

PARK COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEON VALLEY, TEXAS
September 13, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

The Park Commission of the City of Leon Valley, Texas met on the 13th day of September, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., at 6421 Evers 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, Linda Tarin, and Carolyn Gabriel. Absent and excused were Commissioners Kathy Hill, Danielle Bolton, Benay Cacciatore, and Stephen Parker. Also present were Tree Advisory Board member Denise Berger, Councilmember Alcocer, City Staff member Melinda Moritz, and resident Robert Jarzombek.

2. Review and Approval of the August 9, 2016 Regular Park Commission Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Ealy made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 9, 2016 regular Park Commission meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Gabriel. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Citizens to be Heard

There were none.

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

A. Discussion and Possible Action – Wat Dhamma Bucha Temple Land Donation Neighborhood Survey Results – Melinda Moritz

Staff member Moritz gave a presentation on the results of the neighborhood survey that had been mailed to the residents of the Old Mill subdivision and property owners along Sawyer Road. She stated that 309 surveys had been mailed, but that approximately 30 of the surveys had been printed without a back page, due to a printer malfunction. She stated that so far, they had received 54 completed surveys, with 14 being received with no back page, which represented an 18% return rate. She then explained that if the person submitting an incomplete survey had a return address label on their envelope, staff had tried to call, email, or mail that person a new form.

Ms. Moritz went on to explain the rest of the survey results, which are attached hereto.

PARK COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEON VALLEY, TEXAS
September 13, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

A general discussion was held on the proposed park and survey results. It was decided that the Park Commission would delay any action on the item until the next regular meeting, when more surveys would be returned. A motion was made by Commissioner Gabriel to delay making any recommendations for the proposed park until the October 11th regular Park Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ealy and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Discussion and Possible Action - Tree Advisory Board Tree Planting Plans – Board Member Denise Berger

Board Member Berger gave an overview of the final plan for plantings trees in the park, stating that they would be using trees that are native to this area, that the areas near the softball field would be planted with crepe Myrtles, to provide shade for watching softball games, and that the seedling areas would be fenced to keep people out.

Commissioner Walton asked if the Board had considered the deer possibly damaging the seedlings. Ms. Berger stated that they had, but that the trees were native and not as appealing to deer.

Commissioner Gabriel asked what types of trees were to be planted. Ms. Berger explained that they would be planting trees such as Cypress, Burr Oaks, but they would not be planting Oaks that were susceptible to Oak Wilt disease.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ealy and seconded by Commissioner Walton to approve the final tree planting plan. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Commissioner and Staff Comments

Staff member Moritz gave an update on the Evers Road bridge replacement project and the Evers Road ADA sidewalk project, noting that the bridge plans were in the process of being developed and that the ADA sidewalk project was almost complete.

Chairman Christensen noted that he hadn't heard anything more about a deer survey and that he guessed either it wasn't an issue or that the Commission should wait for responses.

PARK COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEON VALLEY, TEXAS
September 13, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Ealy asked if there had been any traffic problems or if any complaints had been received about deer eating foliage on private property. She noted that the park was looking very good and noticed that the Silo Park was coming along well.

Commissioner Tarin stated that she had not seen as many deer lately.

Commissioner Walton stated that she appreciated the recent parliamentary procedure training given by the city and that she was concerned that the Commission might be in violation, due to the fact that a seated City Council member was also seated as a voting member of the Park Commission. She explained that in the training session, she thought she understood that City Council members should not be on Commissions or Boards and that a possible conflict of interest might occur if a Council member on a Committee gave a recommendation and then voted on it at a Council meeting.

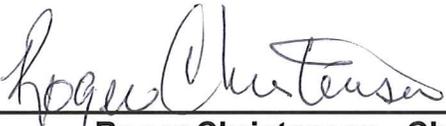
Chairman Christensen noted that the Councilmember was a very valuable member of the Commission, but that they should research the concern.

Commissioner Gabriel stated that the month of August at the pool was very quiet and that she almost had the pool to herself. She also expressed her appreciation for the new lighting at the crosswalk in front of the library.

Chairman Christensen stated that the October meeting agenda would contain the Old Mill proposed park survey results and that he would like each member of the Commission to have a copy of the noise ordinance and possibly a presentation about the noise ordinance from the Police Chief at a later date. He then asked the Commissioners if they had any items they would like placed on the agenda.

6. Adjourn.

There being no further business, Commissioner Gabriel made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Walton, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.



Roger Christensen - Chairman



Date

PARK COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEON VALLEY, TEXAS
September 13, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

City of Leon Valley
Old Mill Proposed Park Survey Results 9-8-16

On August 23, 2016, a park survey was sent to each household in the Old Mill Subdivision and Sawyer Road neighborhoods. Due to a printing error, about 25 surveys were printed without the back portion of the form. If the person submitting an incomplete survey added a return address to their envelope, we tried to call, email, or mail to get each person a new form. Below are the results of the surveys received:

Number sent:	309
Number received:	54
Number returned undeliverable:	3
Number without back portion:	14
Percent of returns	17.47%

Question #1 - Age and gender of person filling out survey.

Gender:	None circled	13
	M	5
	F	24
	Both	3

Age:	Not circled	1
	5-15	0
	16-25	0
	26-35	3
	36-50	2
	51-65	19
	66+	23

Question #2 - Number & Age of Children in Home

Households with no children in home:	25
Number of children reported in home:	20
Ages between:	0-12

Question #3 - How many times do you visit a park per week?

No answer:	4
0:	3
1-2:	25
3-4:	5
More than 4:	7

PARK COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEON VALLEY, TEXAS
September 13, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

Question #4 - How far away are you from the proposed park?

<1/4 mi	31
<1/2 Mi	8
< 1 mi	4
1 mile or more:	1

Question #5 - How will you access the park?

Walk	42
Jog	4
Bicycle	4
Other	2 Car, 1 none

Question #6 - Please suggest a name for the new park:

Old Mill Park (8 responses)
 Leo Park
 Bucha Temple Park
 Lion's Den
 Leon Valley Pocket Park
 Name it after the donators
 Not sure, but something to honor the Temple's gracious donation
 The Neighborhood Park
 Lion Park
 Temple Mill Park
 Friends Park
 A name that coincides with the beginning of Huebner Road
 Solitude of the Valley
 Huebner Park
 Leon Valley Park
 Dhamma Bucha Park
 Wat Dhamma Bucha Park
 Bucha Park
 Middle Way Park

Question #7 - Rate the following amenities (assign a number to each component):

	GREAT – 1	OK – 2	BAD IDEA - 3
Simple trail system	24	2	3
Athletic fields	2	5	24
Basketball court	7	11	14
Tennis court	2	11	17
Volleyball court	9	18	7

PARK COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEON VALLEY, TEXAS
September 13, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

	GREAT – 1	OK – 2	BAD IDEA – 3
Children’s playscape	21	9	3
Open play area	17	12	5
Picnic area, with barbecue pits	14	13	11
Outdoor fitness equipment	17	11	6
Pavilion(s)	17	7	8
Bird and/or bat houses	10	10	10
Pet/wildlife watering	20	4	9
Drinking fountains	23	4	3
Benches/seating areas	23	3	0

Other amenities:

Dog park	4
Shade	3
Trees	1
Lights	5
Restrooms	2
Quiet reflective place	1
Swings/slides	3
Swimming pool/splash pad	1
Pergola/gazebo	1

General Comments:

1. Will there be parking available within the park? When the City of San Antonio built Nani Falcone Park, on Mystic Park, inadequate parking was a major concern.
2. Very excited about having a convenient park in our subdivision; however, care needs to be taken to ensure we do not create major traffic through the residential area due to athletic fields attended by volume of participants and spectators.
3. Love the idea of a pocket park
4. We need this park. It is too dangerous to cross Bandera Rd from Old Mill to use Raymond Rimkus Park. Thank you to the Temple for donating the property.
5. This is a wonderful addition to our neighborhood
6. My backyard butts up to the proposed park. My concerns are security and noise. I have a pool. Concerned about jumping my fence and my liability. There are trees right on the fence line – will fence go around trees or what? Will I have a gate – one way access – I can lock on my side and provide access for me? Thanks.

PARK COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEON VALLEY, TEXAS
September 13, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

7. The area does not look to be large enough for many amenities. I am not sure the homeowners surrounding the area would like all that activity being practically in their backyards.

8. With basketball courts, we could have a safer neighborhood = the hoops hanging over our streets, with children trying to play in traffic is dangerous & bad for everyone – I've witnessed some close calls. This is an exciting opportunity – look forward to following plans and progress.

9. My greatest concern with this plan is the future upkeep. If this will eventually become an "eyesore". I say leave it as is.

10. No small children living at home, but I do have grandchildren that would love a children's playscape or picnic area with playscape.

11. Will it be policed? Concerned about neighbor's security.

12. People from outside (non-residents) will create traffic and trash if not kept simple.

13. We'd prefer the area to be a walking, nature area, with a children's playscape at the street end. We don't want a sports or ball related amenities because of associated increased noise level. Also, stray balls could come over our fence and people may be tempted to trespass to retrieve them. We are also opposed to barbecue pits because of related strong smells and refuse. Raymond Rimkus Park is available to Leon Valley residents for sports/ball activities and barbecues. We are long time Old Mill residents. We'd be thrilled to have a park name contain "Old Mill", since we've never had signage with our subdivision name displayed. We look forward to attending Public and/or City Council meetings to discuss proposed plans. Thank you for conducting this survey!!

14. No ball sports they might come over our fences & they are noisy. No BBQ pits. BBQ pits are available at city park. Thank you.

15. How are people going to cross Bandera Road safely?

16. Please consider putting in a dog park at this location. A section of the park could be used to allow dogs to run free. We have to drive out of town to go to a dog park. If not here, consider placing a dog park at Raymond Rimkus Park.

17. I would like to expand on the athletic fields and ball courts. With this "pocket park" butting up to many backyards, there is concern as to noise and balls that may accidentally be hit onto these folks property. With the proximity of Raymond Rimkus Park and the amenities it already provides, such as picnic areas with barbecue pits and an athletic field, it is sufficient and we would not need those in a "pocket park".

18. We need this park. It is too dangerous to cross Bandera Road from Old Mill to use Raymond Rimkus Park. Thank you to the Temple for donating the property.

PARK COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEON VALLEY, TEXAS
September 13, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

19. I am thrilled about this idea! My children are very active in outdoor sports with leagues, so I'm excited about off times from the season that we will be able to walk to this park and get exercise!

20. Please do not use for any athletic fields, they can use Raymond Rimkus Park for that. Please keep child/family friendly. Thank you.

21. What about parking? Concern about bringing others from outside community (Timberhill area) into quiet Old Mill/Sawyer area. Concerned about "bad" activities to include drugs, gangs, graffiti, & people "scoping" houses down Huebner Road area.

22. Needs more trees.

23. We are so excited!

24. Plenty of seating through-out – most with roofs. Please do not allow dogs! In park. Plenty of lighting – some solar. No more than 12 in park parking.

25. We appreciate the opportunity to provide input.

26. Constable Jerry Connell served Leon Valley and surrounding area for over 20 years. Outstanding person and a true role model.

27. Excited to see this area donated. Please research the possibility of including a playground for seniors. See this article – www.governing.com/generations/government-management/gov-senior-playgrounds-popping-up.html

Note – comments were received from all surveys, including the surveys with no back portion.