

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF TARRANT §
CITY OF BEDFORD §

approved

The Bedford Parks and Recreation Board met in regular session at the Old Bedford Library on the 3rd of January with the following members present:

Randy Newby, Donna Hanson, Cathy Schneider, Sam Fairchild, Laron Street, Wendy Watson, Donna Williams, Maggie Jones

Constituting a quorum.

Elvera Henderson, Doug Allbach, and Bryan Burgess were absent.

City Council/Staff Representative:

Don Henderson – Parks Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER

Randy Newby, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Consider approval of the following Parks and Recreation Board minutes:
 - a. November 1, 2018 regular meeting
Maggie Jones requested Old Bedford School be changed to Old Bedford Library. Laron Street motioned to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Donna Hanson and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

2. **Discussion and possible action on park projects and goals for 2019.**

Wendy Watson stated it would be a good idea to look at our budget for 2019 and to be actively involved in Phase Next discussions and planning sessions. The Board agreed. Don Henderson asked the Board if they wanted to apply for additional funding for another amenity for the dog park, such as a trail extension or shade covers. The Board concurred. Donna Henderson asked everyone to look at “The Gathering Place” in Tulsa, Oklahoma, a wonderful park which might have some elements the Board would like to see across the Bedford Park System. Randy Newby and Wendy Watson discussed the possibility of an adaptive zipline at Central Park, and that the inclusive park should continue to be a priority. Cathy Henderson recommended addressing the trail along Cheek Sparger, but acknowledged it may be cost prohibitive. Don Henderson suggested uniform signage across the Bedford Parks System. After much discussion, the item was tabled until the next meeting.
3. **Discussion and possible action on special event Fiestas de la Sane for January 27, 2019 at the Boys Ranch Park.**

Don Henderson explained that this item was currently moot as the Police and Fire Departments had already denied the application.

OLD BUSINESS

4. Discussion on rescheduling date for the tour of parks.

The tour of parks was rescheduled for Saturday, March 2nd at 10:00 AM. Board members should meet at Boys Ranch by the basketball goal.

5. Discussion and possible action on Meadowpark playground structure colors.

Don Henderson discussed the Oncor liability issue with the Board. Due to Oncor's liability, it would not be possible to make the improvements at Meadowpark as expected and the focus would move to Carousel Park. After discussion, it was decided to scrape the current footprint and start over, moving equipment closer to the pavilion. Don Henderson will bring some suggestions for the redesign forward at the next meeting.

6. Status update from the Friends of Bedford Parks Foundation.

Wendy Watson stated the next Foundation meeting would be the following Monday where the group would finalize the one-pager and visit with the City about the different donation levels. Business cards had been ordered and an email address had been set up for the President. The next step would be to meet with the City about naming rights and who would build the park. Wendy Watson reported that the Foundation had received their tax-exempt status from the IRS and would soon be taking donations as soon as the donation levels had been determined. Contracts would be discussed after the Phase Next contracts had been awarded in order to ensure there were no conflicts of interest. Wendy Watson also recommended that anyone working for American Airlines take advantage of their 25,000 mile certificates in exchange for volunteer hours, which could be used to fundraise for the new park.

REPORTS

7. Discuss individual park assignments:

- a. **Bedford Trails Linear Park** – looks good, bluebonnet seeds have been planted
- b. **Boys Ranch Park** – looks good
- c. **Brook Hollow Park** – looks good, fence posts were down near the construction site, but have been put back up
- d. **Carousel Park** – looks good, 4 trash cans in the gazebo may be too many
- e. **Central Park** – looks good
- f. **Dewey Tennant Park** – looks good
- g. **Harris Ryals Park** – looks good, 1 light out along the concrete path between the elementary school and the playground
- h. **Meadowpark Athletic Complex** – looks good
- i. **Stormie Jones Park** – looks good

8. Staff updates

a. Parks

The City of Bedford received a grant from Texas Parks & Wildlife for aeration at the Boys Ranch Lake to help preserve the ecosystem. Information about the aeration process, including FAQs, will be added on the City websites and social media.

b. Recreation/Aquatics/Senior Center

Staff is about to begin hiring lifeguards and pool seasonal staff for the summer.

NEXT MEETING

9. The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board will be February 7, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business, Wendy Watson made a motion for adjournment of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Donna Williams and passed unanimously, adjourning the meeting at 7:24 PM.

Randy Newby, Chairperson