

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

**Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 6:00PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Joe Turner called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Board members absent: Emily Lane, Kristen Carden

Staff members present: Stacey Dicke, Director; Ken Wilson, Assistant Director; Ylda Capriccioso, Park Development Manager; Shannon Jackson, Parks Analyst, Kelsey Heiden, Das Rec Manager

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Consider approving the minutes of regular meeting of Dec 15, 2020.*

Bryan Feltner made a motion to approve the minutes; Jason Vreeland seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**RECOGNITIONS**

Stacey recognized staff leaving Parks for new positions: Cailin Cronin, Shelly Basaldu, and Amanda Lynch. Wishing them all the best.

**CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**A. River Activities Update**

- David Davenport provided an update from the River Activities Committee. All meetings have been virtual, and Amy has been on maternity leave since December. David reviewed the Comal River Improvements Plan and the end of season report.

**B. Zipp Family Sports Park Update**

- Matthew Taylor and Joe Daly with Norris Design provided an update regarding the status of construction documents for the sports complex. They reviewed the overall site plan of phases 1-3 and noted that they are almost through the phase 1 constraints.

**C. Main Plaza Traffic Study**

- Amy McWhorter, Economic and Community Development Coordinator, provided an overview of the recently completed Main Plaza Traffic Study by TXDOT. The Study showed areas that could be adjusted to improve the overall safety and walkability of the downtown area.

**D. Das Rec Update**

- Kelsey Heiden, Das Rec Manager, provided an update on the facility. It is currently at 87% cost recovery; 73 PT vacancies, two FT vacancies, and reduced hours contribute to the cost recover during this time. The facility is now back to 50% capacity. Youth basketball skills series doing very well.

**E. Park Projects Update**

- **Landa Park Riparian Restoration:** Restoration of the bank area along the Comal River (across from the train depot) is complete. New landscaping is being irrigated for establishment.

- **Mission Hill Park Design:** Staff is working to have the property platted before going out to bid. The project will go to bid once platting is complete and the design team updates final design documents.
- **Elizabeth Street Parking Realignment:** The project will begin on 2/7/21. The road is already closed due to the NBU Sewer Line Replacement. Beginning 2/7/21 the Elizabeth Street Parking lots will also be closed. Currently, NBU is resetting power poles for alignment with the new plan. Park vehicles will be relocated during the project starting at the beginning of February. Hinman Island Drive is tentatively scheduled to reopen by Memorial Weekend. The parking lots will be completed in August 2021.
- **NBU N. Kuekler 30-33" sewer line replacement:** Work is underway on both segments. The pedestrian bridge connecting Prince Solms and Hinman Island Parks has been removed and the sewer line is being replaced. Work is on schedule for these projects. Estimated completion is Memorial Weekend, 2021.
- **2019 Bond Projects**
  - a. **Cemetery Walls:** Fencing is still being replaced. Estimated completion for the fencing is March 2021. This extended date is due to the additional fencing being added to the project and the lead time to have the fence panels fabricated.
  - b. **All Ability Equipment:** City Council approved the purchase of swing equipment for Fischer Park at their meeting on January 11, 2021. The equipment order has been placed and construction estimated to begin in March 2021

**F. Parks and Recreation COVID-19 Update**

- The Department continues to see active cases among personnel and rapid tests available for employees as needed.
- The Daddy-Daughter Dance will not take place this year. Instead, a date night box will be available for Fathers and Daughters to celebrate at home. The Thru the Chute Boat Races are also canceled for 2021. Other programs such as Flashlight Egg Hunt and Nerf Wars are being reviewed and adapted as needed.
- Current capacities are at 50% based on the Governors orders. This includes Das Rec, Civic Center and all park rental areas.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

**A. Resolution in support of grant application for Alligator Creek Trail**

- The Recreational Trail Grant Program is an 80/20 matching grant for up to \$250,000. Staff is working on an application for Alligator Creek Trails in coordination with staff the Great Springs Project. Bryan Feltner made a motion to support the approval of the TPWD Trail Grant resolution, Tom Blagg made the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm.

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