

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

January 8, 2025

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 5:06 p.m. Chairperson Frank DaCosta determined there was a quorum.

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

✓	1.	Lee Pettie
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PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The November minutes for P&R meeting were reviewed. Donna made a motion to accept the minutes of November 13, 2024. Pier seconded the motion. The motion was passed 3 - 0.

2. PLANS FOR 2025

Frank reached out to Zack Francis with the city of Allen to thank them for loaning us their stage. Rumors had been circulating that Allen might be selling this stage. Zack confirmed that no, that they were not selling the stage at this time, although there would be a meeting next month to review their assets. At that time, they might discuss the possibility of selling it. Looking forward, Frank will review the asset line items that were authorized by the city of Parker at the budget meeting, to see what P&R could acquire this year. Three of the items were the stage, sound system and the pavilion with bathrooms. It was suggested that we prioritize these items and touch base with Grant for direction and requirements needed to obtain them.

Frank formally submitted all the documents to Keep America Beautiful for this year's certification. All of our activities were uploaded and the \$200.00 fee was paid. We should be in good standing again this year.

Gary Machado spoke to Frank regarding the aging gazebo. It is becoming a hazard and he would like to tear it down. It was a gift from the Parker Woman's Club. Frank contacted Jamie Turrentine, (Outdoor Fence) who has a company that installs fences, trellises and other backyard improvements, for pricing. Jamie submitted 3 proposal options.

1. Keep existing gazebo. Repair with sturdy long lasting metal posts and decking.
2. Tear down gazebo. Construct new park grade octagonal structure.
3. Tear down gazebo. Construct new park grade rectangular structure.

Gary preferred option 2 or 3. They both cost approximately \$40,000.00. This includes the slab. We would need city approval for this project. Other concerns are costs of the electricity, lighting and possible location change. Lee still hasn't located the documents stating the limits of enhancement in the preserve according to the wishes of the donor, which is necessary when considering new structures in the preserve. In order to do this, we need to have construction documents that detail the structure. What is the diameter of the gazebo? Then we can present it to the council for consideration. The approximate cost of option1 was \$50,000.00

Lack of resources and volunteers are again big factors in the direction we take this year. We lost 4 alternates recently, one being our major fund raiser. We need to move forward but may need to adjust our expectations as we proceed. Recruiting is another priority. As a result, Frank recommends we don't prioritize the \$150,000.00 pavilion. We might consider a \$40,000.00 Gazebo.

Pier thought that the gazebo would be a good project to focus on. It is something that is multipurpose. Uses could potentially be a social gathering space, weddings and birthdays. If located by trees or in a wild flower area, could be a place for photo opportunities. It could be a place for environmental education seminars. Small 2- or 3-person music groups could perform there.

Another thing the commission should prioritize is the grants, Collin County and others. We should dedicate a portion of each meeting to research and gathering and compiling information to fill out the reports. We should start with Collin County and then the others should be easier to complete.

Besides these projects, we need to organize events and set them in our calendar. Once this is set, we can start advertising on social media. We will try to define tasks and delegate more to volunteers in the process.

- ParkerFest 2025
- Earth Day / Great American Clean Up
- Wild Flower / native plants and save the bees
- Concert in the Preserve
- Nature Seminar / Heard Wild Life Center
- Once a month food truck day

Cherie will continue to develop the citizen survey to research likes and dislikes, interests, suggestions for the enhancement of the preserve and special events. Most importantly, would they help participate in organizing events and join the P&R team? Included would be the question about ideal meeting times. Maybe our meeting time is inconvenient for people. So much good information can be obtained from this survey.

A suggestion was made to schedule a workshop to figure out what is needed to complete the grant. Frank will send everyone a copy of the form for their review before the next meeting.

Tasks will be created and delegated to make organizing easier.

If we have new volunteers visiting our meeting, we should welcome them and summarize, possibly with pictures or a little flier that states what our mission is about and how they can use their skills to participate in P&R. Maybe provide a little treat for their enjoyment.

ROUTINE ITEMS

1. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Prioritize grant process

Research gazebo project

Recruitment of commission members

Fund raising for ParkerFest 2025

Set temporary dates and add to calendar

Citizen survey completion

Follow up on citizens request to plant poppies in the medians.

Inform citizens about bird migration patterns that cross Parker and how we can protect them.

Public Awareness of Bird Migration Seasons and How Can We Help Them.

Future Preserve events – Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter events – 2024 - 2025 Calendar. Banners on poles in along major streets.

Possible project may be distance markers along the pathway or creating plant and tree identification tags, Preserve Monument sign and curbing around wild flower garden are also up for discussion.

2. OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Continue to monitor expenses.

3. ADJOURN

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee will be February 12, 2025, at 5:00 pm. at Parker City Hall, located at 5700 E. Parker Road, Parker, Texas 75002.

Chairperson DaCosta adjourned the meeting at 6:00 pm.

Minutes Approved on 12 day of February, 2024.



Chairperson Frank DaCosta

Pier M Burgess
Secretary Pier Burgess

Attest:

City Secretary Patti Scott Grey