The Open Space, Beautification and Preservation Committee of the City of Seabrook met on Thursday, May 3, 2012 at Seabrook City Hall, 1700 First Street, Seabrook, Texas to discuss, consider and if appropriate, take action on the items listed below.

THOSE PRESENT WERE:

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| SALLY ANTROBUS | VICE CHAIR |
| HELEN BURTON | CHAIR |
| HEATHER CABLE – Ex. Abs. | MEMBER |
| JOHN COGGESHALL | MEMBER |
| DEBRA HARPER | MEMBER |
| JACKIE TINGLE | MEMBER |
| KAREN TISDEL | MEMBER |
| MEREDITH BRANT | ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY |

Chair Helen Burton called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

## 1.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Burton announced that Heather Cable will not be in attendance due to her son being ill.

## 2.0 NEW BUSINESS

### 2.1 Discuss park safety. (Chief Holomon)

Chief Nona Holomon stated that the Police Department is about to begin a park patrol initiative with the expectation that at the end of this month or the first of June there will be more police patrolling the parks. They will soon be getting new bicycles which will allow them to maneuver the trails and parks more effectively. They will also be checking for fishing licenses. The officers will be documenting their presence in the parks.

### 2.2 Consider forming a 501(c) (3) organization such as Friends of the Parks.

Ms. Burton reported that she, Karen Tisdel and Heather Cable had looked into the possibility of establishing a 501(c) (3) and at this time it seems quite cumbersome, so for now it is on hold.

Ms. Tingle suggested that the city attorney should offer feedback on this issue.

### 2.3 Consider building a vulture perch/stand.

Mr. Coggeshall showed his drawing for a proposed perch and suggested it as a use for the many dead trees in the area. He also stated that he would build the perch himself and would consult with Director of Public Works Arthur Chairez about it.

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

To approve building a vulture perch among the dead trees.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

**2.4 Establish a new meeting time.**

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

To approve a regular meeting time of 5:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

**2.5 Update on Natural Playground brochure.**

Ms. Burton stated that Ms. Cable has received permission to use photographs from the natural playground company and expects to receive a CD containing the pictures. Until then the brochure is on hold.

**2.6 Consider park assignments to include all members.**

New member Jackie Tingle was assigned Pine Gully Park and Brummerhop Park.

**2.7 Updates on Hester and Robinson Park and consider additional clean-up around the sign at Robinson Park.**

Ms. Burton explained that the sign in Robinson Park is obscured by growth of some type of bushes. She stated that the intent was to get rid of the invasive plants so that the sign may be more readily seen.

Mr. Coggeshall stated that he is opposed to further clean-out of the area.

Ms. Tingle stated no herbicides should be used on any of the plants, as only the city staff is qualified to use it on city property. She stated that she would check out the plants in question and report back at the June meeting.

**2.8 Consider replacing/refurbishing the signs that identify each park.**

Ms. Burton stated that the signs will be replaced as funds become available.

**2.9 Consider options for the cherub table.**

Ms. Antrobus stated that the cherub table is in the community service area and is in dire condition. It had been suggested that the table be cut up with the cherubs that look good and are still viable being used as décor on the outside of the Carothers House or in the greenhouse. Ms. Antrobus and Mr. Coggeshall agreed to look it over and bring back suggestions at the June meeting.

**2.10 Consider the trees in Pine Gully including the replacement of dead trees.**

Ms. Antrobus stated that the picnic ground at Pine Gully Park has lost a lot of trees and is in urgent need of more. She suggested planting oaks there next fall. She added that hackberry trees planted in groups might be a viable option also.

Mr. Coggeshall stated that TXU will readily donate trees. Applicants may request the types of trees, but must be able to prove their ability to take care of the trees.

Ms. Tingle stated that as drought is anticipated for seven years, recommendations from the forestry department might be valuable.

Ms. Burton stated that Mark Kramer will be attending the June meeting, so this may be an item to discuss at that time.

Mr. Coggeshall stated that he will speak to Arthur about capabilities to keep trees irrigated and report back at the June meeting.

**3.0 OLD BUSINESS**

**3.1 Consider publicity for fundraising for the Natural Playground.**

Ms. Burton stated that this item will remain on hold until the brochure is complete. Also, Marketing Director LeaAnn Dearman will help with the publicity.

**3.2 Consider the possibility of hosting a reception and other fundraising options for the Natural Playground.**

Ms. Burton stated this item should be on hold until the June meeting.

**3.3 Update on contact list of individuals/companies to solicit for Natural Playground funding.**

Ms. Burton stated that Lyondell will fund gardens, but not playgrounds. Ms. Tingle, Ms. Tisdel and Ms. Burton will continue to contact possible contributors.

**3.4 Consider appropriate sites for plants/trees in parks and along trails.**

This item was not discussed.

**4.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS**

**4.1 Approve minutes of the April 5, 2012 meeting.**

Ms. Burton stated that there was one correction to be made to the minutes on line 145 where Heather Cable is named, it should be "Debra Harper."

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

To approve the minutes with the correction as suggested.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

**4.2 Consider Action Items Checklist which is attached and made a part of this agenda.**

Mr. Coggeshall stated that a note should be made to item #2 that Texas Parks and Wildlife has closed down their grant system at this time.

In referenced to item #6, Ms. Antrobus stated that the continued response is that a permit is expected within two to three months. She stated that it may be appropriate to request the mayor's intervention on this matter.

Item #8 should be removed from the list.

Members agreed that the trails plan should be added to the list so that it may be addressed as needed at each meeting.

### 4.3 Consider agenda items and establish future meeting dates.

The next meeting will be June 7. Ms. Burton suggested everyone check their calendars to see if July 5 is a good meeting date or if it should be changed due to it being a holiday week.

Upon motion, Chair Burton adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Approved this 7th day of June, 2012.

Helen Burton

Helen Burton, Chair

Meredith Brant

Meredith Brant, TRMC
Assistant City Secretary