

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

March 8, 2022

<u>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
Tony Guerrero	Brad Bentsen
Chris Voss	Pate Lopez
Jesus Mendiola	Rick Contreras
Maggie Guajardo Pena	JC Calderon
Mark Minton	Juanita Alvarez
Xavier Longoria	
Amir Elsayed logged on via Zoom	

Call to Order

Tony Guerrero called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken and quorum was met.

Prayer

Mark Minton led us in prayer.

Approval of Minutes

The Board Members approved the minutes for the February 8, 2022 Board meeting. Motion to approve was made by Maggie Guajardo Pena and seconded by Mark Minton. The motion to approve minutes passed unanimously.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

No citizen participation.

UPDATE OF PARKS

Some of the special projects the Parks Department helped with was the street dedication for Ruben Rodriguez at Arnulfo “Tatan” Rodriguez Park. Tents, tables, chairs and sound system was set up along with the usual cleaning of the park and surrounding areas.

The Winter Texan Festival was hosted at the Chamber of Commerce building and surrounding areas. Tables, chairs, barricades and sound system were set up. Bad weather the day of the event

kept people away so there was a very low turnout. Helped with a couple of people during of the event.

The Parks Department also worked on the softball fields at Bentsen Palm Community Park for the Mission Fastpitch Festival. 28 teams participated in the tournament with Los Fresnos beating Harlingen for the championship. All 4 fields looked to be in real good shape and some compliments were handed out.

During Employee Appreciation Week the Parks Department assisted in setting up tents, tables, cooking and manning a few games, Cornhole-Tetherball-washers, that were available for the employees after a burger was enjoyed at one of the canopies.

Assisted the Mission Historical Museum at the first Golf Tournament they hosted. Tables, Chairs, sound system and any other thing needed was taken care by our staff.

The Horticulture Crew is busy spraying all parks and fields for clovers. This is being done now to get ahead of the problem before it gets out of hand. The Strike Team is doing an inventory and fixing all concrete tables and benches at the canopies at parks around the City and will start removing the Playscape at Lions as the parts are getting older and starting to break.

Helped with 2 Thrive Card distribution events hosted on March 15-16, 2022. Tents, tables, chairs, barricades and cones were set up to ease the flow of these events.

UPDATE OF RECREATION

We had someone on site for 90% of the Mission Fastpitch Festival. 28 teams participated in this tournament which totaled 58 games. We were able to solve or correct any problems that arose. The Parks Department did a great job getting the fields and facility ready for the tournament. Los Fresnos won the championship beating Harlingen in the finals.

We are waiting for one team to start our Monday night Basketball league. Teams are eager to start but we still need the one team to come and pay.

Pickleball returned to the Mission Adult Recreation Center after several weeks of playing at the Boys and Girls Club gym at CWV. People are still playing with many new faces showing up. We have opened up Pickleball on Wednesday nights for people that work and an average of 13 people are getting the chance to exercise after a long day at work.

We have hosted at the Recreation Center the Sharyland 4H club on the first Monday of Every month. We host them every second Monday of the month.

Mission Parks and Recreation Folklorico returned to using our building after an extended brought on by COVID 19. People are slowly bringing their children back and getting new enrollees into the group.

Pete Charles, with the help of Taylor Cavazos and Juanita Alvarez, brought a dream he had to life with the first ever Music at the Park. The first ever show went really very well and many vendors are calling wanting to join in on the excitement of our programs. Different types of entertainment was provided and people enjoyed the show. The second Music at the Park in March but cold weather the people that did show up really enjoyed the show. Pete is really excited and is planning on making this bigger and better giving the citizens of Mission and alternative to enjoy the night out with the family.

Emails were sent out to High School Volleyball coaches from around the area. Response has been a little slow but we expect about 14 teams to participate getting their girls repetitions they usually wouldn't get.

Aquatics Update

Lap Swimming continues at Bannworth Pool. The number of swimmers using the pool for exercise vary from 4 to 13 mainly because of the cold weather we have been having. Swimmers are now allowed to share swim lanes so that relieves some of the wait.

Sharyland School District will be hosting 2 swim meets. They had cancelled a meet earlier for COVID concerns but now everything is a go so the meets will be hosted.

Borstar, a tactical team for the Border Patrol, was having tryouts at Bannworth Pool. The group started with 25 hopefuls and is now down to about 8 trying to make the team.

USA swim team numbers continue to climb with the swimmers hoping to improve on their personal bests. Numbers should continue to climb.

CWV Pool is down for repairs as a pipe coming from the motor is broken. Repairs are being done and the Pool should be ready for the summer activities planned there.

Other Business

A water detaining hole is being constructed across from Birdwell Tennis Center. The plans are that this area will also be used as a parking lot for the overflow parking at the Tennis center.

Installation of the new playscape at Bannworth Park has been pushed back because of COVID shut down at the plant. The installation date is still set to be complete by the end of June.

The City will be hosting Staycation during Spring Break. 5 different parks will be used to try and include every quadrant of the City. This is a great idea for the parents who have to work and can send their children there. Different games and snacks will be available to all who attend.

The Lions Park grant is still pending to get signed. All of TP&W paperwork has basically come to halt so our grant is sitting and pending signatures. Hopefully something will come soon. Several of the components at the existing Lions Park playscape are broken so Parks crews will start taking them apart.

We are in the final stages of getting restrooms constructed at Astroland, CWV, by the Dog Park at Bannworth and Oblate Parks. All parks are ready with the sewage within a close distance but the restroom at Oblate will have to be a septic tank as the closest sewage line to there is in the alley on all four sides.

Mr. Bentsen is going to attend a meeting with CDBG trying to see if we can use some of those funds for a Playscape. Some cities have already done that so we will try it here..

Jesus Mendiola reported only 31 riders had registered for our planned bicycle race. Jesus was confident we would get 60-80 participants which would make our race successful but several obstacles came up along the route that would hinder our ability to have the course ready in time for the race and many items are still needed to be ready for the race. Signage, traveling the route, water station areas and several other items need to be ironed out. A meeting was set up for the following Tuesday to get everything to a place we feel we will be ready for race day. The Board started asking about doing the Golf tournament as an annual fundraiser as we made between \$15K and \$16 at our last tournament. Jorge mentioned the October or November would be much better for this event as we would have time to prepare for it. Mark motioned and Jesus seconded to bring back the Golf tournament and was passed unanimously. Jesus motioned and Xavier seconded the proceeds go to Astroland Park. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

Adjournment

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