

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

CITY OF BEDFORD §

The Bedford Parks and Recreation Board met in regular session at the Old Bedford Library Location on the 7th of February with the following members present:

Randy Newby	Maggie Jones
Doug Allbach	Cathy Schneider
Bryan Burgess	Laron Street
Sam Fairchild	Donna Williams
Donna Hanson	

Constituting a quorum.

Elvera Henderson and Wendy Watson were absent.

City Council/Staff Representatives:

Wendy Hartnett – Special Events Manager and Interim Recreation Manager

Jeff Scott – Parks Department

Rusty Sartor - City Council Liaison

Also present: Kay Leighton and John Leighton from Wrath Racing

CALL TO ORDER

Randy Newby, Chairman, called the Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Consider approval of the following Parks and Recreation Board minutes:

a) January 3, 2019 regular meeting.

A motion was made by Maggie Jones, seconded by Donna Hanson, to approve the January meeting minutes as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

b) Sign attendance sheet and get signature copy of minutes.

Both items were signed and returned to Wendy Hartnett.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Discussion and possible action on request to have the Dalmatian Run Fest at the Boys Ranch Park from April 8 to April 10, 2019. The presentation will be presented by Ms. Leighton.

Kay Leighton addressed the board on behalf of Wrath Racing, a coordinator of races in the area that is active in the running community. They have applied to conduct the above-mentioned event at Boys Ranch Park on March 8-10, 2019 (incorrect month was listed on posted agenda). They will conduct a half and full marathon each day of the event with an evening run on Friday. They are hoping to attract fanatics and runners looking to compete in all or one of the planned

aces. They are working with vendors that are local small business owners. The course is just over 2 miles through the park and surrounding neighborhood with the start/finish line in the park. There were several questions concerning the details of the event. Volunteers will be used for direction and to assist with traffic issues. The route has been cleared with the police department and is like the Black and Blue 5k route. Attendance is expected to be limited – 15-20 runners on Friday, 20-30 on the weekend days. Insurance and a waiver are coordinated through the race sanctioning body, USA Track. The event is currently not large enough to attract vendors, but they do have sponsors providing some products. The permit has been approved by all city departments. The race will run rain or shine and an emergency and safety plan is on file with the sanctioning body. Porta potties will be placed on Lakeview Dr. The cost for the events is \$70 for a half marathon and \$80 for a full with a discount for registering for multiple races. The board complimented Ms. Leighton for all the preparation her group did in advance of this meeting.

Donna Hanson made a motion for the board to approve the Dalmatian Run Fest application. Maggie Jones seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

3. Discussion and possible action on goals for 2019.

4. Discussion and possible action on park projects for 2019.

Items 3 and 4 were discussed at the same time. The board agreed that renovations at Carousel Park are a priority for the year with an updated playground and swing area being placed closer to the pavilion. Other changes discussed included making the exposed rock in the park a landscape feature (Donna Hanson provided photos of similar projects), adding the white fence featured in other parks, and thinning out some of the trees to allow for more usable space and better light for plants.

Randy Newby mentioned that another grant for work at the Bark Park is in the works. Notes from the Phase Next work session on January 30th were reviewed for the members that were unable to attend.

Further discussion was tabled until Don Henderson is present at a future meeting.

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

Sam Fairchild provided an update on the foundation's ongoing activities. The federal and state tax exemptions have been approved. Marketing and fundraising plans will be presented to the city soon. The group has met with playground equipment vendors and there are many options available for use in the all-inclusive park. Some items have been approved while research is continuing on other options. The area will need to be surveyed and site plan will have to be approved by the city. Infrastructure will have to be designed and some conceptual design has started. Total cost is not yet known, but they are close to being able to start fundraising. The engineering firm that had discussed providing some services pro bono has backed out of the project. The foundation has met with the Phase Next project manager and has contacted several vendors eager to be involved, including the aquatic systems vendor for Phase Next. Social media and the website are expected to roll out in the next month.

REPORTS

6. Discuss individual park assignments:

- a. **Bedford Trails Linear Park** – Looks good, several members mentioned that the artwork on several residential fences that was coordinated through the Cultural Commission looks great.
- b. **Boys Ranch Park** – 4 new benches added, 3 at the playground and 1 near the lake, are getting used and looked great, some ants noticed due to recent rains and nice weather.
- c. **Brook Hollow Park** – no report.
- d. **Carousel Park** – looks good.
- e. **Central Park** – looks good, several lights out on the north side.
- f. **Harris Ryals Park** – looks great, thanks for fixing the light, staff reported it was changed to a LED that will last longer, some standing water in the area.
- g. **Meadowpark Athletic Complex** – lots of weeds, but otherwise in good shape, especially the baseball fields.
- h. **Dewey Tennant Park** – looks good, some weeds.
- i. **Stormie Jones Park** – branch down in the park that may have already been removed, spray paint on a fence near the south parking area.

7. Staff updates

a. Parks - no report

b. Recreation/Aquatics/Senior Center

Valentines dance will be this Saturday. Tickets are still available. The senior dance on Monday evening is sold out. BRAC open house with a focus on Phase Next and family involvement is scheduled for February 23rd from 1-3pm. There will be games and free pizza. Several staff are attending upcoming conferences. The volunteer appreciation banquet is on February 22nd. Bingo and painting classes are planned in the coming weeks.

Upcoming events were reviewed:

Crud Cruiser – March 9th

Clean Up Bedford – April 6th

Arts Fest – March 30th

Twilight Concerts – every Friday in May

Egg Hunt – April 12th

Please continue to promote the Phase Next Survey.

Aquatics is preparing for seasonal hiring.

Parks is starting spring maintenance and trimming trees and brush along the trails and rights-of-way.

Old Bedford School construction is expected to wrap up by the end of February with a possible grand re-opening in the summer.

NEXT MEETING

- 8. The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board will be held on Thursday, March 7th, 2019.**

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business, Laron Street made a motion for adjournment of the meeting; Cathy Schneider seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm.

Randy Newby, Chairperson