missing positions has continued to be a struggle.

**IX. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

- Mr. Martinez would like to see a plan of action to adjust for the seasons. We need to plan better for the use of the funds and a good report of the machinery and materials needed. We have to work through different Mayors and council members , he would like Mr. Gutierrez to work closely with the golf director and please bring up any needs to the Advisory Board.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

## **CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**April 18, 2023  
Teleconference  
Special Meeting**

### **Members Present**

Lorenzo Garza  
Roxanne Mendez  
Alma Garcia  
Zoreida Lopez  
Alex Guerra (Virtual)  
Victor Anzaldua

### **Members Absent**

Elizabeth Segovia  
Cynthia Pacheco

### **Staff Present**

Jo Anne Longoria  
Helen Torres  
Esther Rivera

### **Call Public Hearing to Order**

Chairman Lorenzo Garza called the Special Meeting to order at 5:38 p.m. Ms. Jo Anne Longoria conducted roll call. She stated six members were present, therefore there was quorum.

### **Invocation**

Ms. Roxanne Mendez provided a "Prayer" before the meeting. Chairman Garza continue with the next item.

### **Citizens Participation**

Chairman Garza asked if there were any citizens present to discuss any items on the agenda or to express their concerns on this Special Meeting. With no one present and no comments, he continued with the next item.

### **Discussion and Recommendation to Approve Minutes for Public Hearing/Regular Meeting held on March 28, 2023**

Ms. Helen Torres presented the minutes for Public Hearing/Regular Meeting held on March 28, 2023. There being no questions or comments, Chairman Garza asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Victor Anzaldua motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Alma Garcia seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0)

### **Discussion and Recommendation on Status of Housing Assistance Program Applicant Waiting List**

Ms. Esther Rivera presented the Status of Housing Assistance Program Applicant Waiting List. She provided a list of the applicants on the waiting list and advised the applicant #5 at 917 Rankin St. and applicant #8 at 604 Nicholson Ave are pending title clearance. She informed applicants 10 through 19 are eligible and applicants 20 and 21 are pending evaluation. After a brief discussion, Chairman Garza asked for a motion to approve the Status of Housing Assistance Program Waiting List as presented. Mr. Anzaldua motioned to approve the Status of Housing Assistance Program Waiting List as presented. Ms. Roxanne Mendez seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0)

**Presentation on Emergency Assistance Program (EAP)**

Ms. Rivera presented a PowerPoint on Emergency Assistance Program (EAP). She stated the last "One Stop Shop" event scheduled on March 22, 2023 there were six (6) households attended. She informed one (1) applicant is under review and the other five (5) did not qualify and/or were referred to other agencies. In addition, Ms. Rivera mentioned staff reached out to clinics and attended a parents' liaison meeting (Mission ISD) to distribute information about the program. Ms. Rivera provided a flyer with the next "One Stop Shop" event scheduled on April 19, 2023 at Mission City Hall Community Room from 9am-12pm. After a brief discussion, Chairman Garza continued with the next item. No action was taken.

**Discussion and Recommendation on Proposed Funding Allocations for Five-Year Consolidated Plan & Strategy 2023-2027 Annual Action Plan FY 2023-24**

Mr. Alex Guerra disclosed Conflict of Interest to this item and he would not be participating in discussion. Ms. Longoria presented the Proposed Funding Allocations for Five-Year Consolidated Plan & Strategy 2023-2027 Annual Action Plan FY 2023-24. She stated that there were no funding recommendations by City Manager and Staff. She explained that the 2023 CDBG allocation is \$962,344. After a brief discussion, Chairman Garza asked for a motion to approve the Proposed Funding Allocations for Five-Year Consolidated Plan & Strategy 2023-2027 Annual Action Plan FY 2023-24 proposed amounts for the following agencies: Silver Ribbon \$1,200; Amigos del Valle \$15,000; Togive International \$0; Comfort House \$3,000; C.A.M.P University \$6,000; CASA of Hidalgo \$0; Area Agency on Aging \$2,000; Eater Seals \$0; Hope Family Health Center \$3,000; Affordable Homes of South Texas \$0; Children's Advocacy Center of Hidalgo \$10,000. Ms. Mendez motioned to approve the Proposed Funding Allocations for Five-Year Consolidated Plan & Strategy 2023-2027 Annual Action Plan FY 2023-24 proposed amounts for the agencies. Mr. Anzaldúa seconded the motion. Motion carried. (5-0) (1- abstention)

**Discussion on CDBG Year to Date Expenses**

Ms. Longoria presented the CDBG Program Year to Date Expenditures. After a brief discussion, Chairman Garza continue with the next item. No action was taken.

**Discussion on CDBG-CV Expenses**

Ms. Longoria presented the Expense Report for CDBG-CV. She stated that the Year to Date Percentage for the following agencies were as follows: Amigos del Valle at 62.59%; Emergency Assistance Program at 80.46%; Affordable Homes of South Texas at 67.14%; Mission Food Pantry CV3 at 100%; Food Bank of RGV at 59.90%; Mission Food Pantry CV3 at 100%; Mission Fire Department at 69.05%; General Program Administration at 69.05% overall at 71.18%. She explained that to meet the 80% goal by July 2023 we need to spend \$95,929.04. She mentioned that the agencies continue to utilize their funds. After a brief discussion, Chairman Garza continued with the next item. No action was taken.

**Other Business**

**A. Progress Reports- March 2023**

Ms. Torres presented the Unofficial Progress Reports for March 2023. After a brief discussion, Chairman Garza asked for a motion to approve the progress report. Mr. Anzaldúa motion to approve the progress reports as presented. Ms. Mendez seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0)

**B. Discussion on Invocation**

Chairman Garza presented the Discussion on “Invocation” and asked if everyone was in agreement to remove this item. After a brief discussion, Chairman Garza asked for a motion to approve removal of “Invocation” from Agenda. Vicechairman Zoreida Lopez motioned to approve to remove “Invocation” from the Agenda. Ms. Garcia seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0)

**C. Discussion on Scheduling Ethics Training**

Chairman Garza recommended that the ethics training be held on May 9, 2023 and all members present agreed.

**D. Chairman’s Comments**

Chairman Garza no comments.

**E. Committee Member’s Comments**

Ms. Longoria informed the members present that on May 11, 2023 the COVID-19 public health emergency is expected to expire and that there will be no more virtual meetings. Some members commented that the option should remain. Ms. Longoria explained that the virtual option was allowed through a revision recommended by HUD due to COVID-19. No other comments were made from the members present.

**Adjourn**

Chairman Garza asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vicechairman Lopez motioned to adjourn meeting. Mr. Anzaldua seconded. Motion carried (6-0). The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 P.M.

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Lorenzo Garza, Chair-person