

**LEON VALLEY PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 11, 2014**

The Leon Valley Park Commission met on the 11th day of March, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Leon Valley City Council Chambers, at 6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, Texas, for the purpose of the following business, to-wit:

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LEON VALLEY PARK COMMISSION

1. Call the Leon Valley Park Commission Meeting to Order and Determine a Quorum is Present.

Chairman Bert Thomas called the regular Park Commission meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Present were Chairman Bert Thomas, and Commissioners Bill Cooper, Scott Baird, and Jackie Walton. Absent and excused were Commissioners Linda Tarin, John Stanley, and Benay Cacciatore. Also present were City Council liaison Jack Dean, City Staff Member Melinda Moritz, and resident Al Uvietta. Let the record show that a quorum was present.

2. Consider Approval of the February 11, 2014 regular meeting minutes.

Commissioner Baird made a motion to approve the February 11, 2013 meeting minutes, which was seconded by Commissioner Cooper. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Citizens to be Heard

Resident Al Uvietta addressed parking concerns along Poss Road in front of the park. He stated that he noticed people were double parking and that there were at least 5-6 cars parked in the grass along the right of way. He explained that after several hours, he called the Police Department and an officer arrived on the scene to issue citations to the illegally parked vehicle owners. He noted that to get the problem resolved, the Park Commission needed to report the issue to the City Council.

4. Reports: Activities that Impact the Park or Access to the Park – Melinda Moritz.

a. Condition of Swimming Pool and our Recommendations.

Ms. Moritz gave a presentation regarding the Grass Valley swimming pool and the recent pool inspection results. Ms. Moritz stated that two pool operations companies had inspected the pool and deemed it to be out of compliance with current state code. She explained that to bring the pool into compliance would cost the City approximately \$24,000 and would involve the replacement of three pumps and filters, and the installation of three additional suction inlets. She further explained that the City had received bids from pool operations companies, with the lowest bid being \$36,027, leaving the City with a large shortfall. She noted that the City Council had directed staff to gather more information regarding usage, previous year's costs, and to create a survey to put on the City's website to get public input. She told the Commission that the information would be reported to the Council at their April meeting. A general discussion was held and the consensus of the Commission was that the land would be better put to use as a splash pad with other playground type equipment.

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Commissioner Baird made a motion to have the swimming pool removed, wait for the City Council to direct a new land use, and to formally recommend to the City Council that a splash pad be constructed at the site. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cooper and the motion carried unanimously.

b. Community Garden.

Ms. Moritz opened the discussion by stating that she had received numerous complaints regarding the appearance of the Community Garden area in the park. She stated that, with the Park Commission's permission, she intended to send a letter to the plot users asking that they bring their garden plot into acceptable condition, with thirty days for compliance, that a sign would be made with all the garden rules and placed on the fence inside the garden area, and that a community volunteer should be identified as the garden manager to assure continued compliance. She further explained her intention to possibly provide a storage shed for the miscellaneous tools commonly used in the garden, to have Public Works clean up the area, repair the fence, provide mulch along the paths, and remove the piles of rocks near the fence lines. The Park Commission noted their agreement with her recommendations.

c. Pocket Park for the area of the Silo and detention pond (near Huebner Road).

Ms. Moritz relayed a request by the City Manager to consider placement of a basketball court at the new Silo pocket park area. A general discussion was held regarding the types of amenities that could be used in that area and then noted their agreement that a basketball court would probably be feasible if there was enough room for one in the limited area, along with some picnic tables and trash cans. Commissioner Cooper stated that he wanted to see some type of equipment to get kids moving and not sitting, and that a basketball court would be a good choice. Chairman Thomas noted that although a regulation sized court may not fit, the court didn't need to be regulation and could be of any size that would complement the area. Ms. Moritz explained that she had contacted CFZ Group landscape planners to get a site plan for that area. She noted that she would report back to the Commission on their findings.

d. Review our Park Rules and the City Parks Ordinance. Park Rules may not be enforceable by our Police Department if not included in the City Ordinance.

Chairman Thomas opened the discussion by stating that there had recently been a problem with a park user bringing a Moonwalk to the park without having rented a pavilion as required by the Park Rules and that, when the Police had tried to enforce its removal, it had been determined the removal action was not enforceable because the rule had not been inserted into the ordinance. Commissioner Cooper made a motion to insert the park rule regarding Moonwalks

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into the ordinance with a change being that: any pavilion rented, rather than just the Large Pavilion. ie. **"Moonwalks:** *Allowed only in conjunction with rental of a pavilion and a permit is requested at the time of reservation. It must be transported by hand from the designed parking lot (no motorized vehicle). Moonwalks shall not be located at the Sports Fields, Restrooms, Walkways, or Trails and renter must provide their own power source (generator).* The motion was seconded by Commissioner Walton and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Commissioners' and Staff's Comments:

Ms. Moritz addressed the Commission stating that she had been preparing estimates for the rehabilitation of the park and then generally went over the items to be replaced and their costs. She showed the Commissioners several playground concepts for their consideration. She noted that the overall work estimate was in progress and that she would be preparing a report for both the Park Commission and the Council once the figures were finalized.

Councilmember Dean noted that he would like to see a splash pad, picnic tables and some type of playground area at that location.

Resident Al Uvietta expressed his concern that plans were being made to put recycle cans in the park and that he wished the City would not, as that had been tried in the past and it created additional work for the Public Works employees. He explained that park users disregarded the cans and the trash had to be sorted before disposal.

6. Announcements:

Chairman Thomas stated that the April Park Commission meeting would be cancelled due to a conflict with the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner being held on that same evening. He stated that they really needed to do some planting in the park and that the next meeting of the Commission would be held on May 13, 2014.

7. Adjournment

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Walton. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.



Chairman Bert Thomas



Date