

City Of Carrollton
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
August 27, 2018 Minutes

The Parks and Recreation Board met August 27, 2018, 6:30 pm, at Crosby Recreation Center, 1610 E Crosby Road.

Members Present:

Gabe Cruz
Annette Reese
Willadean Martin
Al Overholt
Adam Polter
Gerald Blase
Andrea Macaluso
Dooling, Suzanna

Members Absent:

DeWayne Tallmon

Staff Present:

Scott Whitaker, PARD Director
Kim Bybee, Parks Mgr.
Heather Smith, Recreation Mgr.
Kara Dickson, Admin. Specialist
John Sutter, Liaison

- **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Gabe Cruz called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.
- **VISITORS** – Victoria Atterbury, Carrollton Leader reporter, Roger Wheeler, Transportation department
- **APPROVALS OF MEETING MINUTES** - Minutes from June 25, 2018 were approved. Al Overholt motioned the approval, 2nd was given by Annette Reese, all members for approval.
- **Trail Project Update**
 - Roger Wheeler updated the Park Board on progress of trail projects; Furneaux Creek Trail, Dudley Branch Trail and the Downtown Hike and Bike Trail. The Furneaux Creek trail runs from Trinity Mills station to Old Denton and is 1.2 miles long. Plans are 90% complete and are currently on hold while they work with a property owner to try to purchase some right away and easements. The resolution for the final offer on the property purchase will go to City Council on September 18. Property owner will have 30 days to accept offer. The construction start date is projected to be 18 months out. We are expecting this offer to go to condemnation since the current owner is not working with us. Staff is also looking at additional right away easement on the frontage road. The Dudley Branch trail runs from Frankford Light rail station to Old Denton and is financed by federal matching funds. The City commits \$1 million in funds and will receive \$3 million in federal funding. Currently staff is working on a pond removal project. With the pond removal, staff is also working on a preliminary trail alignment. The trail construction is about 27 months out. Pond removal will include creating a channel to direct water. The trail will also need to be raised up to prevent some of the flooding and it may include one or two bridges. The Downtown trail runs from DART Trinity Mills station to Beltline along Broadway road and is about 2.3 miles long. The ROW survey is complete along Broadway Road and staff is working on a preliminary design. Staff will be working closely with DART and tying into Cotton Belt trail way. Start date for construction will be in 2021. An additional part of the trail will eventually extend to Farmers Branch. The Cotton Belt Trail way will run along the Cotton Belt Railway

expected to start is 2022. Downtown Trail south will run from Crosby Recreation Center to Farmers Branch and will connect to the Downtown Trail. Construction is expected to start in 2022. Staff does not currently have a construction start date on the regional Hike and Bike trail is a COGG initiated project.

- **Jimmy Porter award update from Gabe Cruz**
 - The qualifications have been finalized and the webpage survey has been created to take nominations. Tentative nomination start date of September 1 and deadline is December 18. The nomination process and choosing criteria have been determined. Considering different pictures an award plaque. Nominations will be emailed to Kara and she will provide nominations to Park Board for consideration. Email blasts and Marketing will help promote the added award available for nomination.
- **Discussion and recommendation to rename the Blackland Prairie to Josey Ranch Prairie Pocket**
 - It was determined there was no previous formal action taken on the name selection of Blackland Prairie when referring the Josey Ranch Natural Area. Park Board can decide on a name for the area.
 - Suzanna Dooling shared her thoughts of naming the area Prairie Pocket. It is a manageable space of less than 1 acre with wild flowers and grasses with deep roots and healthy nectar. Suzanna Dooling would like to name it Prairie Pocket. Al Overholt motioned the name of the Natural area be changed to Josey Ranch Pocket Prairie. 2nd was given by Adam Polter. All voted for the name change. Kim Bybee will order the sign.
- **Scott Whitaker – Updates**
 - The Rotary Club will be presenting to City Council in September requesting a financial partnership asking for assistance with playground installation and surface which may include a combination of wood fiber and synthetic turf or all in turf. The Rotary Club has committed to fundraising at least \$150,000.00. If more funds are raised the Rotary Club will consider adding additional playground items. This project was not part of the bond election. Gabe suggested updating/replacing current park sign since it has been vandalized in the past.
 - Staff has reviewed preliminary numbers on the converting infield to synthetic turf and having grass in the outfield at Josey Field 6. This project is getting close to bidding out within the next 30 days. Staff is currently tweaking the design. This project has a very tight budget so staff is considering different alternates for design to work within the budget. A timeframe has not been determined due to multiple projects they are committed to. Staff is hopeful to find a contractor that will be available to start timely.
 - Report Card discussion – The sign up has been categorized to make the inspection of Parks and Recreation properties run more efficiently. Evaluating fields and concession stands, trails and bridges are combined, etc. Park Board members have at least 2 or 3 categories. Staff will be assigned to each category and times will be scheduled to visit and grade each property. Expected timeframe for visits will be September and October.
 - The October Park Board meeting conflicts with the Boards and Commissions Appreciation Dinner making it necessary to reschedule Park Board. Monday, October 15 was chosen.

- **Heather Smith – Updates**

- We are working with IT to update or replace our registration software. We have closed the bids. Staff is reviewing all bids. Interviews should take place mid-September.
- The Gazebo project is underway. The foundation will be poured this week or next. The goal is to complete before the Old Fashioned Christmas event.
- Staff did a thank you lunch for Gerry Lalima at the Senior Center
- New Leisure Connection is out. Many events coming up in September, October, November and December; The Pooch Pool Party, Grilled, Movie on the Square, Concert on the Square, Fall Family Campout are quickly coming up.
- Staff is reviewing fitness equipment and deciding what to rotate out and bringing in new.
- Titan Chijioke is our new Youth Athletics Coordinator.
- Cody Wager is starting next Tuesday as our Adult Athletic Coordinator.

- **Kim Bybee – Updates**

- A second Dream Court was opened in July at Croft Park. This location also has tennis courts which we will eventually incorporate free youth tennis lessons. The basketball court will eventually be fenced in.
- Parks crews are getting caught up on all the mowing after all the rain.
- Fall soccer season has started and McInnish is busy. Baseball will start up after Labor Day.
- Crews are preparing to start decorating for fall events. Megan Gordon is working on new décor for the Downtown Square.
- Staff is hoping to start Rosemeade Pool construction. Bids came back higher than expected and City Council has questions about the additional costs. Council will be reviewing project again September 4 to determine if additional funding will be approved.
- The bids are out for Josey Ranch West concession building renovations. Staff expects to have proposals back this week.
- At McInnish Park behind the softball fields there is a lot of erosion occurring due to flooding. Bids are back on repairs. Engineering is reviewing plans and staff expects repairs to start in December.

- **Scott Whitaker – Update on Blue Sky**

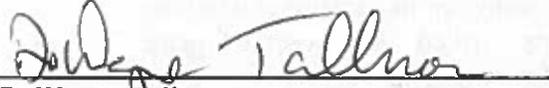
- Blue Sky indoor facility is planning to open in September and they are taking registration for Indoor Fall leagues. They plan to start installing synthetic turf on outdoor fields.
- A request for proposal went out for the acreage behind Blue Sky. Destiny Baseball submitted a bid that met requirements and Council will be reviewing the proposal in September. Destiny baseball would like to install 4 high school baseball fields and batting cages.

- **John Sutter – Council Updates**

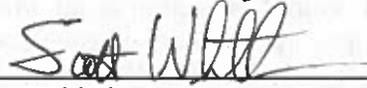
- The City Council is working through budget right now. Consideration is taken on projects based on non-reoccurring or recurring expense.
- Due to construction cost increases Rosemeade Pool project came in over the original budget. Council is reviewing options to cover the difference.
- Council will also be considering a partnership with the Rotary Club for Rosemeade Playground.
- The Report Card the Park Board is about to work on is very important for the direction of Parks and Recreation department future projects.

- **ADJOURNMENT** – Motion to adjourn was made by Adam Polter and seconded by Willadean Martin. The vote was unanimous with eight for. Gabe Cruz adjourned the meeting at 7:51 pm. The next meeting will be on Monday, October 15.

Respectfully submitted,



DeWayne Tallmon
Chairperson



Scott Whitaker
Parks & Recreation Director