

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

CITY OF BEDFORD §

The Bedford Parks and Recreation Board met on January 1, 2023. The following Board members were present: Mr. Doug Allbach, Mr. Sam Fairchild, Ms. Megan Girard, Mr. Lynn Grado, Ms. Donna Hanson, Ms. Marguerite Jones, Mr. Terry Lewis, Ms. Heather Lopez Velarde, and Mr. Alton Stockton. Members from City of Bedford Staff, City Council, and the Beautification Advisory Board were also present.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Heather Lopez Velarde, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1. Consider approval of the following Parks and Recreation Board minutes from November 3, 2022**

A motion was made by Ms. Donna Hanson to approve the minutes from the November 3, 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sam Fairchild and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2. Member of the Council to speak on City updates**

Mr. Rich Steves made the presentation. Mr. Steves shared that the City Council approved the playground at Central Park. Additionally, the ribbon cutting of the new Center at Generations Park will be Saturday, January 21 at 10:00 AM with activities planned through noon. The soft opening took place on January 2.

- 3. Discussion and possible action on setting goals and policies**

Mr. Don Henderson made the presentation. He asked Board Members to capture their volunteer hours and explained these hours were flexibly defined and expanded even beyond volunteering at events, visiting the parks, or researching grants. Mr. Henderson added that his team would let the Board know if they needed anything. Ms. Maggie Jones suggested Streams and Valleys Trails Ambassadors Program as an example and shared they used a Google Doc to keep track of possible volunteer opportunities and hours. Staff and the Board set a five-hour goal for the year for each Board member.

Moving forward, Mr. Mark Long shared that there were many organizations that used Bedford Parks facilities. He asked the Board if there was any desire to see presentations

and updates from these organizations during the year. He also asked the Board what they needed or wanted to see. Ms. Jones suggested that staff provide an annual report given at the end of the year by staff. Ms. Hanson recommended a brief staff report on park usage during the staff section of the monthly meetings. Mr. Long said he wanted to ensure that the Board received the information they needed and wanted to see.

4. Discussion and possible action on events

Mr. Henderson made the presentation. He said there would not be any events in January, but there would be several events in February. Ms. Hanson suggested a safety training or event for increased awareness for early morning or late-night runners, coordinated with the Police Department.

OLD BUSINESS

5. Update on the Playground at Central Park

Mr. Henderson made the presentation. He said there were not any updates, other than it had been placed on order and was expected to be received by August.

REPORTS

6. Discuss individual park assignments

- a. *Bedford Trails Linear Park* - Looks good.
- b. *Brook Hollow Park* - Looks good.
- c. *Carousel Park* - Looks good, may need to have the grass mowed.
- d. *Central Park* - Looks good, some lights may need to be replaced.
- e. *Cheek Sparger Trails* - Looks good. Between Forest Ridge and Central, there is a wet, low spot. At Central with the roundabout, there's a 10-foot spot with no sidewalk.
- f. *Dewey Tenant Park* - Looks good.
- g. *Generations Park* - Looks good.
- h. *Harris Ryals Park* - Looks good.
- i. *Meadowpark Athletic Complex* - Looks good.
- j. *OBS Park* - Looks good.
- k. *Stormie Jones Park* - Looks good. Exterior fences behind the soccer goals, looks like they are being used for climbing over (i.e., disconnected fence ties). Mr. Lynn Grado shared updates on his visit with Bedford residents and provided well-deserved compliments to the Bedford Parks and Recreation team.

7. Updates

Board members reported their volunteer hours to Bedford staff and thanked staff for their excellent service to the community.

Mr. Long provided updates on the ADA improvements to the west side of the Old Bedford School building. He shared he had received lots of questions about the personalized bricks. Fortunately, all of the bricks were saved and would be relocated near the stairs at the Old Bedford School. Mr. Long shared he would also be looking at ADA accessible parking options.

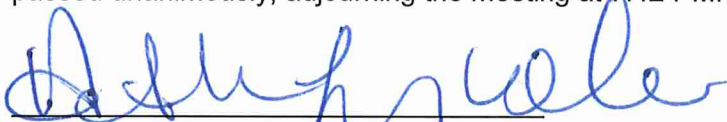
The Beautification Committee shared some updates, including information around potential events for a plant swap and monarch butterfly preservation.

NEXT MEETING

- 8. The next scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board will be February 2, 2023 at the YMCA.**

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Jones. The motion was seconded by Mr. Grado and passed unanimously, adjourning the meeting at 7:42 PM.



Heather Lopez Velarde, Chairperson