

**PARK COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEON VALLEY, TEXAS
MAY 10, 2016 MEETING MINUTES**

The Park Commission of the City of Leon Valley, Texas met on the 10th day of May, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., at 6600 Strawflower Road, Leon Valley, Texas, for the purpose of the following business, to-wit:

LEON VALLEY PARK COMMISSION MEETING, 7:00 P.M.

1. Call the Meeting to Order and Determine a Quorum is Present.

Chairman Roger Christensen called the Park Commission meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., with the following Park Commissioners in attendance: Jackie Walton, Belinda Ealy, Dorothy Humphrey, Linda Tarin, Benay Cacciatore, Carolyn Gabriel, Kathy Hill, Danielle Bolton, and Alternate Josue De La Torre. Absent and excused was Commissioner Stephen Parker. Also present were Councilmember Monica Alcocer, City Manager Kelly Kuenstler, City Staff members Melinda Moritz, Kristie Flores, and Elizabeth Carol, Tree Advisory Board President Tom Benavides, and resident Robert Jarzombek.

2. Review and Approval of the April 12, 2016 Regular Park Commission Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Gabriel made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 12, 2016 Regular Park Commission meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Ealy. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Citizens to be Heard

Commissioner Ealy stated that the water fountain by the basketball court in Raymond Rimkus Park was not working.

4. Report on Activities that Impact the Park or Access to the Park

**A. Discussion and Possible Recommendation: Park Variance Requests
Leon Valley 4th of July Parade and Celebration – Kristie Flores**

Chairman Roger Christensen introduced Mrs. Flores, then explained that at the previous meeting there had been a lengthy discussion about the event, which included possible trenching in the Park to run electric cables, pony rides in the baseball field area, moonwalks, a carnival, and having non-official vehicles inside the park fence and asked for further clarification of these items, as these are not allowed in the park and would require that a variance be issued.

Mrs. Flores gave an overview of the proposed activities for the event, which included a 5K run sponsored by the Historical Society at 8:00 am, a parade, then various activities at Raymond Rimkus Park, ending with a fireworks display

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behind the softball fields. She described the various vendors and entertainment, and then explained that the pony ride vendor had submitted the pony vaccination and health records, and promised to clean up any feces or other mess after their venue. Mrs. Flores then asked if the City should revise the code to exempt City events from the variance procedure. Chairman Christensen stated that the idea had been entertained, but that the Park Commission were frequently left uninformed about events to be held in the park, only finding out about them after the fact, and gave Movie Night as an example. After further general discussion on items such as recycling at the event and event cleanup, the Chairman asked for a vote of the Commission.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ealy and seconded by Commissioner Cacciatore to recommend the Commission's approval of all variances necessary to hold the 4th of July event at Raymond Rimkus Park, and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Presentation, Discussion, and Possible Action - Tree Advisory Board Proposed Master Plan

City staff member Elizabeth Carol spoke, explaining that after much careful planning, the Tree Advisory Board (TAB) had developed a draft Tree Planting Action Plan. She also explained that the TAB would like to partner with the Park Commission and would like to have members of each group reciprocate. She then explained that the City Arborist was still working on the plan, but that there was a heightened sense of urgency as the Board was trying to fulfill the obligation of having 10,000 trees planted by the year 2020. Ms. Carol went through the rest of the plan giving a brief description of each section.

City Manager Kuenstler stated that the City was about to accept some land donations for future parks and that it was a perfect opportunity to plant trees, as the donated land didn't have many trees.

A general conversation was held regarding the exact placement of proposed trees in the park system. A motion was made by Commissioner Gabriel and seconded by Commissioner Cacciatore to give tentative approval of the Tree Planting Action Plan. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ealy requested that the Board give consideration to planting trees that bore fruit or nuts in order to promote a sustainable community.

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C. Leon Valley Community Pool Update

City staff member Moritz gave an overview of Council approved pool operations for the 2016 swim season. She stated that the pool would remain free to the public, but that only Leon Valley citizens would be allowed the use of the pool. She further explained that the citizen would have to go to City Hall, fill out an application, and would then be give blue wristbands, to be worn when entering the pool area. She explained that Leon Valley residents would be allowed up to five guests and that green guest wristbands would be issued at the pool and then taken up as the guests leave. After answering several questions from the Commission, the discussion was ended.

D. Presentation on Rain Garden - Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance

Staff member Moritz explained that the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance (GEAA) had contacted her and explained that they would like to install a rain garden at Raymond Rimkus Park near the Forest Meadow entrance. She further explained that the area had poor drainage and would benefit immensely from such an endeavor. She told the Commission that the GEAA liked the site, as it had great visibility and would advertise rains gardens to the general public. She noted that the construction was to be performed by volunteers in the community and that she would let the Commission know when further plans had been developed.

5. Commissioner and Staff Comments

City Manager Kuenstler stated that she was so glad to see the TAB and the Park Commission working together. Commissioner Ealy agreed, stating that the collaboration would work to improve the City.

Commission Cacciatore stated that it had been a wonderful meeting and was glad it was held at the pool.

Commissioner Tarin stated that she was excited about the new tree planting program.

Commissioner Walton asked if the City could get a second rain garden, to which City Manager replied that the City could. The City Manager also reminded the Commission that the City's Pet Parade was to be held that Saturday at the Community and Conference Center grounds, from 9 am to 11:00 am and she encouraged everyone to attend.

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6. Adjourn.

Commissioner Gabriel made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Bolton. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.



Roger Christensen - Chairman



Date