



Parks and Open Space Board Meeting
September 22, 2020
7:00 p.m.
Video Conference
City Hall – 665 Country Club Road, Lucas Texas
Minutes

Call to Order

Chairman Rhoads called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Parks Board Members Present:

Chairman David Rhoads
Vice Chairman Bill Esposito
Member Kenneth Patterson
Member Tommy Dewitt

Staff Present:

City Manager Joni Clarke
Development Services Director Joe Hilbourn
City Secretary Stacy Henderson

Parks Board Members Absent:

Member Christel Parish

City Council Liaison Absent:

Councilmember Tim Baney

Chairman Rhoads determined that a quorum was present, and the Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

1. **Consider approving the minutes of the July 28, 2020 Parks and Open Space Board meeting.**

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chairman Esposito, seconded by Mr. Patterson to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously by a 4 to 0 vote.

2. **Provide an update regarding the 2020 Farmers Market and consider appointing a Chairman to the Lucas Farmers Market Committee effective January 1, 2021.**

City Manager Joni Clarke provided an update on the Lucas Farmers Market. The public continues to show a great deal of interest despite obstacles created by COVID safety measures, including initiating a drive-thru only market, the event was successful. The last event included 473 cars.

Ms. Clarke note that two markets remained for 2020: September 26 and October 10. The Farmers Market Committee would hold a wrap up meeting on October 13 and would create a final report for 2020 and present to the City Council on November 19.

Following City Manager remarks, the Board discussed several additional items relating to the Farmers Market:

- Amount of staff time required
- Charging fees for vendors
- Need for additional parking
- Goal setting
- Volunteer recruitment and participation
- Appointing Chair and Vice-Chair to Committee
- Marketing
- Logistics

Ms. Clarke requested Mr. Esposito and Mr. Patterson attend the October 13 Farmers Market Committee meeting.

Mr. Dewitt requested a meeting be scheduled with current Farmers Market Chairman Debra Guillemaud and Parks Board members to review logistics, marketing, and other details involved with chairing the Farmers Market Committee.

3. Consider creating an “Adopt a Park Program” and assign a Parks Board Member to park facilities.

Mr. Patterson suggested that each member of the Parks and Open Space Board be assigned a park to monitor and report on needs, cleanliness, and other items of concern at each Parks Board meeting.

Mr. Hilbourn advised that he walks each park four times per year, making a list of any improvements or repairs needed.

Each Board member present agreed to become a park liaison:

Tommy Dewitt	-	East Winningkoff Trailhead
Chairman Rhoads	-	Lucas Community Park
Ken Patterson	-	Lewis Park
Vice Chairman Esposito	-	Forest Creek Park

4. Provide an update regarding the Public Lands Trail Cleanup event with the Trinity Trail Preservation Association and the United States Army Corps of Engineers scheduled for September 26, 2020.

City Manager Joni Clarke provided an update on the partnership between the City of Lucas, the Trinity Trail Preservation Association, and the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Event details included the following:

- Participants/volunteers will assemble at the Brockdale Park Trailhead.
- Staff will set up for the event from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.
- Check-in for participants will begin at 9:00 a.m.
- All participants must attend safety training immediately following check-in.
- This is the second annual cleanup event.

Blackland Prairie Raptor Center will be on site as a special feature of the event.

5. Discuss the Arbor Day event scheduled for November 7, 2020.

Several items pertaining to the Arbor Day event were discussed including social distancing, in-person participation versus drive-thru participation, mask requirements, number of individuals allowed for in-person attendance of a possible Q & A with the master gardeners.

Staff committed to providing hand sanitizing stations and a hand washing sink.

The event will be included in the November newsletter.

6. Discuss the Country Christmas event scheduled for December 4, 2020.

Country Christmas will be placed for discussion on the City Council Agenda for October 1.

Suggestions for restructuring Country Christmas to maintain social distancing and address other concerns were noted:

- Do not hold a public tree lighting ceremony. The tree will be lit upon visitor arrival pictures can be taken with personal cameras if desired.
- Ice rink vendor will limit the number of people on the ice at one time.
- No train rides.
- Market will take place outdoors, rather than inside Community Center.
- In-N-Out Burger has made an in-kind donation of 900 burgers. City of Lucas staff will not serve any food or drinks.
- Lovejoy ISD has agreed to provide buses for the event to transport visitors to and from overflow parking areas.
- Place hand sanitizing stations strategically throughout the event.
- Provide sinks for handwashing.

7. Consider future agenda items for action or discussion to be added to the Parks and Open Space Board of Agenda.

January 2021 Parks and Open Space Board meeting will include 1) Assessment list for parks, and 2) Review park fees and park rules annually.

8. **Adjournment.**

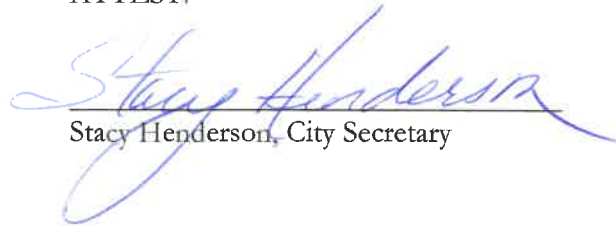
MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chairman Esposito, seconded by Mr. Patterson to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously by a 4 to 0 vote.

APPROVE:



David Rhoads, Chairman

ATTEST:



Stacy Henderson, City Secretary

