



MINUTES

Parks and Open Space Board Meeting

August 22, 2023 | 6:30 pm

Council Chambers

City Hall | 665 Country Club Road, Lucas Texas

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm. A quorum was determined to be present, and the Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

Parks Board Members Present:

Chairman Bill Esposito
Vice-Chairman John Elliott
Member Kenneth Patterson
Member Christel Parish
Member Laura Giles
Alternate Member Joan Phillips

Staff Present:

City Manager Joni Clarke
Assistant City Manager Kent Souriyasak
CIP Manager Patrick Hubbard

City Council Liaison Present:

Councilmember Dusty Kuykendall

Regular Agenda

- 1. Receive a presentation regarding the Trinity Trail Preservation Association and maintenance related to the Trinity Trail.**

Abraham Benavides, 1235 Ford Lane, spoke about why he moved to the City of Lucas and why he joined the Trinity Trail Preservation Association (TTPA).

Duke Monson, 500 Farms Road, McKinney, TX, gave a presentation on the history of the Trinity Trail, TTPA's support, grants related to its upkeep, current goals of the TTPA, along with issues related to the infrastructure of the Trinity Trail at the present.

Chairman Esposito asked if the TTPA grant allows 50% of funds to be allocated for estimated labor. Mr. Monson indicated that is correct. Mr. Esposito expressed hope that support for the TTPA and equestrian trails might increase, along with creative solutions for continued involvement.

Councilmember Kuykendall expressed concern that primary care of the trail will fall on the City of Lucas. Mr. Monson indicated that the Trinity Trail runs through the City of Wylie, Lucas, St. Paul, and Fairview with poor to no support from the City of Fairview, Wylie, and St. Paul. Mr. Monson indicated that he thinks we should focus on the City of Lucas portion of the trail now, without asking the City of Lucas to be responsible for northern or southern sections of the trail outside of the City.

Chairman Esposito advised that Parks Board members that are a part of TTPA lead the way on social efforts to raise interest in the Trinity Trail. Mr. Esposito advised having a follow-up meeting to brainstorm marketing ideas.

Julie Hart, 1455 East Lucas Road, opined that riding and owning horses is a big part of the City of Lucas community, and getting youth involved would help the TTPA and the conservation of the Trinity Trail.

Brenda Rizos, 1200 Winningkoff Road, thanked the Parks Board and the City. Ms. Rizos advised that membership has doubled in recent months after a decrease in participation due to COVID. Ms. Rizos noted that she is not advocating for the City of Lucas to take on all the work on the Trinity Trail.

Chairman Esposito read the emails of the following individuals for public comment:

- Jeff Webber, 1505 Holyoak Lane
- Tracy Matern, 2 Choice Lane
- Tyler Simpson, 455 Blondy Jhune Trail
- Rajan and Shelby Shah, 1750 Summer Creek Circle
- Brian Butler, 1475 Brockdale Park Road

Chairman Esposito called the meeting into recess at 7:22 pm for a 5-minute break.

Chairman Esposito called the meeting back to order at 7:28 pm.

2. Provide an update on special events including:

- A. Public Lands Trail Cleanup**
- B. Movie in the Park**
- C. Lucas Farmers Market**

Assistant City Manager Kent Souriyasak gave his presentation on special events. Chairman Esposito provided an update on the Lucas Farmers Market. Mr. Esposito discussed upcoming special events for the 2023 Market season, including assistance with the upcoming bee demo.

3. Consider approving the special events planning calendar for fiscal year 2023/24.

Assistant City Manager Kent Souriyasak presented this item, including dates for Arbor Day and Recycling, Lucas Founders Day, Lucas Car Show, and the Art in Public Places exhibit.

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Elliott, seconded by Member Patterson to approve the special events planning calendar for fiscal year 2023/24 as presented. The motion passed unanimously by a 6 to 0 vote.

4. Discuss technology options to measure the utilization of parks and recreational facilities.

CIP Manager Patrick Hubbard presented on technology in City of Lucas parks, including cameras, traffic counters and sensors for data tracking. Chairman Esposito opined that any additional data would be beneficial. Alternate Member Phillips and Member Parish advised that most traffic to

trailheads are by automobile and trailer. City Manager Joni Clarke indicated that the first phase of data collection is focused on Kenneth Lewis Park and East Winningkoff Trailhead. Chairman Esposito advised that we collect weekend traffic and to have the Parks Board remain informed on current data collection counts and practices.

5. Discuss the next steps for developing and conducting a parks survey.

CIP Manager Patrick Hubbard presented this item, including specific questions gauged at identifying why City of Lucas parks are being used. Assistant City Manager Kent Souriyasak noted that this is a simple survey that is not unlike ones used at surrounding cities. Chairman Esposito noted that this is important project to collect public opinion.

The Parks Board advised that the survey validate addresses at the beginning, be distributed through an online form, and be careful to ask meaningful questions regarding trails and parks specifically. Chairman Esposito opined that a subcommittee to provide feedback on structure and questions would be useful. Vice-Chairman Elliot and Member Laura volunteered to take part in the subcommittee proceedings.

6. Receive a presentation regarding the City of Lucas Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Web Map Portal.

CIP Manager Patrick Hubbard presented the new City of Lucas GIS portal. No questions were presented.

7. Provide updates on city-maintained parks and recreational facilities including the Lucas Community Park, Kenneth R. Lewis Park, Forest Creek Park, and East Winningkoff Trailhead.

CIP Manager Patrick Hubbard presented this item. Chairman Esposito volunteered to write an article about Kenneth Lewis Park's renovation and availability for use. Alternate Member Philips indicated she went to Forest Creek Park and the soccer net was tied into a knot. Ms. Philips also advised that the picnic tables at the Winningkoff Trailhead need to be put under the pavilion and likely repainted.

Agnes Sztajnert, 1910 Northfork Lane, thanked the Parks Board for renovations at Forest Creek Park, but recommended adding lights with a timer on them for activities at night. Ms. Sztajnert also advised that the increased renovations have been well received by her children and surrounding citizens.

8. Consider approval of the minutes of the May 23, 2023 Parks and Open Space Board meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made by Member Giles, seconded by Vice-Chairman Elliott to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2023 Parks and Open Space Board meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously by a 6 to 0 vote.

9. Adjournment.

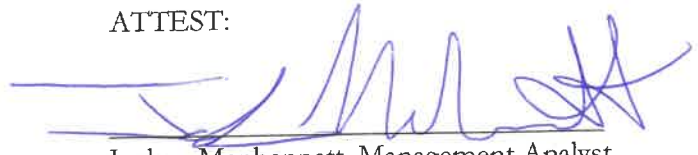
MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chairman Elliott, seconded by Member Patterson to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm. The motion passed unanimously by a 6 to 0 vote.

APPROVE:



Bill Esposito, Chairman

ATTEST:



Joshua Menhennett, Management Analyst