

City Of Carrollton
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
June 25, 2018 Minutes

The Parks and Recreation Board met June 25, 2018, 6:30 pm, at Crosby Recreation Center, 1610 E Crosby Road.

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Staff Present:

Scott Whitaker, PARD Director
Kim Bybee, Parks Mgr.
Heather Smith, Recreation Mgr.

- **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – DeWayne Tallmon called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.
- **VISITORS** – Tim Herrel and Victoria Atterbury, Carrollton Leader reporter
- **APPROVALS OF MEETING MINUTES - Minutes from April 23, 2018** were approved. Annette Reese motioned the approval, 2nd was given by Gabe Cruz, all members for approval.
- **Discussion and recommendation to rename the Blackland Prairie to Josey Ranch Prairie Pocket**
 - Suzanna Dooling shared her thoughts on the need for the change. The area that is called Nature Area has been disturbed and improved upon it is no longer a Blackland Prairie. Most places that are being renovated are now being called Prairie Pocket. Prairie pocket is a more popular and appropriate name for the area. Scott Whitaker suggested tabling the name change to do some research on the past history of the original name and if there was a formal adoption of the name. Al Overholt expressed his concerns with the change. Al is concerned that the history of the area getting lost. He suggested calling it the Blackland Prairie exhibit. Suzanna Dooling explained the Blackland Prairie is an ecological region in Texas that runs from Denton to Austin. This area is named that because of the soil. As the area was disturbed it no longer qualifies as a Blackland Prairie. Adam Polter asked about the meaning of a micro-prairie. Gerald Blase suggested that a name change would provide an opportunity to educate. Gabe Cruz has no objections but want more history before making a recommendation. The discussion and recommendation to rename the Blackland Prairie to Josey Ranch Prairie Pocket will be added the August Park Board meeting agenda.
- **Scott Whitaker** – presented project updates that he provided to City Council
 - **Veteran’s Memorial** – Scott Whitaker updated Park Board on the Veterans Memorial. This update included overall site, existing monument and star concept for the project and what has been discussed at the sub-committee level. Scott provided a rendering for review of the general concept. Further discussion took place about the center of the star

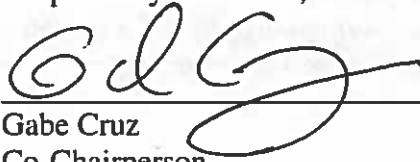
and what should occupy that area. Adam Polter explained the concept of a globe/water feature. Al Overholt asked questions about the project. The sub-committee will meet again to start making final decisions to bring back to Park Board for a recommendation to take to City Council.

- Rosemeade Rainforest is one of the bond election projects which were approved. It will be one of the first projects to be started. The project is currently in the design process stage with construction starting in September and opening to the public in May. Al Overholt asked if the current building would be torn down. Scott provided the design for review and explained the basic design concept and scope of project.
- Rotary playground – The Rotary Club has chosen to extend Rosemeade playground. Rotary's fundraising goal is \$150,000.00 for the project. Rotary will also be requesting additional funds from the City to help with installation and/or playground surfacing of the park. Scott provided a design for Park Board to review. Gabe Cruz asked if the current Rotary sign would be left in the new design. Scott explained they have not gotten to that portion of the design at this point. Suzanna Dooling asked if the new playground would be accessible for children with disabilities. Scott went over the ramp features incorporated in to the design. Adam Polter asked about the surface in the design. Al Overholt suggested planting trees around the new playground. Kim Bybee explained the current plan for adding trees.
- Blue Sky update – Scott Whitaker provided a visual design for review explaining how the property is organized and what buildings and fields are included in the project. Upgrades to a Veterans Park soccer field were negotiated as part of the deal with Blue Sky. The upgrades will include drainage and converting the field to synthetic turf. Blue Sky will incur the costs of the upgrades. The field will continue to be maintained by the City after the upgrades and Blue Sky will not have rights to the field. The upgrades are projected to be started within the next 30-45 days and hopefully be complete in time for the fall soccer season for our youth programs.
- An RFP request for proposal has been posted in the newspaper this past Sunday. The City is taking proposals for lease or own of the 35 acres behind Blue Sky. The best fit for the land would be something athletic. The intention is for a private developer to come in and develop the property. Scott Whitaker provided a visual of the area explaining where the development is. Adam Polter asked if there is opportunity to make the property more accessible. Scott explained that there would be a couple of ways to access but that issue would be worked out by the developer and approved by City Council. The RFP will be posted for a couple of weeks. Staff will review and make a recommendation to City Council in August.
- Scott Whitaker passed around a sign-up sheet for Park Board members to sign up for specific categories to evaluate and grade the different Parks and Recreation properties to update the report card. Scott explained the report card process and the time frame for evaluations. The categories included on the report card will be trails, parks and playgrounds, pavilions, athletic fields, fencing, and evaluates and grade for future projects. Al Overholt volunteered to help with any category to fill in. Park Board members are allowed to choose how many groups they would like to be on. The staff will work with the Park Board members to schedule inspections. Inspection times may be during the evenings and weekends later this fall.

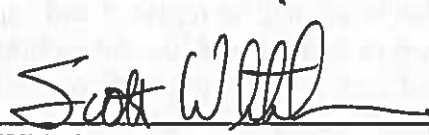
- Gabe Cruz gave shared CIPAC updates and the schedule for projects. He discussed the pool updates. \$22 million in upgrades between 2019 and 2023 for Parks and Recreation projects. The next CIPAC meeting will be held in July.
- Scott Whitaker gave updates on the Lakes golf course that is under design right now. An architect has been hired and Dan Gregg is working on the irrigation part of the updates. A survey has been done and a cart path preliminary design has been reviewed. Approximately 1100 irrigation heads will be replaced and approximately 95% of the cart paths will be removed and increased to 7 or 8 feet wide. Adam Polter expressed a need for the driving range to add a bunker and sand trap. Some of the fairways will be leveled and re-sprigged. Designs are currently including re-sprigging greens.
- Heather Smith – Updates
 - Our new recreation superintendent started today. Katy Bower came from Cedar Hill Parks and Recreation department. Katy will be office at Rosemeade Rec Center.
 - Atmos Energy is ahead of schedule with work outside of Rosemeade.
 - We are working with IT to update or replace our registration software. We are putting together an RFP now and hope to have it out by the end of summer. We do have approved funding from the last budget year for the project. Once we have picked a vendor we will be able to get a timeline for implementing a new system.
 - The June Concert on the Square was well attended with about 200 people.
 - There was hail damage skylights at Rosemeade Rec Center
 - Lava Luau was a couple of weekends ago with normal attendance. We are reevaluating our events downtown
 - This week our seniors are leaving on a European cruise.
 - A new Senior Advisory Council has been elected. Jim Rogers is the new president.
 - The last City Council we were approved to contribute additional funds for the AW Perry gazebo project. We are working on a timeline or the project.
 - Senior Center Chair Volleyball teams brought back first and second place in the last tournament
- Scott Whitaker – Updates
 - Golf course was damaged by baseball size hail at golf course
 - Golf course staff did a phenomenal job in cleaning up and getting the greens repaired in time for Wednesday tournament.
 - Paperwork has been turned into FEMA for financial compensation from the flood.
- Kim Bybee – Updates
 - Summer is busy with mowing, irrigation leaks and aquatics. The contractor mowing crews have adjusted and are keeping up with their mowing.
 - Swim lessons are at about 95% capacity which is very good.
 - Currently prepping for 4th of July.
 - About 20 Parks trucks were damaged by hail storm. An adjuster was out to assess all the damage.
- Gabe complimented pool staff and swim lessons.

- Suzanna Dooling complimented Cody Scallion on Ladybug event. Cody was very imaginative and helpful
- **ADJOURNMENT** – Motion to adjourn was made by Gabe Cruz and seconded by Andrea Macaluso. The vote was unanimous with eight for. DeWayne Tallmon adjourned the meeting at 7:47 pm. The next meeting will be on Monday, August 27.

Respectfully submitted,



Gabe Cruz
Co-Chairperson



Scott Whitaker
Parks & Recreation Director