

Fulshear Parks Commission: Minutes October 16, 2015

Members present: Dave Bundrick, CJ McDaniel, Ramona Ridge, Pat Mollere, Matthew Banister, Tajana Mesic

Others in attendance: Kristi Brashear

The meeting was called to order at 9:09 AM by Chairman Dave Bundrick

There was a quorum present.

A. Motion was made to bring minutes of the August 21 meeting to the November 20 meeting for approval.

B. Kristi Brashear reviewed financials and balance sheet reporting that the Commission has an asset balance of approximately \$1.3 MM including \$343,000 which will close with the end of business year 9/30/2015.

C. Kristi also reviewed the checks paid/payables report. TM made a motion to approve payables. Second by DB. Motion carried.

D. CJ reported on the benefits and details of Fulshear Parks Commission joining National Parks and Recreation Association. CJ recommended joining NRPA for the statistical and information readily available as well as the possible grants that might be available in the future. CJ made the motion to join and seconded by TM. Motion carried.

E. Dave Bundrick provided an overview of the Texas Recreation And Parks Society membership and benefit and the annual meeting in February 2016. RR inquired regarding the best entities to be a part of and Dave indicated that NRPA and TRAPS are the two primary and key organizations that the Commission should be a part of at this point.

F. It was requested that CJ Snipes provide any update or details on the proposed trail system study being done by Kendrick Keast. DB asked that if possible CJ email the information to the members of the Commission.

G. Barbara Wiley from the Monarch Gateway Program is scheduled to make a short presentation to the City Council on November 20.

H. Tajana Mesic provided a detail review of the grand opening for the Butterfly and Pollinator Garden held recently at Irene Stern Park. There were over 100 in attendance including the Mayor who handled the ribbon cutting ceremony. There was very good social coverage. The Commission spent less than \$1,000 total on this event. Most vendors were pleased with their participation and RR was responsible for lining up most of the vendors. TM asked that this item be placed on the agenda for an upcoming meeting to make this an annual event, preferably in the third week of October.

I. Samples of the bird houses were shown to the Commission. The overall quality is excellent. There was some discussion as to where these would be placed exactly how they might be mounted. Pat Mollere volunteered to oversee the gathering of additional information on the installation and locations. It was recommended that maybe one be placed in Fulshear Creek Crossing in one of the pocket parks. There are also two bat houses that have been completed and they are also ready for final consideration. Pat also

mentioned that she had contacted Cornell University regarding the Nest Watch Society and is recommending we try to launch a Nest Watch Chapter in Fulshear.

J. CJ provided a report on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Grant program that was previously discussed. He reported that due to the uncertainty of several items regarding Fulshear Lake and the timing that the decision based on the recommendation of the TPWD that we hold off on applying for this grant at this time. The grants typically are available each year and hopefully we will have better plans and a complete outline of all the elements needed to bring Fulshear Lake back to life. In addition more information is needed to make a decision as this property is currently owned by Fulshear Real Estate Partners and a decision must be made as to how this property might be transferred or treated by the City as it relates to other development planned on and adjacent to the lake.

It was suggested that we invite George Lane, the General Partner in FREP to attend a future meeting to outline his plan.

K. CJ provided a package of information sent to the Commission by George Lane of Fulshear Real Estate Partners regarding the possible annexation of Francis Smart Park into the development plan of FREP's development plan for Fulshear Town Center. There was discussion on the possible iterations that were provided and it was determined that the Commission would prefer to have Mr. Lane attend a future meeting to overview exactly the details of his plan and how this might work. In addition it was determined that in order to make any change like this to the existing city property, a public election would be required. Mr. Lane will be invited to the next meeting of the Commission to address any of the member's questions.

L. TM reported on the marketing strategy of having three annual events as part of the Commission strategy. This will include participation in the July 4 activities including a Commission float, the Butterfly Garden Festival to be held the third week of October annually and an event in April. It was discussed that it might be nice to include something very family oriented to attract more people and a dog day at the park was suggested. DB related that where he lived previously they had an event called Bark at the Park. Members liked the idea to have a dog festival of some kind at Irene Stern in April. TM made a motion to adopt these three elements, second by PM and motion carried.

In addition TM inquired about the elements that were previously discussed including pop up displays, banners, etc. Ramona and Tajana are going to get the images and logos to Dave for him to get the items ordered for next year.

M. CJ reported that the wildflower seed packet program is complete. The printer is in the process of printing the packets that will be sent directly to Wildseed Farms, who will then inventory and fill for the Commission upon request. The total cost for the packets is \$485 for 4,000 packets and the cost to fill will be approximately \$0.16 each and can be ordered for each event, as needed.

N. CJ inquired about the final proof for the dedication plaque for the Butterfly Garden project. He reported that with Elizabeth Voss no longer on the Commission he recommended including her as she was a major contributor to the establishment of the garden. Everyone agreed and CJ will revise the final art to include Elizabeth as well as the other current Commissioners. It was decided that everyone prefers to have the plaque mounted in a large boulder rather than on a stand or other support. CJ will work on trying to secure this main boulder as well as the other boulders for the park that were previously approved.

O. There was discussion by the members regarding the maintenance (or lack thereof) of the parks and what might be done to help remedy this. TM suggested we look at outside maintenance. There was a budget approved for allocation of up to \$25,000 for this item in the current budget. CJ reported that B Corporation currently maintains the Fulshear entry signs on 359 and 1093. He recommended we try to combine funds with them to retain an outside maintenance company. Kristi reported that there is an upcoming meeting of B Corp on Monday nite, October 19 and if the Commission wants she will inquire if we might have a joint workshop during their meeting to possibly try to create a joint effort. TM made a motion that we do so and second by RR. Motion carried.

P. RR reported about the upcoming Keep Fulshear Beautiful event on November 14. The primary plan for the day will be to remove debris along 1093 and to remove the stepping stones currently in front of City Hall and to replace with decomposed granite, which will be safer for citizens walking into the main entry. In addition it was discussed that the City Hall sign area may not have irrigation and this needs to be addressed. This item will be discussed with CJ Snipes to determine what needs to be done and can possibly be included in the overall maintenance plan previously discussed.

There being no further business, there was a motion by CJ to adjourn with a second by TM Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 10:41 AM.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be on November 20, 2015 at 9 AM

Submitted by CJ McDaniel, Secretary

Dave Bundrick, Chairman