

The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, December 1, 2016 at Seabrook City Hall, 1700 First Street, Seabrook, Texas to discuss and if appropriate, take action on the agenda items listed below.

THOSE PRESENT WERE:

Helen Burton	Chair
Sally Antrobus	Vice-Chair
John Coggeshall	Member
Monica Comeaux (exc. abs.)	Member
Debra Harper	Member
Karen Tisdell	Member
David Popken	Member
Alesia Hammock	Administrative Assistant

Chair Burton called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

1.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

2.0 NEW BUSINESS

2.1 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning possible grants for trail at Meador Park and other possible purposes. (Burton)

Chair Burton stated that the city manager had told her that the trail on the north side of Pine Gully will see the beginning of construction in December. This will be at the top of the berm and includes a bridge. Eventually, the trail will run alongside the road. The Texas Parks & Wildlife grant will fund five hundred feet of trail.

2.2 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning the placement of a barricade at the end of 10th Street at McHale Park. (Popken)

Chair Burton stated that staff will install the barricade. Mr. Popken will work with staff to determine the color for the barricades, which will have reflective tape.

2.3 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning setting a schedule for tree plantings and notification of volunteers. (Burton)

AND

2.4 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning Arbor Day activities which are scheduled for January 7. (Burton)

Chair Burton stated that with members' approval she would like to combine items 2.3 and 2.4 due to the common topic. She explained that during Celebration Seabrook fifty people signed up to be volunteers to help plant trees. Meredith will send out mass

mailings to the volunteers. Next week, John and Helen will meet with Kevin to coordinate the planting and divide up the crew, with focus on where seedlings will be planted.

2.5 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning the possibility of acquiring glow-in-the-dark features for the trails. (Burton)

Chair Burton stated that Miss Cook really liked that idea and was thinking we might put a pelican at a trailhead and paint the base with glow-in-the-dark paint. The idea is to lighten parts of Meador Park trail which is so dark and to cut down on maintenance for the Parks guys.

2.6 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning a Carothers Gardens open house. (Burton)

Chair Burton spoke to Gayle Cook about the possibility of the committee hosting an informal open house either once a quarter or twice a year. This would allow the citizens to tour the grounds as well as the house. Ms. Antrobus suggested that it be promoted to different groups such as Friends of the Library. Ms. Harper also suggested that Carothers might be part of the area tour of homes. Chair Burton stated that that item would stay on the agenda for further discussion and planning.

2.7 Update on the staff appreciation luncheon held on October 19. (Burton)

Members agreed that the luncheon was a success.

3.0 OLD BUSINESS

3.1 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning Community Achievement Awards. (Burton)

Chair Burton stated that she has downloaded an application for a grant and Ms. Antrobus agreed to help write it. She added that the years of tree planting efforts might qualify for an award. It is the Keep Texas Beautiful grant/award. There was some question as to whether the City has to be affiliated in order to qualify and how to become affiliated, if we are not.

3.2 Update on acquiring new Texas Parks and Wildlife birding trail signs. (Popken)

Mr. Popken stated that he had no further information. Chair Burton suggested this item be placed on the Action Items Checklist.

4.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS

4.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements.

Ms. Tisdell mentioned that huisache is ready for planting and if possible, would like for it to be planted in January. Trees ready to plant, including empire oaks, are at the home of Ms. Antrobus.

Chair Burton stated that an agenda item for the next meeting should include, "Consider planting oleander at Baybrook as a screen between the trail and the road."

4.2 Chair's Update on meeting with City Staff. (Burton)

Chair Burton reported the following:

- Playground equipment for Pine Gully has been ordered. It is brown, tan and green and will blend in with the environment.
- Breakfast with Santa is this Saturday.
- Parks department has trapped 44 hogs to date.
- Construction on the Red Bluff trail begins in 2019.
- No information on the BP grant money at this time.
- Construction of the 550' trail on the berm with the span bridge will begin the first part of December.

4.3 Approve the minutes of the October 6, 2016 meeting. (Brant)

Motion was made by Ms. Antrobus and seconded by Mr. Popken

To approve the minutes as written.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

4.4 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning the Action Items Checklist which is attached and made a part of this agenda.

Chair Burton stated that Coastal Birding Trail signs should be added to the list.

4.5 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning the tasks for Parks staff.

Nothing new added.

4.6 Consider agenda items and upcoming meeting dates.

The next meeting will be January 5.

Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Helen Burton, Chair

Meredith Brant, TRMC
Assistant City Secretary