

**CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
CITY HALL  
550 Landa St**

**Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 6:00PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Joe Turner called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Board members present: Joe Turner, Katie Rae Preston, Jason Vreeland, Amber Brown, Joyce Compton, Courtney Lyons-Garcia

Board members absent: Tom Blagg

Staff members present: Chad Donegan, Director; Jeff Bransford, Park Development Manager; Shannon Jackson, Parks Analyst; Stephanie Chelar, Recreation Center Manager

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Consider approving the minutes of regular meeting of Nov 14, 2023.*

Jason Vreeland made a motion to approve the minutes; Katie Rae Preston seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**RECOGNITIONS**

Welcome to the new board members, Joyce Compton and Courtney Lyons-Garcia.

Second round of interviews have been completed for the Assistant Director position.

Downtown Tree Lighting - Park Foundation raised \$1,260. 126 photos with Santa Panther Canyon Rim Trail Ribbon Cutting held Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Upcoming Events:**

Elf– Dec 15<sup>th</sup> at Fischer Park

Polar Express in the Park - Dec 16<sup>th</sup> 6pm Landa Park Dance Slab

**CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS**

- None

**PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Comal River Improvements Plan Update**

- Scott McClelland, Assistant Director of Transportation and Capital Improvements provided an overview of the projects that TCI is working on. 10/45 projects are for Parks.
- Comal River Improvements final recommendations finalized during the summer. The Tube Chute Park is awaiting funding to continue development. Last Tubers Exit is funded through final design through EDC. Currently at 90% design, looking to bid project in spring and anticipate start in fall 2024. Four-month construction expected. Army Corp permitting received, awaiting City permitting.

**B. 2023 Summer River Season Update**

- Amy Niles presented the end of season report for the summer. Lowest flows in the last 30 years, still had very high visitation numbers. Highest collection of parking revenue to date. Re-education on the disposable container ban needed. Low flow brought new challenges to staff each weekend.
- Parking is the #1 source of revenue for the river fund, \$571,110. River Management Fee collections were \$509, 938. 22% collected by City, 78% collected by outfitters.
- Dos Rios Watershed Clean Up - 288 participants.
- Amy discussed the potential combining of the River Advisory Committee and the Watershed Advisory Committees as the City Departments have merged.

**C. Update on Parks and Recreation System Master Plan**

- Jeff Bransford gave an overview of what the strategic master plan means for the Parks Department.
- The plan will establish short-mid- and long-term strategies, balance growth, upkeep and limited resources, and prepare New Braunfels Parks to be the best system in the US.
- Scope: Data Collection, Community Profile and Engagement, System Analysis, Plan Development

#### **DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

- A. Discuss and Consider Adding Pickleball Striping at the Prince Solms Tennis Courts.
  - a. No board action at this time. Second data gathering date will be in the spring and then a public meeting will be brought up for tennis and pickleball players to discuss shared usage at Prince Solms Park.
  - b. Resident Input:
    - i. Pickleball players will take over the court and cause issues with tennis players. Courts are needed to be on the master plans to be in the right places.
- B. Discussion and possible action to update Cemetery Committee Bylaw Article I, Section B. Membership
  - a. The board would like the cemetery committee to revisit this item with the suggestion to remove the requirement of having family members interred at the historic cemeteries for membership in the committee.
  - b. No action at this time.

#### **AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Approved on February 13, 2024, by:

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Joe Turner, Chair

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Chad Donegan, Director

Member	Current Term	Regular & Special Meetings Held 12/23-12/24	Attended	Missed
Joe Turner	10/16/18 – 11/30/24	1	1	0
Tom Blagg	10/16/18 – 11/30/25	1	0	1
Katie Rae Preston	10/20/20 – 11/30/26	1	1	0
Jason Vreeland	10/20/20 – 11/30/26	1	1	0
Amber Brown	12/1/21 – 11/30/24	1	1	0
Joyce Compton	12/1/23-11/30/26	1	1	0
Courtney Lyons-Garcia	12/1/23-11/30/26	1	1	0