

**MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION REGULAR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**  
**February 25, 2019 (Monday) at 12:00 PM**  
McGuire Dent Recreation Center  
2222 28<sup>th</sup> Street  
(409) 797-3700

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 12:05 PM BY CHARLYN VAIANI.**

**PRESENT:** Rose Tejerina (Mayoral), Charlyn Vaiani (District 1), Jami Durham (District 3)  
Shane McDermott (District 4), Marlee Williams (District 5), Tad Lewis (District 2)

**ABSENT:** Dyann Polzin (District 6), Amy Bly (CM Ex-Officio)

**STAFF:** Barbara Sanderson, Executive Director of Parks and Community Outreach  
Mario Rabago, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Chris Saddler, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation  
Daniel Thomas, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation  
John Armstrong, Superintendent of Recreation  
Megan Pierce, Administrative Manager & Special Events Coordinator

**Review and Approval of Board Minutes:** Motion made by Rose Tejerina to approve the January 2019 meeting minutes. Seconded by Shane McDermott. Unanimous Approval by Board Members. Motion Passes.

**Discussion / Action Items:**

**Discuss Capital and Maintenance needs of Parks, Playground, Athletic Fields and Recreation Centers and Discuss and Consider for Action a Recommendation to the IDC Board to Consider Amending the 5-year Forecasted Parks Silo Funds of \$4,150,000 Dedicated to the Sandhill Crane Soccer Complex to be distributed throughout the Parks System for fund Capital Replacement, Repairs, and Upgrades**

Mario Rabago went over a request the department has made to the IDC Board to move some money dedicated to the Sandhill Crane Soccer Complex to other needs and repairs. These included Menard Park and the McGuire Dent Recreation Center, Wright Cuney Park and Recreation Center, and Naschke Ballfield at Lindale Park. Also included were Jones Park, the Kempner Park Fountain and light fixtures, Gus Allen Park, Shield Park, the Sandhill Crane restrooms, Schreiber Park, and Lee and Joe Jamail Bay Park. In addition portable pitching mounds for the 53<sup>rd</sup> St Ballfields, a picnic area at Lasker Park Pool, and improved signage in all parks. Mr. Rabago said this would be presented to the IDC Board on March 6 and asked the Advisory Board to support it. After much discussion, Mr. McDermott motioned that the board approve the request, it was seconded by Ms. Williams and received Unanimous Approval.

**Discuss and Consider for Action Recommendation of Membership and Event Rental Fees for Recreation Centers, Pools, Parks, Ballfields, and Athletic Facilities**

Mr. Rabago told the board that staff had researched other cities and centers and pools and athletic fields and Chris Saddler presented the board with a report on how Galveston compared to other cities. Mr. Rabago explained to the board how the funds raised would go back into the parks system and not the General Fund. After some discussion Mr. McDermott motioned the board approve the plan. It was seconded by Mr. Lewis and had Unanimous Approval.

**Discuss and Consider Recommending Support for a Resolution of the City of Galveston City Council Requesting the Members of the 86<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session of the State of Texas to Support Legislation the Provides Stewardship, Health And Wellbeing and Connectivity for Local and State Parks**

Chris Saddler discussed how it is important to support legislation such as this and how the City of Galveston has benefitted from it in the past, in way of Grants toward the development of the Sandhill Crane Soccer Complex, and the Lasker Park Pool. He then asked the board for support of the resolution.

**Discuss and Consider for Action Creating a Swim Team Subcommittee**

Chris Saddler explained the proposal and asked the Board to form a subcommittee. Mr. McDermott motioned and Ms. Tejerina Seconded. Motion passed with Unanimous Approval.

### **Park Tour with Better Parks for Galveston**

The next Advisory Board Meeting would be more of a Park Tour with Better Parks for Galveston. The plan is to meet at McGuire Dent at 11:00am on Monday, March 18th and the tour will last until approximately 1:00pm.

### **Update on Park Maintenance and Mowing**

Daniel Thomas talked about the upgrades to the dog park at Lindale and told how it was an Eagle Scout Project. He reported they had been trimming palm trees. Reported on the 53<sup>rd</sup> St Ballfield Project and said the Restrooms at Schrieber Park were almost complete. Reported that TXDOT would conclude their contract maintaining the center of Broadway from 59<sup>th</sup> St to the Causeway and it would become the city's responsibility.

### **Update on Recreation Programs – McGuire-Dent & Wright Cuney Recreation Centers, and Lasker Park Pool**

John Armstrong reported programming at each center was going well. The Get Fit N Lean Program had over 180 folks participating in it and McGuire Dent was averaging over 340 adults a day. Chris Saddler reported the Lasker Park Pool was opening March 9<sup>th</sup> and the pool had been presented an award from the Texas Public Pool Council (TPPC) as "Facility of the Year" and the Department had received an award from Texas Recreation and Parks Society (TRAPS) East Region for a photo of the Sea Turtle Mural outside of the Band Shell at McGuire Dent.

### **Update on Special Events**

Megan Pierce provided those in attendance with literature on the previous and upcoming events. She said we had been busy with Mardi Gras, and talked about the upcoming "Light up the Night" Event at Kempner Park that Better Parks for Galveston was planning.

**Public Comment:** N/A

**Council Report:** N/A

### **Director's Report:**

Mario Rabago talked about possibly using some IDC funds to help with the upkeep of the ballfields at 53<sup>rd</sup> St, and the current way those funds help with the maintenance of the 27<sup>th</sup> St Corridor. He also said the department might pursue IDC funding for Musco lighting at the ballfields and for an all-inclusive ADA playground.

Barbara Sanderson congratulated Chris Saddler who completed the TRAPS Leadership Academy and reported she was reappointed to the TRAPS Executive Board of Director as a Representative-at-Large

### **Board Member's Reports / Comments**

N/A

### **Discussion Items for Inclusion on Next Agenda:**

N/A

### **Next meeting:**

Park Tour at 11:00am on Monday, March 18, 2019 at McGuire Dent Recreation Center, 2222 28<sup>th</sup> Street

**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:33 PM**