

The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, February 2, 2017 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 (exc. abs.)	Chair
Sally Antrobus	Vice-Chair
John Coggeshall	Member
Monica Comeaux	Member
Debra Harper	Member
Karen Tisdell	Member
David Popken	Member
Meredith Brant	Assistant City Secretary

Vice-Chair Antrobus called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

1.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Antrobus introduced Carl and Peggy Fulton who are new park volunteers. They have volunteered to work toward ridding the parks of privet and other invasive plants. Mr. Fulton said there are several invasive plants and privet is not the main problem. He cited bamboo/cane and a vine he has yet to identify.

2.0 NEW BUSINESS

2.1 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning a Pilot Project to remove privet and other invasive species along the trails and in the parks. (Antrobus)

David Popken stated that he had removed much of the large privet, poisoned and covered with cloth.

Mr. Fulton added that legustrom, all nine species are problematic, and suggested the eradication of an English ivy-looking vine, bamboo, and a willow-type brush.

Ms. Antrobus stated that the purpose of removing privet is that it is not a native plant and it has encroached on the city's trails. Trees cannot regenerate when they are overshadowed by privet.

Mr. Coggeshall suggested having an expert comment on the situation, either through Armand Bayou or possibly an expert with extensive plant knowledge.

Mr. Popken stated that an effort should be made to thin out the youpon and privet.

2.2 Update on "Day of Tree Planting Awesomeness" held on January 7. (Burton)

John Coggeshall reported that on the coldest day of the year, forty-five volunteers showed up to help plant trees. It was successful with all of the 1,000 trees being planted.

2.3 Update on new tree donations. (Coggeshall)

Mr. Coggeshall reported that the city has received a donation of twenty one gallon Lacey oaks from Bartlett Trees. Ms. Harper and Ms. Antrobus agreed to plant five each with Mr. Coggeshall planting the remainder.

Bayway Homes planted 24 trees in Meador Park and Trees of Houston will water them for two years.

Motion was made by Ms. Antrobus and seconded by Ms. Harper

To convey the city's appreciation to BayWay Homes for the tree donations and for planting them.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

2.4 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning planting oleanders at Baybrook Park. (Burton)

Ms. Harper stated that water is available in Baybrook from the pumphouse spigot. She stated that the oleanders could be planted in clumps or spaced out to create a row. Ms. Comeaux stated that as a runner, she is in favor of creating a visual barrier of plants from the street for safety.

2.5 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning the replacement of the Indigenous People sign in Pine Gully Park. (Tisdell)

Ms. Tisdell stated that as it turned out the sign was just dirty, but the stand was rusted out, so Mr. Padgett is taking care of that.

3.0 OLD BUSINESS

3.1 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning the pursuit of the "Keep Texas Beautiful" grant.

Ms. Antrobus took on the extensive paper work involved in applying for the grant and asked members for input, explaining that the application must arrive by next Tuesday. Items mentioned by members included hardscape, park benches, natural playground, the adopt-a-park program and efforts to work with the Port to create a new trail.

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

Ms. Antrobus stated that the open house should go through social media for better exposure. Also to be considered are treats, program, possible art show. She also asked that staff give feedback on expectations and what is needed from the committee.

4.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS

4.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements.

Members reported on the following:

- The bollards are complete on Todville at Hester Creek
- Revegetation is complete at Pine Gully Park
- The natural playground sundial at Pine Gully Park is being refurbished
- The newly planted huisache is doing well.

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

In Ms. Burton's absence, no update was given.

4.3 Approve the minutes of the January 5, 2017 meeting. (Brant)

Motion was made by Mr. Coggeshall and seconded by Ms. Tisdell

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.

Item #12 – Latter Day Saints had a large group volunteering for planting trees and may be available for other projects.

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

There was no discussion on this item.

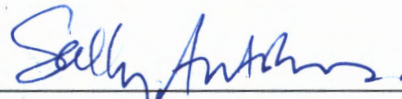
4.6 Consider agenda items and upcoming meeting dates.

This item was not discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.



Meredith Brant, TRMC
Assistant City Secretary



Sally Antrobus, Vice Chair

