



City of Sachse, Texas

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

Minutes Parks and Recreation Board

Thursday, October 8, 2015

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

The Parks and Recreation Board of the City of Sachse will hold a Regular Meeting on Thursday, October 8, 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 5 - Chairman Cyndi Mitchell, Board Member Diana Smith, Board Member Michael Kellam, Board Member Niloufer Watkins, and Board Member Terry Bennett

Absent 2 - Board Member Terri Hibbs, and Board Member Nieves Marquez Jr.

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

If anyone wishes to speak regarding any item posted on the agenda, please signify to the board at the time the item is presented.

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 US and Texas Flags was led by Cyndi Mitchell.

2. Regular Agenda Items:

Consider approval of the minutes of the September 10, 2015 meeting.

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

A motion was made by Diana Smith and seconded by Niloufer Watkins 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.

Shawna Kellam - 5619 Pinnacle Circle - Found information on a 2-3 acre dog park built in 2013 in Coppell and the base cost for the dog park was \$250,000.

Darrell Lensch - 1714 Cornwall Ln - Said the chart is missing the sales tax revenues and we have an undeveloped turnpike. We would have a lot more sales tax revenue if we could build out the turnpike.

Chance Lindsey - 3718 Rockhouse Rd. - Said that just because something does not adhere to the current plan, is not a good reason to shut it down. While the survey is good it isn't equally weighted because some of the most expensive items are first and if we only did those, then we'd never get to some of the more simple items.

4. Discuss the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Sachse and The Friends of Sachse Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Whitworth wanted to give the board an idea of the process that a proposal from the Friends of Sachse Parks and Recreation must go through. The first part of the process is the Friends must submit in writing to the Director of Parks and Recreation the proposal. The Friends have submitted the proposal as well as different options to the Director. The next step is for the Director to determine whether the project or proposal is consistent with the Master Plan and the Director must provide a determination within 10 days to the Friends group. After reviewing the Dog Park proposal submitted, the Parks & Recreation Director, denied the proposal on the basis that it was not consistent with the Master Plan. The next step is, if the Director finds that the proposal is not consistent with the Master Plan, the Friends may appeal to the Parks and Recreation Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting. After the Friends proposal was denied by the Director on the basis that it was not consistent with the Master Plan, the Friends then submitted the appeal to the Parks and Recreation Board. This is where we are at now in the process.

5. Discuss and consider Friends of Sachse Parks & Recreation appeal to the Board for Sachse area dog park sites that were denied by the Sachse Parks and Recreation Director for it not being consistent with the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan.

a. Dog park utilizing approximately 2.0 Acres of 3.18 acres of Open space on the Sachse Road Side of the Animal Shelter.

b. Dog park site utilizing 1.5 of 7.43 acres of available dedicated Parkland at Ingram Rd. to Industrial.

Niloufer Watkins asked the Director, Lance Whitworth to let the board know his reason for not accepting the proposal for the dog park. He said that his reason was because there are so many areas that we are deficient in those top items that we could move forward with including park enhancements such pavilions, playgrounds, picnic areas and still pursue the bigger items that the citizens want like Trails, aquatic facilities, and additional parks.

Becky Rodriguez - 3212 Elmwood Circle - Ms. Rodriguez went through the proposal with the board. They would need 1 or more acres of land, 4-6 ft. fencing with double gated entry, cleaning supplies, garbage cans, waste bags, dog waste stations, shade, water, benches, and tables. If possible, it would be preferable to have dogs separated into small versus large dogs. They would also need signage and parking close to the site. The primary site is in front of the Animal Shelter.

There would be 3 areas at this location: small dogs, large dogs, and a shelter area for the Animal Shelter to use. They estimate that the cost to the City would be \$50,000, Sachse Park Pals would raise \$136,000 and Maintenance cost would be between \$15,000-\$20,000 annually. The second site proposal is off of Ingram and Industrial and is zoned industrial. There is a Facebook page with 190 members and an online petition in support of a Sachse dog park with 130 Sachse Residents and 50 non Sachse residents.

Chance Lindsey - 3718 Rockhouse Rd. - feels that the land in front of the Animal Shelter doesn't have many other options for good uses. So this is why it would be a good location because it would hopefully not take away from anything that would go there.

Tammy Rangel - 3738 Rockhouse Rd. - Wants to know if we are required to do the items that are in the survey in order? She also wants to know the difference between votes on dog park and the item before it?

A motion was made by Niloufer Watkins to approve the appeal of the Sachse Park Pals. Motion failed with 3 opposed, 1 in favor and 1 abstained.

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

Tricia Lindsey reported on October activities. The Firefighters Park tribute was held October. CERT volunteers helped with the event including parking, and grilling. Park staff assisted and police and fire. The Friends are working on a t-shirt in support of trails.

7. Discuss a potential 5K run in Sachse.

Niloufer wanted to know what it would take to organize a 5K in Sachse? Lance stated that he has had multiple groups come to the department about hosting a 5K in Sachse, including churches and schools. He is currently working with the City Attorney on a Special Events policy to handle these events. The department has not discussed having a City run 5K run but we can discuss it.

Mr. Bennett asked if we have private organizations running these types of events, what benefit is it for the City to spend the time and resources on organizing its' own 5K.

Tammy Rangel - 3738 Rockhouse Rd. - She is involved in multiple organizations on these 5K runs including the High School and Middle School. There are only so many things that organizations and students to use as fundraisers. She would not like to see the City take away from these non-profit organizations and fundraising by hosting its' own event. The board may discuss this at a later date.

- 8. Discuss and set a date for the Parks & Recreation Board to take a tour of Sachse Parks.

Mr. Whitworth and Terry Bennett will schedule a time to take a tour of the parks. The other board members have taken the tour already.

- 9. Discuss and consider a date for the 2016 Arbor Day/Great American Cleanup event.

Ms. Wiseman suggested April 9, 2016, as the next Arbor Day/Cleanup event in Sachse. The board agreed on this date.

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

Mr. Whitworth reported that the Pumpkin Prowl is coming up on October 17. The Sachse High School Theater group is going to be there on the Haunted Hayride trail entertaining. America Recycles is about to begin. We will have clothing recycling centers at some of the parks and an art contest at the elementary schools.

- 11. Request for future agenda items.

Requests to discuss a Touch a Truck Event.

- 12. Set upcoming Parks and Recreation Board Meeting date.

The next meeting was set for November 12, 2015, at 7:00 PM.

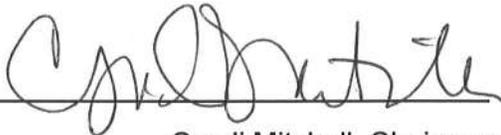
- 13. Adjournment.

A motion to adjourn was made by Diana Smith at 9:03 PM.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:





Diana Smith, Secretary

Cyndi Mitchell, Chairman