

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

Tuesday, June 14, 2022, at 6:00PM

CALL TO ORDER

Brian Feltner called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

ROLL CALL

Board members present: Bryan Feltner, Tom Blagg, Katie Rae Preston, Jason Vreeland

Board members absent: Joe Turner, Amber Brown, Kristen Carden,

Staff members present: Stacey Dicke, Director; Ylda Capriccioso, Park Development Manager; Shannon Jackson, Parks Analyst

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Consider approving the minutes of regular meeting of April 12, 2022 and Joint meeting with RAC on May 10, 2022
Jason Vreeland made a motion to approve the minutes; Tom Blagg seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RECOGNITIONS

Stacey gave an update on the multiple staff promotions, the upcoming Dos Rios 5K and Parks FORE Golf Tournament and Assistant Director, Ken Wilson's, accomplishments during his 10 years with the department.

CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS

N/A

PRESENTATIONS

A. May River Update

- No Report.

B. Update on Civic/Convention Center Operations

- Mandi Scott, Civic/Convention Center Manager since 2008, provided an overview of operations at the facility including history, staffing, revenue, event data and performance measures.

C. Summer Programs/Operations Update

- Efforts to recruit and hire summer staff were successful with Landa Park Aquatics and summer camp positions now completely filled. We continue to hire and train Park Rangers. Although lifeguards are filled, we are still short Water Safety Instructors (WSI). We will decide regarding July swim lesson the week of June 20. We are also short Recreation Instructors which may cause us to cancel July partial day camps. We will make this decision at the same time. Das Rec is having a very busy summer so far. Memberships have hit an all-time high, even exceeding pre-COVID numbers.

D. 2023 Bond Advisory Committee Update

- Staff has begun working with consultants on the approved list of projects for 2023 Bond consideration. For parks, these projects include:
 - Mission Hill
 - Guadalupe River Properties
 - Landa Park Circulation
 - NW Community Park (land acquisition)
 - Callen's Castle
 - HEB Soccer Complex Improvements
 - Landa Lake Dam and Spring Fed Pool
 - Alligator Creek West

A public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 3 for all park projects. The meeting will be open house style and the public can visit individual project tables to hear project details and ask questions.

Public Comments regarding the Fredericksburg Bypass from the 2017 Landa Park Master Plan:

Jane Miller – Bypass will be detrimental to the environment of Landa Park, the historic trees, and the Comal Springs.

Alita Meyer (Friends of Landa) – Markup of the bypass in the Master Plan shows two heritage oak trees that will be in put in danger. This bypass would put a roadway and vehicles closer to the springs. She inquired about a traffic and flood study of the area.

Violet Tannenburger – A bypass is intended for busy roadways, not for parks, parks should be about the land. Additional vehicle access is not what is needed, too much damage possible to the Comal springs.

Dirk Davidek – A lot of deer and deer watchers in that area, bypass is not needed, money could be better spent elsewhere.

Michael Buely – (Master Naturalist, Friends of Landa) –The depiction of the bypass in the Master Plan does not accurately reflect the amount of open space available in the area.

E. April Park Projects Update

- **Mission Hill Park Update:** Construction has been at a standstill waiting for the delivery of the two inlet boxes. These boxes were ordered early February before the groundbreaking and have been pushed back a couple of times due to labor shortages, etc. in manufacturing. These boxes are now scheduled for delivery on 6/15. Following the installation of these boxes, there is approximately another 2-3 weeks before completion.
- **Alligator Creek Trail - West**
The final design has begun for the 46-acre greenbelt with Vickrey and Associates. Initial surveying began last week. Once survey is completed, City anticipates initial documents to review for both alignment and floodplain requirements. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department announced the 2022 Recreational Trail Grant recipients. The City of New Braunfels was awarded \$298,000. These are federal funds, through Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and will take at least 12 months for a local agreement to be in place.
- **Alligator Creek Trail - East**
Parks staff presented the concept for ACT east and west to the TIRZ board. The board was supportive and eager to learn more about how the TIRZ can integrate this project into its three-to-five-year capacity planning.
- **Dry Comal**
Surveying has wrapped up and the consultant has started a design and alignment plan sheet that will be submitted for review this week. The city and the consultant have reengaged with Union Pacific Railroad to begin review of the complete plans regarding ROW. Subconsultant and staff will begin design and wayfinding standards for the trail and coordinate with stakeholders.
- **Kerlick Lane Park**
A small park enhancement will be constructed at Kerlick Park later this month which include a sidewalk connection to the park and a swinging bench.
- **Per Your Park Contest - Fischer Park Nature Playspace**
Minor plan refinements are being made in preparation for final plan review. Playground items have been selected and will be ordered in June. The grant for \$90,000 supports the design, playground and construction.
- **Eikel Park Pickleball Courts**
City staff painted pickleball court lines on the Eikel Park basketball courts. A total of three courts are located there. Basketball court lines were also repainted. Pickleball court lines were painted at Hoffmann Park previously. A new sport court is being constructed for Timmerman Park and will be striped for both basketball and pickleball.
- **Veteran's Memorial**
The Veteran's Memorial is taking great shape. The granite pieces are being installed now. Expected completion is late August/early September.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION

N/A

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Sports Complex Update
- Fredericksburg Bypass
- 4th of July Update

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Approved on July 12, 2022, by:

Joe Turner, Chair

Stacey Dicke, Director

Member	Current Term	Regular & Special Meetings Held 12/21-12/22	Attended	Missed
Joe Turner	10/16/18 – 11/30/24	6	4	2
Bryan Feltner	9/22/14 – 10/13/23	6	3	3
Tom Blagg	10/16/18 – 11/30/22	6	4	2
Kristen Carden	10/14/19 -10/14/22	6	5	1
Katie Rae Preston	10/20/20 – 10/13/23	6	6	0
Jason Vreeland	10/20/20 – 10/13/23	6	5	1
Amber Brown	12/1/21 – 11/30/24	6	5	1