



Leon Valley Park Commission Meeting Minutes

The Park Commission of the City of Leon Valley, Texas met on the 8th day of October, 2020, at 6:30 p.m., at Raymond Rimkus Park, 6440 Evers Road, Leon Valley, Texas, for the purpose of the following business, to-wit:

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Determine if Quorum is Present.

Chairman Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m., with the following Commissioners in attendance: Jack Dean, Michelle Alonzo, Joyce Trent, and Alternate Evan Bohl. Absent were Vice-Chairwoman Danielle Bolton, and Commissioners Carolyn Gabriel and Kathy Hill. Also present were resident Al Uvietta and Leon Valley Historical Society Member Larry Proffitt, and Staff member Melinda Moritz.

2. Review and Consider Approval of the March 12, 2020 Park Commission Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Dean made a motion to approve the minutes as written, which was seconded by Commissioner Alonzo. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Welcome to New Member Evan Bohl

Chairman Christensen welcomed new Commissioner Evan Bohl to the Commission, then suggested that each member introduce themselves and give a short biography, then have Mr. Bohl tell the Commission about himself. Introductions were made and a general discussion was held.

4. Reports: Activities or Events that Impact Parks or Access to Parks:

a. Discussion on Triangle Area Park (M. Moritz)

Staff member Moritz addressed the Commission, asking Commissioner Dean if he had a specific concern regarding this park, as it had been his suggestion to place the item on the agenda and that she also had some information to give to the Commissioners. Commissioner Dean stated that his concern was the crumbling chicken coop type structure on the park grounds and that several tree limbs needed to be trimmed up and some trees removed. He also asked why the fence had not been reinstalled between the Huebner-Onion Homestead property, owned by the Leon Valley Historical Society (LVHS), and the Triangle Area Park.

Staff member Moritz stated that during the process of trying to reconstruct the fence, it was discovered that a corner of the stone barn, located on the LVHS property, actually encroached into the Triangle Area Park and that the encroachment needed to be addressed prior to replacing the fence. She noted that there was a legal process required prior to removal of the encroachment, including:

- 1) Placing the item on the election ballot for a vote by the citizens
- 2) If the citizens approve the item, the City Council would approve an Ordinance authorizing an appraisal and land exchange.
- 3) The City and LVHS would cause an appraisal of the land upon which the encroachment exists and of a parcel of land to the rear of the Homestead of equal size and value.
- 4) Each party would then sell the parcels to each other.

The parcel belonging to the LVHS is located in Huebner Creek and erosion control could be more easily performed were it owned by the City. She noted that care would need to be taken when the item was placed on the ballot to assure citizens that the City was not selling the entire park. Ms. Moritz gave each Commissioner a presentation depicting the encroachment and potential land swap, and outlining the actions needed to resolve the issue.

Ms. Moritz then explained that the dilapidated pigeonnaire structure on the city property had been inspected and found to be beyond repair, but that pictures and measurements were being taken, so that the structure could be rebuilt on the LVHS property. LVHS Member Larry Proffitt informed the Commissioners that they would be taking pictures and the measurements of the old pigeonnaire structure shortly and would let the Commissioners and Public Works staff know when the structure could be removed.

A general discussion was then held between the Commissioners, Mr. Uvietta, and Mr. Proffitt regarding this issue.

5. Other Business

There was no other business discussed.

6. Citizens to be Heard

None.

7. Commissioner and Staff Comments.

Chairman Christensen addressed the Commissioners with a reminder that they are able to place an item on the agenda if they have a second by another Commissioner and if the two Commissioners had a plan of action on the item they were presenting. He then stated that, due to the impending election, the Commissioners should not make any political statements on any item. He then asked for a moment of silence for all the victims of the Covid-19 virus and for a quick resolution to the pandemic. A moment of silence was held.

Commissioner Dean stated that the Commissioners should be allowed a more open forum as long as the items being discussed were about park business.

Commissioner Trent noted that she had gotten a little lost in finding the rain garden, but thanked the Public Works Crews for the work being done at the parks.

Commissioner Alonzo stated that it was good to be back at a Park Commission meeting and being able to get back to business. She then asked what the new rules were for being at the parks, as they related to the Covid-19 pandemic. Ms. Moritz stated that the playgrounds, restrooms, tennis courts, softball field, athletic fields, and pavilions were open to the public, but that gatherings could not exceed ten persons and league play was not allowed. She further noted that the new on-line reservation system had been activated.

Commissioner Bohl thanked the Commission and stated that he was pleased that he would be allowed to participate in the general business of the parks. He then stated that he had lots of good ideas to share in the future. He noted that one of his ideas was to construct a skate park in the Triangle Area Park and to designate a food truck area at Raymond Rimkus Park.

Staff member Moritz explained that due to the pandemic and the uncertainty in future sales tax revenues, the City Parks budget capital items had been completely removed from the proposed FY 2020-2021 budget. She further explained that the items that had been proposed included the Linkwood Trail fencing, funding for a dog park, four autism "quiet" shelters, Raymond Rimkus Park outdoor fitness equipment, and shade covers for the Forest Oaks pool. She stated that she would put these items back in the budget for the FY 2021-2022 year, depending on the City's financial circumstances in the spring of 2021.

Chairman Christensen ended the meeting by thanking the Public Works Crews for working through the pandemic and asking for a motion to adjourn.

8. Adjourn.

Commissioner Dean made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Trent. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.



Roger Christensen, Chairman



Date