

# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

## MINUTES

February 15, 2024

### **CALL TO ORDER – Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum**

The Parks and Recreation Commission met on the above date at the Parker City Hall, located at 5700 E. Parker Road, Parker, Texas 75002. The meeting was open to the public.

Chairperson DaCosta called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m. Chairperson DaCosta noted that there was a quorum. Patti Grey administered the Oath of office and Statement of Appointment to Wendy Clark. She joined the commission as the second alternate.

		<b><u>Parks and Recreation Commissioners</u></b>
✓	1.	Frank DaCosta (Chairperson)
✓	2.	Cherie Ware (Vice Chairperson)
✓	3.	Donna DaCosta (Treasurer)
✓	4.	Pier Burgess (Secretary)
✓	5.	Cyndy Lane
		<b><u>Parks and Recreation Alternates</u></b>
✓	1.	Richard Pratt
✓	2.	Wendy Clark
		<b><u>Public Attendees</u></b>

✓	1.	Patti Grey – City Secretary
✓	2.	Shauna Warmbrodt

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were made.

## **INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION ITEMS**

### **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

January 10th minutes have been reviewed by the commission. A motion was made by Cherie to approve the minutes. Richard seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

### **2. WELCOME NEW ALTERNATES**

The commission welcomed Alternate Wendy Clark to serve on the commission. Wendy was approved by the city council at the last meeting. Shauna Warmbrodt was also present for the meeting. She has applied for the open Alternate position as well. City Council will vote to approve her at the next council meeting. We are all happy they will be joining us to enhance and care for the Preserve and also build community spirit.

### **3. BUDGET REPORT**

Donna reported that according to the city finance report, Parks and Recreation has a balance of \$3200.00. Of this amount, we could only spend \$2865.00. Any additional funds would need to be approved by the city. This was puzzling to us.

\$10,000 was donated from the PWC. The cost of the benches and gravel was only half of the total donation.

ParkerFest had donations totaling \$ 16,024.26.

Cash donations \$ 10,376.26

Vendor fees \$ 600.00

Goods and services worth \$ 5,048.00

Total expenses are unknown at this time, but we know we did not exceed the amount donated.

The city budgeted Parks and Recreation \$10,000.00 per year for Preserve enhancement and public events.

With all these donations, it seems that a balance of \$3200.00 is quite low. Additional meetings are necessary to work this out.

#### 4. IDENTIFY EVENTS AND TENTATIVE DATES

Great American Clean Up 2024 – Since Earth Day is April 22nd this year, it was suggested we set a date for the event to the Saturday before, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Cherie made a motion that we hold the Great American Clean Up event on April 20, 2024. Pier seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

ParkerFest 2024 – Typically the festival is held on the last weekend in October which would be October 27<sup>th</sup>. Events such as the state fair and voting may make this date questionable. The date of October 20<sup>th</sup> was suggested. Pier made a motion that October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be the event date for ParkerFest this year. Donna seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Holidaze 2024 – The timing of Holidaze is a concern due to the considered date landing on Thanks Giving weekend. Questions regarding the short time to prepare for Holidaze having just finished with ParkerFest, would be taxing on volunteers and funding. December 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> were suggested. Cherie suggested that we take a community survey. Frank will post in it on the Facebook sites, Uniquely Parker and Friends of Parker. Cyndy will post on her website. Cherie made a motion to postpone deciding on a tentative date for Holidaze until we get more input and information to make a better decision. Donna seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Concert in the Park – This will be a new event. A lot will depend on funding. Keeping it simple is the goal. This event might have music or have a movie as the main focus. It could also have a theme like Cinco De Mayo. Several dates were proposed. We finally took a pole and May 11, 2024 was the agreed date. Donna made a motion that Concert/Picnic in the park be held on May 11, 2024. The motion was seconded by Cyndy. The motion was passed 5-0.

Easter Egg Hunt with Paster Kelly's congregation – Paster Kelly requested the use of the Parker Preserve for a community Easter egg hunt. Discussion was had regarding possible guide lines to protect the City from any liability and any discrimination issues regarding faith-based organizations. Members were very positive about the new event but further discussion is needed with Lee and Luke and Paster Kelly. Pier made a motion to have further discussions with the church and the city in order to hold the Easter egg hunt event at the Preserve. Cherie seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Eclipse Party – Richard suggested we have a small event on Monday April 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 pm in the preserve to celebrate the eclipse. The actual full eclipse of the sun will start that day at 1:40 pm and continuing until 3:00 pm. People could bring lawn

chairs and picnics. We could have an astronomer give a talk as the eclipse progresses. Special eclipse glasses that protect your eyes can be ordered on Amazon. We need some help with the posting to of social media for all these events. Cherie made a motion that we proceed with some kind of event in the preserve for the eclipse. Donna seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. It is urgent that we to get something out on the website soon. It was suggested we go through Lee and Luke for guidance and help.

## 5. OTHER PROJECTS AND GOALS

Parks and Recreation is not only about hosting community events. We do other things such as the creation of a wildflower garden to promote pollinators, install Park improvements such as the benches and site map, participate in Keep America Beautiful programs, monitor trees and maintenance issues and create educational activities for children. Richard suggested that we think about defining our goals as an organization collectively to create a mission statement and long-term plan as it ties in with the city's goals for community enrichment. Research is needed to identify sources for sustainable funding.

## ROUTINE ITEMS

### 1. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ParkerFest Preparation for 2024

Future Preserve events – Spring and Summer events – 2024 Calendar

Boy Scouts - Project needed. Frank will be point of contact for the troop. Possible project may be distance markers along the pathway or creating plant and tree identification tags.

### 2. OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Continue to monitor expenses

### 3. ADJOURN

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be March 13, 2024, at 5:00 pm. at Parker City Hall.

Chairperson DaCosta adjourned the meeting at 6:08 pm.

Minutes Approved on 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024.



Chairperson Frank DaCosta

  
Secretary Pier Burgess

Attest:

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City Secretary Patti Scott Grey