



MINUTES

CITY OF BRENHAM PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

June 14, 2023

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was held on Wednesday, June 14, 2023, beginning at noon at Brenham City Hall – Conference Room 2-A, 200 W. Vulcan Street, Brenham, Texas.

Members Present:

Bill Betts, Delbert Boeker, Ginger Bosse, Lauren Buth, Lee Chalmers, Tina Henderson, Andrea Fischer, Courtney Mason, and Dusty Robinson

Members Absent:

NONE

City of Brenham Staff Present:

Director of Public Works Dane Rau, Casey Redman, Tammy Jaster, and Kyle Branham

Citizens/Others Present:

Vicki Bruce; Lisa Keesler

Media Present:

Mark Whitehead, KWHI

1. Bill Betts called the meeting to order – welcome to visitors and guests

2. Citizen/Visitor Comments

Vicki Bruce and Lisa Kessler wanted to inform the Parks Board of the influx of teens coming out to learn and play pickleball.

WORK SESSION

3. Discussion and Presentation of Proposed New Location for Disc Golf Course at Brenham Family Park

Dane Rau presented on the presentation for the new location for the disc golf course at the Brenham Family Park. Over the past 4 months we have been meeting with local disc golf enthusiasts and laying out the 18 holes. In last year's BCDC funding we were allocated \$26,000 to start transitioning from Hohlt to another location by purchasing new baskets, tee boxes and

signage. We have purchased the baskets but as we move forward will ensure that the course plays as designed before tee boxes are poured and signs explaining the holes and coarse are installed. Kyle Branham has taken the lead on this project.

We have had a 9-hole disc golf course at Hohlt Park which is located on the grassy hill above the parking lot facing N. Park St. As the amphitheater and restrooms were built along with the overflow of parking during athletic events this course has had its challenges and could be best suited elsewhere. With the large amount of acreage at the Brenham Family Park and our current plans to create a passive park starting with Phase 1A (35 acres) we have around 25 additional acres across the main creek on the southeast part in which are open, rolling terrain that will suit an 18-hole disc golf course nicely. Holes will be par 3, par 5's and will not take much maintenance to make this playable.

We have had a lot of positive feedback from the local disc golf enthusiasts and are working hard to make this a destination not only for local users but to attract state-wide enthusiasts to come to Brenham and experience an 18-hole disc golf course. With the main creek crossing under construction and in hopes of getting the Brenham Family Park Phase 1A started in the Fall we feel this will be an awesome attribute to the southeast side of the park that will fit our passive park and not hinder walkers, be affected by vehicles, and yet allow for a spacious area to really get out and sling the disc!

The area that we are working with and the layout of the 18-hole course. If for some reason this part of the park gets developed or changes usage on the back 70 acres these could be easily moved and relocated but we intend that this will be an awesome place to expand the disc golf course until future development is decided.

Kyle stated that the group of Disk Golf Groups is very active, pleasant group to work with. They just like Pickle Ball travel areas to play courses. This 18 hole course should attract visitors to our area as well. The plan is to keep the 9 hole course at Hohlt Park as a beginner course.

REGULAR SESSION

4. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Approval of the Minutes from the February 8, 2023, Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Board Member Delbert Boeker and seconded by Board Member Lee Chalmers to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2023 regular meeting.

Chairman Bill Betts called for a vote. The motion passed with the Board voting as follows:

Board Member Bill Betts	Yes
Board Member Delbert Boeker	Yes
Board Member Ginger Bosse	Yes
Board Member Wendy Buth	YES
Board Member Lee Chalmers	Yes
Board Member Andrea Fischer	Yes
Board Member Tina Henderson	Yes
Board Member Courtney Mason	YES
Board Member Dusty Robinson	Yes

5. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon a Memorandum of Agreement between Blinn College and the City of Brenham for the Use of Soccer Fields at Hohlt Park

Dane Rau presented on the presentation for the agreement between Blinn College & the City of Brenham use of the Soccer Fields at Hohlt Park. In 2018, Blinn College began their soccer program. At that time the City and Blinn entered into a 5 yr. agreement that allowed Blinn to use Rankin Field for home games/clinics and other fields at Hohlt Park for practices. The partnership has been a good one and since Brenham no longer plays soccer at Rankin field it puts usage onto Rankin Field and allows the city to receive reimbursement for usage.

Now that it is 2023 a new contract must be signed and agreed upon. There were some minor changes to the MOU which Casey, Dane, Blinn and City Attorney, Cary Bovey approved of with the bulk of the agreement remaining the same as the original in 2018. The reimbursement for usage will start at \$26,500 for Rankin Field, practice fields and the use of a dressing/storage room. It will increase by \$1,000 each year capping out at \$30,500 in the year 2030. The original agreement ended at \$25,500 per year.

This will be presented to Brenham City Council on June 15th for approval. It has been a good partnership and we look forward to another 5 yrs. We ask that Parks Board approve the MOU and we will relay the action taken by Parks Board to the Brenham City Council.

A motion was made by Board Member Courtney Mason and seconded by Board Member Tina Henderson to approve the agreement between Blinn College & the City of Brenham for the use of Soccer Fields at Hohlt Park. This agreement will be taken to City Council for final approval. All Board Members approved.

6. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Funding Requests from the Brenham Community Development Corporation (BCDC) for Various Parks and Recreation Projects

Dane Rau presented on the funding request from BCDC for various Parks and Recreation projects for the upcoming year. Each year, the staff is able to present and recommend various projects to both Parks Board and BCDC for funding opportunity. These funds are derived from sales tax proceeds that are spent locally and are geared to enhance the Parks and Recreation along with Aquatic amenities. We strive to have a mix of new amenities along with maintenance and upkeep of existing amenities which keeps our Parks System looking fresh and vibrant. We also take in account the Parks Master Plan and follow our goals and projects to the best of our ability.

Below you will see the requests that will be presented to BCDC in July. We are currently asking BCDC to consider 13 projects valued at \$1.15million dollars. These projects were evaluated by Parks and Recreation Staff, Carolyn Miller and our budget team and prioritized based on need and future value to our parks system. Due to priority, budget, and status of existing infrastructure these projects are our utmost importance.

Tammy talked about the 3 requests from the Aquatics department being the sound system for the facility originally to the building as it is not working in most of the facility. 3 single restrooms getting a facelift as they are original to the facility. Replacement parts are hard to find and replace when something breaks. The 3rd thing is the chemical doors and exterior door replacements. The Chemicals have eaten the interior door frames over the last 23 years, so replacing is a safety issue. Board Member Lee Chalmers suggested we look at composite doors. That is a metal door coated with a plastic exterior as they might hold up better and longer in our environment.

Casey then spoke about our park request. Our largest project will be Jackson St Park Phase 1 Improvements which will help assist with upgrades to that park which could include but not limited to, restroom improvements, ADA upgrades, open air pavilion, larger walking/biking track and new playground amenities. Hohlt Park restroom ventilations enhancements, Owsley playground surface repairs, turf mounds at Schroeder and Dallmeyer; Batting cage turf – phase 3 at fireman's and Henderson; Fireman's Kitchen wood door replacement, fireman's restroom floor refurbishment; story board panel upgrades replacing the temporary wooden frames to aluminum frames that will last for years to come, movies in the park, and sitting areas & benches for Owsley and Hattie Mae Basketball.

Dane stated that there was a donation made for concrete & improvements at Jackson Street on the Pickleball Courts, once the new budget year begins, we will start this project adding concrete and some benches. We would like feedback from Parks Board and ask for your support on moving forward with these enhancements.

Parks Board member Andrea Fischer asked if this was around the amount we normally ask for or if this was the wish list that we request and see what can be funded. Dane Rau stated that this was about the normal amount funded from the BCDC funding. This is a small percentage of the taxes that come in that are earmarked for our Parks and Recreation Department.

Aquatics

Description	Budget Request	Status
Sound System Update for Indoor and Outdoor	\$75,000	Replace outdated sound system
Refurbish 3 Single Restrooms	\$125,000	Upgrade restrooms in Therapy
Chemical Room and Exterior Door Replacement	\$75,000	Replace rusted and damaged doors

Parks

Description	Budget Request	Status
Jackson St Park Improvements (Phase 1)	\$715,280	Upgrade amenities at Jackson
Hohlt Restroom Ventilation Enhancements	\$50,000	Get much better air flow in RR
Owsley Playground Surface Repairs	\$15,000	Rubber pour n play needs replacing
Turf Mounds and Homeplate (Schroeder and Dallmeyer)	\$27,500	Convert to turf to help with maintenance and wear
Batting Cage Turf- Phase 3 (Fireman's and Henderson)	\$12,000	Add new turf to batting cages at these two facilities
Fireman's Kitchen Wood Door Replacement	\$13,500	Replace 2 sets of wood doors
Fireman's Restroom Floor Refurbishment	\$13,000	Repurpose floors in all 3 RR
Story Book Panel Upgrades (Fireman's Park)	\$8,500	Replace wooden panel with metal for longer lasting life
Movies in the Park	\$4,000	2024 Movies in the Park Series
Sitting Areas and Benches for Owsley and Hattie Mae Basketball	\$25,000	Improve sitting areas at these 2 locations
\$1,158,780		

A motion was made by Board Member Lee Chalmers and seconded by Board Member Andrea Fischer to approve the proposed BCDC request list for Aquatics and Parks projects. This will be taken to the July 6, 2023, BCDC meeting for approval. All Board Members approved.

7. Parks and Recreation Staff Updates

Public Works Director Dane Rau talked about the new Nature Trail at Hohlt Park and its reopening.

Parks Superintendent Casey Redman reported on maintenance updates and tournament updates.

- WCLL and WCYSL have completed their seasons. All-Stars play next week.
- Hohlt Bridge bottom boards complete. Will start on sides soon.
- Pressure washed and cleaned features on Splash pad, which opened April 1st
- Replaced Astroturf in 4 batting cages at Hohlt Park and installed hitting mats.
- Major limb trimming complete at Linda Anderson sidewalk trees.
- Flowerbed trimming, cleanup, and mulch installation ongoing
- Hohlt Nature Trail improvements 99% complete
- Skatepark repairs complete.
- Fireman's kitchen HVAC improvements complete
- LCRA Steps Forward day went well.
- Successful 133rd Maifest

Aquatic & Recreation Superintendent Tammy Jaster updated the aquatics and recreation report highlighting:

- Staffing for the summer season
- Automatic doors: back doors operational, front doors set end of July.
- Parties & Private Parties for then summer
- Boat races with Physics classes for Brenham and Bellville ISD.
- Swimming Lessons for the summer season
- BBAC Usage
- Walk with a Doc continuing the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Blinn College Kruse Recreation Center.
- Story Walk – new story each month
- Pop up Play Days in June then last two set for September 30 and November 11
- Movies in the Park first movie with 373 participants upcoming events June 23 & August 4
- June 19th there will be a training drill working with EMS, FIRE, Police Dept, Dispatch so this was a great test for all departments and response time.

8. Adjourn

Director Bill Betts adjourned the meeting.

Bill Betts

Bill Betts, Chairman

ATTEST:

Tammy Jaster

Tammy Jaster, Staff Liaison