



City of Sachse, Texas

Sachse City Hall
3815-B Sachse Road
Sachse, Texas 75048

Minutes Parks and Recreation Board

Thursday, September 10, 2015

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

The Parks and Recreation Board of the City of Sachse will hold a Regular Meeting on Thursday, September 10, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Sachse City Hall, 3815 Sachse Road, Building B, Sachse, Texas to consider the following items of business:

Present 6 - Chairman Cyndi Mitchell, Board Member Diana Smith, Board Member Michael Kellam, Board Member Niloufer Watkins, Board Member Terri Hibbs, and Board Member Nieves Marquez Jr.

Absent 1 - Board Member Terry Bennett

Also present: City Council Liaison Brett Franks, Youth Advisor Jeremiah Stewart, Parks and Recreation Director Lance Whitworth, and Recreation Supervisor Cynthia Wiseman.

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. and Texas Flags.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Cyndi Mitchell. The invocation was given by Lance Whitworth and the pledge to the U.S. and Texas Flags was led by Cyndi Mitchell.

2. Regular Agenda Items:

Consider approval of the minutes of the August 13, 2015 meeting.

*Executive Summary
Review of the minutes of the most recent meeting.*

A motion was made by Diana Smith and seconded by Nieves Marquez to accept the minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Discuss staff findings regarding the pros and cons, and potential costs of constructing a dog park in Sachse.

Mr. Whitworth reported on the pros and cons of constructing a dog park in Sachse. He presented to the board his findings on surrounding cities and those that have dog parks and those that do not have dog parks. Some cities that do have dog parks include: Plano (city owned park), Allen (privately owned park), Richardson (city owned park), Frisco (city owned park), Rockwall (city owned park). Pros of having a dog park include: giving dogs a place to exercise and socialize, provides a safe place for dogs to exercise off leash and a place for people to socialize with other dog owners. The cons include: cost to construct (\$150,000-\$300,000 per acre), maintenance cost between

\$10,000-\$15,000 an acre (not currently in the Parks budget and are usually higher than anticipated), and enforcement of rules (who will be responsible to monitor and enforce the rules). It can be difficult to find a site to build the park because you must have support from the citizens and in the cities that we surveyed, the citizens did not want the park in their neighborhood, so it was difficult to find a place for these parks that weren't near residential housing areas. Required amenities for dog parks include: ADA accessibility, parking, double gated entry, concrete border, coated fencing, dog waste stations, minimum of 2 divided areas for large and small dogs, water, and signage. Added amenities that would be preferred include: shade, benches, lighting, and restrooms. Mr. Whitworth showed the board a chart that included amenities that the cities already had in place prior to adding a dog park. The cities that have dog parks, already had amenities such as Recreation Centers, Aquatic Facilities, miles of trails, and plenty of playgrounds, parks and pavilions.

4. Discuss and receive an update on the Friends of Sachse Parks and Recreation.

Mike Kellam at 5619 Pinnacle Circle reported on the Friends group activities. The Firefighters Park project is near completion and the dedication ceremony will be on Saturday at 11 AM with the help of CERT on setup, parking and grilling, the Mayor will be speaking, the Sachse Chamber president will be speaking, as well as others. Invitations have been sent out. Sachse Park Pals submitted their first dog park proposal to the City. It was not accepted due to various reasons. The group is trying to contact DORBA regarding soft trails.

5. Discuss 2015 Texas Parks & Wildlife Application for Sachse Hike and Bike Trail.

Mr. Whitworth reported on the meeting between Texas Parks & Wildlife and the grant consultant that the City is working with on resubmitting the Trails grant and what changes need to be made to the application prior to resubmitting it next year. One of the main comments for the next application is that we need to have a more detailed budget.

6. Discuss and receive update on the status of building a restroom at Firefighters Park.

Mr. Whitworth reported that he submitted in his budget to include Firefighters Restrooms but it was not passed through. Niloufer Watkins would like to know what the next step is in trying to push forward with getting restrooms at the park. Mr. Whitworth said that he can mention it again to the City Manager and see what the next step might be and maybe ask people that are visiting the park how they like things and if there is anything else that is needed at the park. We can be more proactive in getting input from the public on the needs for that park.

7. Discuss and consider a date for the Parks and Recreation Board to take a tour of the parks within Sachse.

The board decided to bring this agenda item back to the next board meeting. Terry Bennett asked for this to be put on the agenda and he was not able to be at tonight's meeting so we'll come back to this next month when he is here.

8. Discuss and consider the upcoming Pumpkin Prowl in October 17, 2015.

Ms. Wiseman reported that the pumpkin prowl is coming up on October 17.

Activities will include a pumpkin hunt, costume contest, vendors, food, bounce houses, hayrides and we are working on something special for the hayride trail this year, as well as a movie on the field at sunset.

9. Receive staff updates regarding current activities, special events, and personnel.

Ms. Wiseman is also working on the America Recycles campaign and with one of the local elementary schools on a recycling art contest. We will have more information on this at the next meeting. Mr. Whitworth reported that the Senior Center is putting on a new event in the amphitheater on September 19 called Bluegrass Under the Stars. Bands are scheduled to perform and the event is 7:30-10:30 PM.

10. Request for future agenda items.

Requests were made to discuss the Parks & Recreation department's plans on filing for grants next year, 5K run, and Sachse Park Pals update.

11. Set upcoming Parks and Recreation Board Meeting date.

The next meeting was set for October 8, 2015, at 7 PM.

12. Adjournment.

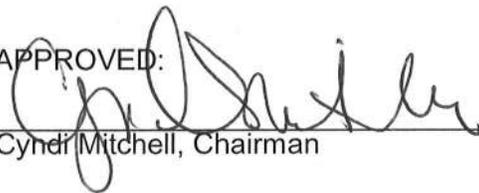
A motion to adjourn was made by Niloufer Watkins and seconded by Terri Hibbs at 7:55 PM.

ATTEST:



Diana Smith, Secretary

APPROVED:



Cyndi Mitchell, Chairman