



**CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING
CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS
550 LANDA STREET**



TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89332202379>

Telephone: 833-926-2300

Webinar ID: 893 3220 2379

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A) Discuss and consider approval of the July 20, 2021 [21-792](#)
Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

4. RECOGNITIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A) Introduction of new Das Rec Manager [21-795](#)

5. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS

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

6. PRESENTATIONS

- A) Update on River Committee Activities [21-800](#)
B) Update on New Braunfels Parks Foundation activities. [21-801](#)
C) Presentation on Summer 2021 Programs and Activities [21-802](#)
D) Park Development Update [21-803](#)
E) Park Project Updates [21-804](#)

7. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

- A) Consider Date Change for September Parks and [21-805](#)
Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

9. ADJOURNMENT

CERTIFICATION

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

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.



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Agenda Item Report

550 Landa Street
New Braunfels, TX

8/17/2021

Agenda Item No. A)

PRESENTER:

Stacey Dicke, Director

SUBJECT:

Discuss and consider approval of the July 20, 2021 Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

DISCUSSION:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

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

Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 6:00PM

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

Board members absent: Emily Lane, Kristen Carden

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Consider approving the minutes of regular meeting of June 22, 2021.

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

RECOGNITIONS

None

CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS

None.

PRESENTATIONS

A. New Braunfels Parks Foundation Update

- Joyce Compton was unable to attend. Update will be provided at the next meeting.

B. Park Development Update

- Ylida Capriccioso will provide an update to the Board on park land development in an upcoming meeting. She reviewed the level of service analysis from the 2017 Parks Strategic Master Plan and listed out the 5 new park areas that add a total of 189.16 acres to the total. She reviewed the recently released 2021 ParkScore Index. New Braunfels is listed in the index and can be viewed on their website.

C. Update on Term Dates for Boards and Commissions

- The City Secretary's office has recommended, and City Council approved, aligning term dates to two times per year (fall and spring). Fall terms would begin on December 1 and end on November 30. Applications for these positions will be sought in September. City Council will consider appointments in October/November. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Cemetery Committee and the Landa Park Golf Course Advisory Board would all fall under the fall terms. By-laws will be updated after final council approval. Additionally, the City Secretary's office has installed new software (ONBOARD) to manage the application process.

D. Park Projects Update

- **Alligator Creek Trail Master Plan Update:** First meeting of the steering committee was held on July 7. The committee received background information on the watershed, site analysis review, overview of the preliminary design process, and participated in a mini-charette. A public meeting is proposed for September following another steering committee meeting.
- **Dry Comal Trail Update:** On June 14 the City Council approved a \$375,000 contract with San Antonio-based engineering firm Bain Medina Bain. The contract will finalize design on a portion

of the Dry Comal Creek Hike and Bike Trail from Walnut Avenue to the Elizabeth Street shared-use path. The funding source was approved in May by the New Braunfels Economic Development Board (4B).

- **Mission Hill Park Update:** The Plat is finalized, TCEQ permit and City permits are in progress and the project has been issued for bid with the proposals due on August 8th. An archeological study for the site has been approved and will be conducted by the Texas State University Archeology Department and should be complete in August 2021. Cost for the study will be \$9,754.
- **Cypress Bend Restroom Update:** The project is in preliminary stages of the feasibility study for this restroom replacement/upgrade. Engineering contract with M&S Engineering to see options.
- **Elizabeth Street Parking Project:** The waterline construction is complete, the roadway contractor mobilized and is now back to work, coordinating project with AT&T, Verizon, and Wurstfest. Targeting September 2021 for roadway reopening and December 2021 for final completion. Staff and contractor working to expedite project ahead of Wurstfest in November 2021.
- **NBU sewer line replacement – Hinman Island Drive:** Hinman Island Drive is still closed. Crews are expected to begin paving next week (weather dependent). Street lighting will need to be reinstalled as well.
- **Sports Complex Update:** GVSUD and CalPine are working towards a contract regarding a potential reuse water system for the sports complex. The project team is currently working on IT needs, revising cost estimates and preparation of final bid documents. The project was scheduled to be bid in October; however, this date may be extended as the irrigation/water design has not been finalized.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION

- **Parking Ordinance at Prince Solms Park**

Mary Hammon with the City's Engineering Department presented on the proposed ordinance to make the 'yellow curb' areas of Prince Solms Park a no parking area. The Police Department is no longer able to ticket for yellow curbs, the City is looking to make yellow curb areas no parking by ordinance and install signage. Bryan Feltner made a motion to recommend for City Council to approve the ordinance, Jason Vreeland made the second, and the motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- A. River Update
- B. Comal River Improvements Plan Update
- C. End of summer update

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Approved on August 17, 2021 by:

Joe Turner, Chair

Stacey Dicke, Director

Member	Current Term	Regular & Special Meetings Held 10/20-10/21	Attended	Missed
Joe Turner	10/16/18 – 10/16/22	8	7	1
Bryan Feltner	9/22/14 – 10/13/23	8	6	2
Tom Blagg	10/16/18 – 10/16/21	8	8	0
Emily Lane	10/14/19 -10/14/22	8	4	4
Kristen Carden	10/14/19 -10/14/22	8	6	2
Katie Rae Preston	10/20/20 – 10/13/23	8	8	0
Jason Vreeland	10/20/20 – 10/13/23	8	8	0

8/17/2021

Agenda Item No. A)

PRESENTER:

Stacey Dicke

SUBJECT:

Introduction of new Das Rec Manager

DISCUSSION:

We are excited to announce that Stephanie Chelar has been promoted to Das Rec Manager. Stephanie has worked for the City of New Braunfels since 2018 when she was hired as the Athletics/Fitness Supervisor for Das Rec.

Stephanie has 20 years of experience in the field of health and wellness and over seven years of management/leadership experience. Prior to working for the city, Stephanie was the General Manager for the Resolute Wellness/Athletic Center.

Stephanie holds a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology and a Master of Kinesiology and Public Health, both from Kansas State University.

We are excited to continue working with Stephanie as she takes over the reigns at Das Rec. Her insight and experience of being a part of the team to open the facility in 2018 will be very valuable in her new role.

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Agenda Item Report

8/17/2021

Agenda Item No. A)

PRESENTER:

David Davenport, River Committee Chair

SUBJECT:

Update on River Committee Activities

DISCUSSION:

David Davenport will provide this report at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

8/17/2021

Agenda Item No. B)

PRESENTER:

Joyce Compton, New Braunfels Parks Foundation Chair

SUBJECT:

Update on New Braunfels Parks Foundation activities.

DISCUSSION:

Joyce Compton will provide this presentation at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

8/17/2021

Agenda Item No. C)

PRESENTER:

Geronimo Aguirre, Recreation Manager

SUBJECT:

Presentation on Summer 2021 Programs and Activities

DISCUSSION:

Overall, participation in summer camps, leagues and activities was very high, nearing 2019 participation levels. One of the biggest hurdles for this summer was hiring seasonal staff. Both Park Rangers and Lifeguards were hit hard with a lack of applications and did not reach typical staff levels.

Aquatics

As a result of a lifeguard shortage, only the Spring Fed Pool was opened for public swim. The Olympic Pool was used for swim team practice and swimming lessons.

Management and coaching of the Landa Park Dolphins was taken over this year by the River City Athletics (Surge). The transition went very well with over 200 swimmers participating.

The City Tube Chute began taking credit card payments for the first time this season. Although some technical issues were dealt with, overall the system worked well. As always, guards at the Chute had their work cut out for them with 522 saves and 1146 assists being made. As was reported in the news, there was a fatality at the Chute on July 2, 2021. Immediately following the incident, staff went through a debriefing and their mental health was monitored by supervisors. The staff involved with the incident performed extremely well and were commended for their actions by the Fire Chief.

Landa and Fischer Recreation

Day Camp registration opened on April 1, 2021 and the entire summer of Camp Minnehaha was sold out in less than two minutes. Fischer Park Nature Camp was sold out by the end of the day. There were over 100 families on the waitlist for the summer. Staff is working with City Management to locate a second site in order to provide more day camp opportunities for families.

In addition to full day camps, there are a variety of partial day camps throughout the summer including 1st and 10 football camp, Field of Dreams Baseball Camp, Ultimate Sports Camp and Got Crafts?. These camps were also very popular and filled quickly.

Fischer Park Nature Education Center hosted a variety of outdoor 101 classes including Fishing 101, Kayaking 101, and Archery 101. Due to overwhelming demand, additional sections of the 101 classes were added.

Athletics

Sand volleyball, softball and kickball leagues were all full for the summer season.

Das Rec

Memberships at Das Rec continue to climb and are holding steady just below 12,000. We expect that this number will fluctuate slightly with the beginning of the school year and new routines in place. We are hopeful to pull up to the 12,000 level and maintain there.

Several day camps were held at Das Rec including Lil' Dribblers, Itsy Bitsy Spikers, Volleyball Skills and more. One camp to highlight was the Junior Pickleball Camp with 30 participants.

Sports Leagues are back at Das Rec with both Pickleball and Basketball taking off. The Hot Summer Smasher Pickleball Tournament was held at the end of the season and included 16 teams.

Swim lessons were very popular at Das Rec with over 160 classes held and 495 swimmers participating. A fun end of summer event was held on Friday, August 6th titled Float Day. Swimmers were allowed to bring their favorite inflatable floats and play in the pool.

Live @ Landa

The summer concert series was pushed from June to July for 2021 due to COVID. The concert series started off with a bang (literally) on July 4th with the J. Abrams Band. Of the five scheduled performances, rain cancelled two concerts and postponed one.

Paddle Boats and Mini Golf

Mini-Golf admission revenue to date is \$20,655 and Paddleboat admission revenue to date is \$42,676. These locations sold a combined total of \$8,345.88 in concessions.

Mini-Golf will continue operations on Saturdays and Sundays until October 31st and Paddleboats will continue operations on Saturdays and Sundays until September 6th.

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

8/17/2021

Agenda Item No. D)

PRESENTER:

Ylda Capriccioso, Park Development Manager

SUBJECT:

Park Development Update

DISCUSSION:

Perk Your Park Contest

NRPA and Niagara Bottling are partnering to give two communities a \$90,000 grant to improve a park. It is an online daily voting contest called “Perk Your Park.” Four communities were hand selected by NRPA and Niagara, including New Braunfels. The other cities include: Missouri City, Texas, Clermont, FL and Riviera Beach, FL. Two winners will be selected based on the highest number of votes received. Votes are cast daily. The contest runs September 1-29, 2021. Winners will be notified October 6, 2021.

As a participant in the contest, receive marketing support in two forms a \$3,000 stipend and radio ads purchased by Niagara. Parks and Communications are developing a marketing plan using social media to other tactics to promote voting and the project.

New Braunfels Park Project: Fischer Park Nature Play & Trails
See photos in PDF attachment.

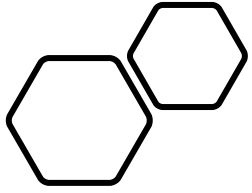
RECOMMENDATION:

N/A



Fischer Park
NATURE EDUCATION CENTER

Fischer Park is a 62-acre hilltop park with a Nature Education Center, playground and swings, a splashpad, large pavilions, and 30-acres of restored Blackland Prairie.



Park Conditions

- The “enchanted forest” is a favorite of staff and campers. They’ve even built some forts and huts to encourage nature play.
- Nature-play equipment would make the space more program-friendly for camps and visitors.
- The area is overrun with invasive huisache trees. Huisache is a tough, aggressive, invasive species that limits forage production and decreases the value of wildlife habitat.





Urban Tree Canopy Restoration

Restoring the urban canopy will benefit the city and human health, by managing stormwater runoff, improving air quality, , improving habitats, and enhancing the visual character of a place.







New nature play equipment for the “enchanted forest” could include new play equipment to promote imagination and nature play



8/17/2021

Agenda Item No. E)

PRESENTER:

Stacey Dicke, Parks and Recreation Director

SUBJECT:

Park Project Updates

DISCUSSION:**1. Alligator Creek Trail Master Plan Update**

The steering committee will meet on August 18, 2021. The committee focused on east Alligator Creek Trail site analysis review, reviewed the alignment options for west and east. A community meeting is scheduled for September 15 at the NBU Service Center located on FM 306.

2. Dry Comal Trail Update

The steering committee will meet on August 20, 2021. The meeting will review the master plan, final design scope and timing. Currently, segment 1 (Landa Park Drive to Walnut Avenue) is on the recommended for MPO funding under the Transportation Alternatives funding source. The MPO Policy Board will approve funding recommendations on August 28, with approval for funding contracts in May 2022. If approved, construction dollars would be available October 1, 2022.

3. Mission Hill Park Update

The bid that was issued for the project was pulled after receiving comments from TCEQ regarding the drainage permit. Since the project is in the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone, requirements are more stringent. The Design team has been asked to add the storm water treatment and ensure the parking area and storm system are compatible with future phases. This will increase the overall cost of the project, but still within funding capabilities.

Archeology study site visits were held August 12 & 13. This report will essentially provide additional documentation of known items of interest and should be approved fairly quickly.

Staff anticipates revised bid documents from the design team by 8/31 with a goal to rebid the project by mid-September.

4. Cypress Bend Restroom Update

The Environmental Constraints Report has been completed. The Engineering team is now refining their proposed recommendations/options based on that report.

5. Elizabeth Street Parking Project

- Waterline construction complete.
- Base stabilization occurred on August 7th, 2021.
- Coordinating project with AT&T, Verizon, and Wurstfest.
- Targeting mid-November (after Wurstfest) for roadway reopening and December 2021 for final completion.

6. NBU Sewer Line Replacement - Hinman Island Drive

Contractor is completing final paving Hinman Island Drive and currently working on landscape sign replacement.

Related to this project is the NBU 24" water line replacement. Contractors will dig an 8' bore pit along Hinman Island Drive (on the golf Course property) to bore under #17 green and tie to water line coming from Elizabeth Street. After Wurstfest, a 55' deep bore pit will be dug at the same location along to tie the water coming from Landa RV Park.

7. Sports Complex Update

The Design Team continues to work on preparing construction documents for bidding. A decision with GVSUD/GBRA/CalPine has not been reached in order to make a determination on re-use water for irrigation. This is a major component and cost to the project so plans cannot be finalized until this step is complete.

Staff is refining the Operations and Maintenance Plan and beginning to develop a list of FF&E that is needed for the opening of the facility.

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Agenda Item Report

8/17/2021

Agenda Item No. A)

PRESENTER:

Stacey Dicke, Parks and Recreation Director

SUBJECT:

Consider Date Change for September Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

DISCUSSION:

The September PAB meeting is scheduled for 9/21/21. This is the same week of the National Recreation and Park Association annual conference. Stacey, Ken and Ylida will all be attending the conference.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends moving the September meeting to 9/14/2021.