

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
July 7, 2021

Call to Order

Doris called meeting to order at 5:31 pm

Travis Coggin	<i>present</i>	Charlie Mattair	
Nora Hahn	<i>present</i>	Sierra Brown	
Ashley Brown	<i>present</i>	Michelle Mitcham	<i>present</i>
David Lock	<i>present</i>	Josh Rodrigue	<i>present</i>
Bridget Martinez		Robert Basford	<i>present</i>
Doris Michalak	<i>present</i>	Maria Thorne	<i>present</i>
Isaac Recinos	<i>present</i>		

Approval of Minutes from 06-02-21

Ashley asked why Founder's Day was changed. Committee members discussed the topic. Josh explained that the celebration will now be held yearly near the actual day that the city was founded. Motion was made to approve minutes by David. Motion was seconded by Travis.

Citizen Comments

Citizen Mark Malloy made some comments about the WOB channel, walking trail and the work that Harris County has done.

Citizen Susan Edwards made some comments about the water aerobics asked about licensing of water aerobics tapes. Josh stated that the tapes were purchased.

Items for individual consideration

a. Youth Committee member selection – *Josh Rodrigue*

Josh talked about the two candidates for the youth committee members. When he reached out to the candidates, Luke responded but Allison did not respond. Josh explained that the appointment is for 6 months - from August to February.

The Committee members voted and selected Luke as the youth committee member. The motion was made by Travis and was seconded by Nora.

b. Committee feedback regarding 4th of July event – *all*

Josh stated that he wanted to hear feedback and comments about the July 4th event and Doris invited committee members to comment.

Ashley said that as a judge it was very difficult to judge the parade because it was disorganized and they did not know which float was which and would like to see numbers used next time. She also said that the feedback that she got was that the event was not really a festival but more like a glorified farmer's market and they were disappointed. Would have like the BBQ cook-off more of a display and more activities for kids.

David said that he received similar feedback – that there were little to no activities for the kids. He explained that in years before there had been a DJ that played music all day long and that the kids seemed to have a good time dancing around and having fun, but that did not happen this year.

Nora said that she did not get any citizen feedback but agreed with the comments about the car parade being confusing. She also commented that there was a Houston Chronicle photographer and the list of contacts worked out because she was able to direct him to the right people.

Travis stated that he agreed that there could have been more than the farmer's market. He said that the live music was a nice change of pace and that having the farmers market at the park was a good idea but that there could have been more activities for the kids. He also mentioned that there were some people that didn't check in for the parade.

Committee members talked about the reporter/photographer that covered the event for the Houston Chronicle and how the article contained a lot of photos. Members talked about plans to contact him for future events.

Doris talked about setting up the vendors for the farmers market. There were 24 registered, 5 no-shows, and 9 that were not on the list but that they managed to accommodate. She added that there was not a lot of attendance after the parade and it may have been due to the fact that the event occurred on the weekend and some people travel. The fact that it was the first time, and the weather forecast may have also contributed to the low attendance.

Members discussed the subject of having a procedure or system in place to assist in case there is a person that is affected by the heat was. They talked about having a golf cart, a cooling tent, and water stations. Josh added that walking participants had the option to do a shorter route. Robert mentioned a possible pause point at Carol Fox Park for next year.

There were some comments that the location of the event was not clear. The car show and the parking lot at the pool were discussed. Robert talked about having a snow cone truck and a water based inflatable at the pool by the car show next year. They will also ensure that emergency vehicles are not blocking access to parking for the cars that will be part of the car show next year.

Doris commented that having two snow cones vendors was a good idea because the lines were long at times. She asked how the food trucks did. Josh responded that they did well and Robert mentioned that they are creating surveys to send out to the community, vendors, musical acts, and parade participants to get feedback. Travis asked that the vendor survey include how many people they served. Ashley said that some vendors said that they did not like the location.

c. Lazy Day 1.5k discussion – Isaac Recinos

The 1.5K will be located at Jersey Meadow trail and is meant to be a fun event. Registration is \$40 and includes a shirt, a medal, a sticker, a meal ticket and a drink. There will be rest stops, donuts, tandem bikes, water balloon fights, etc along the trail to make it as slow as possible. The cutoff date for registration is July 12, but there will be plenty of extra supplies so they will be able to take more registrants after that date and on race day. There are close to 30 people registered. Dogs are allowed and children under 12 can participate for free but they will only receive a medal.

d. Fall Frolic Updates – *Doris Michalak*

Doris said that she still does not have updates. The school committee has not met and they need to know what the school is doing first. Ashley asked if there was a cutoff date for the school to get back with us and Doris would like to have information by August 1st. Doris thinks that once the school gears up to start, she will have information. She touched base with some school contacts at the 4th of July event. Josh added that the event is usually on a Friday

Staff briefings

Recreation

Josh stated that July was Parks and Recreation month. He discussed the painting class, the upcoming movie in the park, Lazy Day 1.5 K, and the park scavenger hunt or “experience bingo” which lists an activity to participate in for every day of July. Residents take a picture doing the activity and submit the photo, the participant with the most experiences documented will get a prize packet. Josh talked about partnering with businesses around town. Michelle stated that Senate Avenue Brewing Company released a beer named after Amy Poehler’s character of Leslie Nope from the television show Parks and Rec and that they will donate one dollar per beer to a charity of choice. Little Kitchen was also going to serve a Ron Swanson burger in honor of Parks and Rec month.

Josh talked about the annual Red Cross audit at the pool. They checked the skill of the lifeguards, capacity numbers, and operations. The pool was found to be meeting and exceeding expectations in most categories. Doris asked what would be done differently to improve the score and Josh stated that he would want the lifeguards to show more confidence and be less nervous.

Josh said that they will start planning fall programs in the next week or so. There will be an adult soccer league in late July and Doggy Dip Day will be in September. He also talked about upcoming kickball, adult flag football team, and junior lifeguard camp in August, concert in the park October 2nd and planning for fall.

Parks

Robert talked about the rain affecting the plans. They are backed up on mowing. Grass is high but can’t get into the parks to mow. The tires were removed at Clark Henry Park but the install date for the play structure has been pushed back to

August 16th. The gaga pit is in manufacturing. The JV Women's Club is working with the department to get some benches purchased. The bike racks and bike repair stations are also in the works towards the end of the fiscal year.

The TXDOT project was pushed back due to rain and may be completed towards years end. Our water line will be done on schedule. Will meet with them and discuss specific vegetation, water line and schedule. Have been working with them on the E100 project. They crushed a pipe near the splash pad. Robert has been in contact with them about that. They will repair all of the damages but the target date keeps moving out due to the wet weather.

Robert has been working on the equipment replacement plan and preventative maintenance program. He is using a software program that the mechanic uses for the fleet and has incorporated our equipment into it to keep track of hours of use, routine maintenance, etc.

Doris asked if what was meant by "repair what they messed up" he was referring to the trail behind Clark Henry and Robert said yes. He will be in contact to ensure that the disruption will be repaired. Doris also addressed the citizen comment from earlier. She stated that it was her understanding that if there was going to be a trail connecting anything that it was going to be on the Harris county easement line on the north side of the city. Robert stated that the only connection to Clark Henry will be under the beltway and that they will not be going past our hike and bike trail. No plans to go under the bridge.

Robert talked about future irrigation plans north of Philippine, and at Clark Henry. He talked about applying for grants for lighting at the dog park and on trails. He said that he will apply for as many grants as possible. The restoration of the pool pump house was also discussed. It will be some time in the future and will include a solar fan and chimney to address the smell. A solution was put in place but the problem is not completely solved.

Nora asked if there would be groundbreaking or ribbon cutting for the new play structure. Josh and Robert said that we could plan something for it because he already has the giant scissors.

Ashley asked if there was a way to keep people out of the parade and Robert said that they discussed with police and fire department. For next year's parade they plan to address parking, get radios for communication, and have police on 4 wheelers and bikes.

Future agenda item request

Next Meeting date

August 4, 2021

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn meeting by Ashley and was seconded by David.