

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

March 13, 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 5:00 p.m. Chairperson DaCosta noted that there was not a quorum. Accordingly, Alternate Pratt was temporarily elevated to voting status. Secretary Burgess was not in attendance, so the meeting was recorded for later transcription.

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

✓	2.	Shauna Warmbrodt
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PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The initial revision of February 15th minutes had been reviewed by the commission. However, the final revision with some noted corrections had not yet been circulated. The decision was made to defer approval until next month's meeting.

2. SOLAR ECLIPSE WATCH PARTY EVENT

The commission agreed to move forward with promotion of our Solar Eclipse Watch Party event on Monday April 8th from 12:30-3pm. Commissioner Pratt will provide a simple sound system and some approved sunglasses. Chairperson DaCosta will provide additional sunglasses and will make some public remarks about the eclipse if another spokesperson cannot be found. Mayor Pettle requested that we provide some verbiage about the event so that it can be placed on the City website and in a City emailing. A graphic and description will be posted on Facebook by Chairperson DaCosta. Future Commissioner Warmbrodt noted that appropriate sunglasses can also be found at Kroger. Some discussion ensued about the best place within the Preserve to hold the event, and it was agreed to hold it on the west side for better visibility, parking access, and availability to City staff. Commissioner DaCosta will bring glow-in-the-dark sidewalk chalk for any children that may come, as well as perhaps some cookies. Future Commissioner Warmbrodt will also bring some fiber-optic light-sticks for the same purpose, and she'll donate any unused items to Parkerfest. Promotional materials will invite participants to bring their own chairs, food, water and other items.

3. 501(c)(3)

The commission discussed the value of becoming a 501(c)(3) organization so that we can offer tax exemption benefits to potential donors. There'd been some intention to see if we could leverage the 501(c)(3) status of Parker Women's Club, but we agreed that such an approach might confuse and thus deter some sponsors. Mayor Pettle suggested that the first step would be to engage City Attorney Stanphill to resolve the question of whether we, as a City Commission, can even legitimately seek 501(c)(3) status. Chairperson DaCosta will initiate that

discussion with the City Attorney, as well as open discussions about contract standardization and other steps in anticipation of Parkerfest. Our Fire Department is also a 501(c)(3) organization and might be able to provide some insights.

4. OTHER DISCUSSION

With upcoming budget work and a changing City Council, Mayor Pettle suggested that we prepare again to present our activities formally to City Council.

Chairperson DaCosta and Treasurer DaCosta will meet with Finance Director Grant Savage in the next week or two to clarify the Commission's current monetary balance.

There had been some interest last year by local clergy Pastor Kelly Yeager in holding an Easter egg hunt in the Preserve. We have not heard any additional request from her since, and we've decided not to pursue it unless she actively reaches out to ask.

City Councilmember Randy Kercho and a small circle of citizens are crafting a proposed Strategic Plan for the City. Commissioner Pratt suggested that we be sure that our Commission has its proper place in that Plan.

Paperwork for Shauna Warmbrodt to become an Alternate Commissioner is in process, and if she can be gotten onto the City Council agenda in time, she will be welcomed as part of the team at our next Commission meeting.

ROUTINE ITEMS

1. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Parkerfest preparation begins in earnest in April. Our first Concert in the Park is scheduled for May 11 and will need immediate attention.

2. OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Continue to monitor expenses

3. ADJOURN

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be April 10, 2024, at 5:00 pm. at Parker City Hall.

Chairperson DaCosta adjourned the meeting at 5:40 pm.

Minutes Approved on 10th day of April, 2024.



Chairperson Frank DaCosta

Pier M Burgess
Secretary Pier Burgess

Attest:

City Secretary Patti Scott Grey