



## City of Brenham Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Minutes

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was held on Wednesday, June 10, 2020, beginning at 12:00 p.m. at Brenham City Hall, City Council Chambers at 200 W. Vulcan Street Brenham, Texas.

### Members present:

Paula Buls  
Luis Mendoza  
Jim Baker  
Lee Chalmers  
Bill Betts  
Delbert Boeker  
Andrea Fischer  
Ginger Bosse  
Matthew Wehring

### Members absent:

None

### Others present:

City Manager James Fisher, Assistant City Manager of Public Services and Utilities Donald Reese, Public Works Director Dane Rau, Casey Redman, Tammy Jaster, Crystal Locke

### Others present:

Suzy Hankins

### Media Present:

Alyssa Faykus, Brenham Banner Press and Josh Blaschke, KWHI News

### **1. Call Meeting to Order**

### **2. Citizens/Visitor Comments**

There were no citizen comments.

## **WORK SESSION**

### **3. Discussion and Presentation Related to the Little Free Library Program**

Community Services Specialist Crystal Locke informed the Board that the Little Free Library (LFL) Program is a non-profit international organization that promotes community, creativity, and reading with individual yard libraries on public and private spaces. Locke introduced Suzy Hankins, Fortnightly member, and Owner/Manager of the Ant Street Inn to explain the project.

Hankins informed the Board that in 2018 she registered the first two official Little Free Libraries in Brenham. One is located at the Backlot Gallery behind Ant Street Inn and the other at Main Street House on Main Street. Since then four more Little Free Libraries have been added in Brenham. Hankins provided an interactive map that showed the LFL locations in Brenham.

Hankins reported that she organized the Brenham BookFest on Labor Day weekend. Hankins goal was to raise money for the LFL grant fund, which supports Little Free Libraries in the community. Hankins noted that the cost of the LFL ranged from \$350-\$500.

Hankins proposed to partner with the Parks and Recreation Department to house Little Free Libraries in the parks. The Brenham Parks and Recreation Department would be responsible for selecting a site for the LFL, working with the Manger of the LFL grant fund to select library style, installation of the LFL, and the physical maintenance of the LFL.

Hankins also noted that the Fortnightly Club of Brenham agreed to assist with the project and would be responsible for the monies raised for the LFL grant. It would also work with the Manager of LFL grant fund to purchase the materials required for installation, provide books for the LFL, and maintain the books at each LFL by checking the libraries a minimum of one time per month.

Chairman Bill Betts asked Hankins to elaborate on the physical maintenance of the LFL for which the Parks and Recreation Department would be responsible. Hankins replied that she was referring to any type of physical labor (i.e. if a library were knocked over, City staff would re-install).

City Manager James Fisher thanked Mrs. Hankins for presenting this item to the Board. Fisher expressed his enthusiasm for the program and support for implementation of the LFL program in City parks.

Chairman Bill Betts asked staff to add this item to the next agenda for implementation and thanked Mrs. Hankins for the idea to add literacy to the parks.

**REGULAR SESSION**

**4. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Approval of the Minutes from the January 15, 2020 Special Meeting**

A motion was made by Board Member Delbert Boeker and seconded by Board Member Paula Buls to approve the minutes from the January 15, 2020 regular meeting.

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

Board Member Jim Baker	Yes
Board Member Bill Betts	Yes
Board Member Delbert Boeker	Yes
Board Member Ginger Bosse	Yes
Board Member Paula Buls	Yes
Board Member Lee Chalmers	Yes
Board Member Luis Mendoza	Yes
Board Member Andrea Fischer	Yes
Board Member Matthew Wehring	Yes

**5. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Approval of the Minutes from the February 12, 2020 Regular Meeting**

A motion was made by Board Member Delbert Boeker and seconded by Board Member Paula Buls to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2020 regular meeting.

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

Board Member Jim Baker	Yes
Board Member Bill Betts	Yes
Board Member Delbert Boeker	Yes
Board Member Ginger Bosse	Yes
Board Member Paula Buls	Yes
Board Member Lee Chalmers	Yes
Board Member Luis Mendoza	Yes
Board Member Andrea Fischer	Yes
Board Member Matthew Wehring	Yes

**6. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Fiscal Year 2020-21 Funding from the Brenham Community Development Corporation (BCDC) for Various Parks and Recreation Projects**

Public Works Director Dane Rau explained that staff has identified parks and recreation projects to present to the Brenham Community Development Corporation (BCDC) for funding and is looking for guidance from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The BCDC Board will meet June 18, 2020.

Community Services Specialist Crystal Locke presented requests from Recreation which includes funding support for the Movies in the Park series, and various programming options for the 2020 Christmas Stroll and Lighted Parade.

	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Budget Request</b>
Tier 1	2021	Movies in the Park	\$4,000
	2021	Christmas Stroll Programming	\$5,000
<b>Total Recreation Request for FY21</b>			<b>\$9,000</b>

Blue Bell Aquatic Center Superintendent Tammy Jaster explained that the items below for the BBAC are in order of priority based on staff's recommendation.

	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Budget Request</b>
Tier I	2021	Replace Roof	\$73,500
	2021	Repaint Steel Beams & Replaster Competition Pool and add New Handicap Lift	\$101,000
	2021	Replace Landing Pads for Leisure Pool	\$8,500
	2021	Upgrade to Accu Tab & Acid Rite System	\$25,000
	2021	Refurbish Big Yellow Slide	\$30,000
	2021	Refurbish Banana Split Slide	\$20,000
	2021	Conceptual/Engineering Design – Phase II(a)	\$10,000
Tier II	2021	Replace/add Shade Structures	\$50,000
	2021	Replace Metal Furniture (final phase)	\$50,000
	2021	Sealant on Exterior Brick	\$30,000
	2021	Additional Aflex Inflatables	\$15,000
	2021	Modified Phase II(a)	\$350,000
<b>Budget Request for FY21 - Tier I</b>			<b>\$268,000</b>
<b>Budget Request for FY21 - Tier II</b>			<b>\$495,000</b>
<b>Total Budget Request for FY21</b>			<b>\$763,000</b>

Parks Superintendent Casey Redman made the funding request for the following items in priority order.

	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Budget Request</b>
Tier I	2021	Renovations - Blinn Softball Field (deferred from 2020)	\$25,000
	2021	Add Playground - Jerry Wilson (deferred from 2020)	\$85,000
	2021	Improvements - Jerry Wilson Park	\$120,000
	2021	Replace Outfield Wall - Fireman's Field	\$80,000
	2021	Splashpad Phase II – Henderson Park	\$250,000
	2021	Covered Basketball Courts – Jackson Street Park	\$125,000

	2021	Resurface two (2) baseball fields with MasterTurf – Linda Anderson	\$27,500	
	2021	Resurface two (2) tennis courts – Hasskarl	\$15,000	
Tier II	2021	Bullpen Upgrades - Hohlt Park	\$22,000	
	2021	Resurface Parking Lot - Linda Anderson	\$77,000	
	2021	Phase I Improvements – Jackson Street Park	\$400,000	
	2021	Turf Homeplate – Schulte Field	\$12,000	
	2021	Repaint Iron Bridges – Henderson (2) & Hohlt	\$90,000	
	2021	Liberty Wheelchair Swing	\$30,000	
	2021	Paint Exterior and Phase II Horses – Carousel	\$33,200	
	2021	Resurface two (2) baseball fields with MasterTurf – Linda Anderson	\$27,500	
	2021	Sidewalk Repairs – Fireman’s Park	\$15,000	
	2021	Repurpose Rock Restroom – Fireman’s Park	\$30,000	
			<b>Budget Request for FY21 - Tier I</b>	\$727,500
			<b>Budget Request for FY21 - Tier II</b>	\$736,700
		<b>Total Budget Request for FY21</b>	\$1,464,200	

Board Member Lee Chalmers expressed his concern for the safety of the sidewalk at Fireman’s Park and asked that staff considered moving the sidewalk repairs to Tier I.

A motion was made by Board Member Paula Buls and seconded by Board Member Lee Chalmers to recommend the sidewalk improvements at Fireman’s Park be moved from Tier II to Tier I and the requested Parks and Recreation Departments’ projects be presented to the BCDC for consideration and approval for budget year FY21.

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

Board Member Jim Baker	Yes
Board Member Bill Betts	Yes
Board Member Delbert Boeker	Yes
Board Member Ginger Bosse	Yes
Board Member Paula Buls	Yes
Board Member Lee Chalmers	Yes
Board Member Luis Mendoza	Yes
Board Member Andrea Fischer	Yes
Board Member Matthew Wehring	Yes

## 7. Parks and Recreation Staff Updates

### Administration

Director of Public Works Dane Rau provided the following updates:

- Bridge project at Fireman's Park is complete
- Henderson Park Phase I is complete; Aggieland Construction is working on Phase II

### Recreation

Community Services Specialist Crystal Locke provided the following updates:

- Presented park amenity reopening updates
- Presented the sports tourism Return to Play plan
- Awarded National Recreation Trail funds for the Hohlt Park nature trail project through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Recreational Trails Program
- TPWD Local Park Grants announcement has been postponed until August for the Brenham Family Park Phase I(a) application
- Signage at the Splash pad at Henderson Park
- Explained new StoryWalk trail at Fireman's Park
- Summer Reading and Recreation program June 1 through July 30
- Continued planning for Hot Nights, Cool Tunes in July
- 5-year Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Master Plan update is on hold
- Updating Park Metrics data through the National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA)
- Drafting comprehensive signage for park rules
- Pop-up Play Day postponed
- Walk with a Doc postponed until further notice
- Movies in the Park postponed to July
- Virtual programming for NRPA Family Health and Fitness Day on June 13

### Blue Bell Aquatic Center (BBAC)

Blue Bell Aquatic Center Superintendent Tammy Jaster provided the following updates:

- Indoor pools opened mid-May by appointment with limited capacity; currently open seven days a week, Monday through Friday from 6:00am-1:00pm, extending weekend hours
- Leisure pool opened Friday, June 5. Open Thursdays through Sundays
- Visits: current daily visits, passes, and revenues were presented to the Board
- Staffing: halted due to COVID-19
- A list of work in progress and completed maintenance projects were presented
- A list of programs, publicity, and special events were presented
- Summer Reading and Recreation program distribution
- Aerobic classes begin on Monday, June 15
- BBAC and PARK Central usage for May were presented

### **Parks Maintenance**

Parks Superintendent Casey Redman provided the following updates:

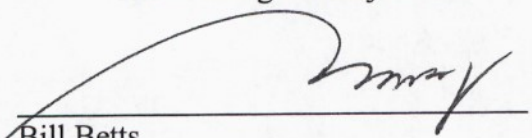
- Installed new batting cage nets at Linda Anderson Park
- Mulched all flowerbeds for Spring growing season
- Painted Rankin Field for Blinn camps
- Power-washed bleachers and restroom buildings at Hohlt Park
- Painted ticket booth and dugouts at Fireman's Field
- Painted batting cage and installed new netting at Fireman's Field
- Lined off/weekly paintings of youth soccer fields for March 16 start
- Field work on baseball and softball fields for March 16 start
- Shade canopies installed at Pickleball Courts at Jackson Street Park
- Creek work completed at Hohlt Park and Jackson Street Park
- Closed all restrooms in parks
- Closed all playgrounds-installed signage
- Removed all volleyball nets, pickleball nets, and basketball goals
- Repainted dressing room at Fireman's Field
- Removed old nets and installed new nets on Schulte, Boehm, Pflughaupt, and Blinn Fields
- Installed bullpen mounds and home plate at Henderson Field
- Fan installed at Finke Pavilion at Fireman's Park
- Henderson Phase Phase I completed
- Splash pad at Henderson Park almost complete

Tournament update:

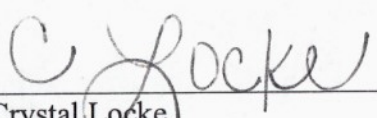
- Parks hosted seven tournaments from February through mid-March prior to closing for COVID-19
- 83 participating tournament teams
- Tournament play will start back the weekend of June 13

### **8. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned.

  
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Bill Betts  
Chair

**ATTEST:**

  
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Crystal Locke  
Staff Liaison