



**CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS  
RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**



**CITY HALL- TEJAS ROOM  
550 LANDA STREET**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2023 at 4:00 PM**

**AGENDA**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A) Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2023 for the [23-1066](#)  
Joint River Advisory Committee and Parks and  
Recreation Advisory Board meeting.

**4. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS**

*This time is for citizens to address the Committee on issues and items of concerns not on this agenda. There will be no Committee action at this time.*

**6. STAFF REPORT**

- A) River Season Update [23-1063](#)

**5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

- A) Discuss Possible Changes for Next Season [23-1064](#)  
B) Discuss Possible Combination of River Advisory [23-1065](#)  
Committee and Watershed Advisory Committee

**7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify the above Notice of Meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the New Braunfels City Hall.

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Board Liaison

NOTE: Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, or large print, are requested to contact the City Secretary's Office at 221-4010 at least two (2) work days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

**8/17/2023**

Agenda Item No. A)

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**PRESENTER:**

Amy Niles, River and Watershed Manager

**SUBJECT:**

Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2023 for the Joint River Advisory Committee and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting.

**DRAFT - MINUTES  
OF THE NEW BRAUNFELS RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023**

**JOINT MEETING WITH PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

**AGENDA**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by River Advisory Committee Chair, David Davenport, at 6:00 PM on May 9, 2023.

**2. ROLL CALL**

River Advisory Committee Members present: David Davenport, Darren Hill, Sarah Shea, Scott Roots, Keith Fontenot, and Shane Wolf.

City staff members present: River and Watershed Manager, Amy Niles; Watershed Supervisor, Phillip Quast; River Operations Specialist, Katie Johnson; Patrol Lieutenant, Steve Hanna; Parks and Recreation Assistant Director, Chad Donegan; Park Ranger Superintendent, Marika Misangyi; Park Ranger Assistant Superintendent, Meaghan McDonald; Capital Project Manager, Adam Michie; Assistant Transportation and Capital Improvements Director, Scott McClelland.

**3. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS**

*This time is for citizens to address the Committee on issues and items of concerns not on this agenda. There will be no Committee action at this time.*

Robert Martin, has been a citizen of New Braunfels, TX for about five years. Martin addressed the committee members about an observed situation he views as a problem taking place in Landa Park and on the Comal River. He's concerned about citizens using live bait, such as goldfish and minnows, to catch bass, and not releasing them back into the river. A committee member asked if Martin had reached out to the game wardens, and he replied that they have not done anything concerning this specific situation. In conclusion, Martin expressed that he wants to see more protection of the waters, and voiced that he would be willing to donate to the cause and get a petition signed by fellow citizens.

**4. STAFF REPORT**

A) Presentation of 2023 River Season Preparations

River and Watershed Manager, Amy Niles, presented the 2023 River Season Preparations. The presentation discussed the highs and lows of the 2022 river season and noted what summer months the river had the most visitors. Focusing on the 2023 river season, Niles addressed the rising amount of litter on the banks of the river and discussed that with the current drought, the river flow this year has been slow, which means parking lots will have slower turn over rates. In addition, Niles announced that all five paid parking lots will be in operation this season. In conclusion, it was noted that the River Management and Watershed Departments were merged and now under Public Works. Watershed Supervisor, Phillip Quast, and new River Operations Specialist, Katie Johnson, were introduced to the members.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

This regular meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
DAVID DAVENPORT, CHAIR

8/17/2023

Agenda Item No. A)

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**PRESENTER:**

Amy Niles, River & Watershed Manager

**SUBJECT:**

River Season Update

**DISCUSSION:**

Amy Niles will present revenues and statistics recorded so far for the Summer of 2023 for the River Advisory Committee to discuss.

The “RAC Dashboard” can be found at this link:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/publish?EQBCT=8045ccaaaf324d5c9e6a86b7b8de6c0f>

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

8/17/2023

Agenda Item No. A)

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**PRESENTER:**

Amy Niles, River and Watershed Manager

**SUBJECT:**

Discuss Possible Changes for Next Season

**DISCUSSION:**

The members of the River Advisory Committee will be able to brainstorm and discuss changes and possible recommendations for next river season. Staff will be able to take this feedback to collect more information and data to present back to the committee for consideration at a later meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

8/17/2023

Agenda Item No. B)

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**PRESENTER:**

Amy Niles, River and Watershed Manager

**SUBJECT:**

Discuss Possible Combination of River Advisory Committee and Watershed Advisory Committee

**DISCUSSION:**

With the combination of the River Operations division with the Watershed division a committee combination has been proposed for the River Advisory Committee and Watershed Advisory Committee to make a new River and Watershed Advisory Committee. The Watershed Advisory Committee has struggled to have enough members to reach a quorum, so this combination would ensure that important watershed related topics would be considered by a committee before going to City Council. The new committee would need a new composition of members that the City would like input on.

Currently the Watershed Advisory Committee shall consist of the following representatives from within the City limits or the City' s Extraterritorial Jurisdiction ( ETJ ) : one (1) engineer; one (1) developer; one (1) landscape planner, architect or arborist; one (1) member representing the business community; one (1) member representing biological or environmental interests; two (2) citizens -at large; and two (2) representatives from different home owner associations. ETJ membership on the committee shall be limited to three total members.

Currently the River Advisory Committee shall consist of the following representatives: three (3) members representing local river, attraction/destination, and tourism professionals; one (1) member representing the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board; and (3) citizens-at-large, with at least (1) citizen-at-large that resides along the Comal River.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

City staff recommends combining the River Advisory Committee and Watershed Advisory Committee to make a new River and Watershed Advisory Committee. Staff recommended committee composition would be two (2) members representing local river, attraction/destination, and tourism professionals; one (1) engineer; one (1) member representing the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board; and (5) citizens-at-large, with (1) citizen-at-large that resides along the Comal River.