

The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, August 2, 2018 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	Member
Debra Harper	Member
David Popken (Absent)	Member
Heather Cable	Member
Kevin Padgett	Public Works Director
Stephanie Martinez	Executive Administrative Assistant

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

1.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Resident Martin Baker recommends placing a kayak launch and a beach area at Pine Gully Park. The children can go swimming while the parents go fishing, take El Jardin as an example. The park is very heavily attended and this could be a way the City brings in revenue while the expansion of SH146 happens since a lot of businesses have closed.

2.0 UPDATES

2.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements.

- Member Harper is watering the plants and trees throughout the parks, especially the trees that were relocated from Walgreens.

2.2 Chair's update on meeting with City Staff.

- The City of Seabrook is ready to move forward with the osprey perch
- Local Eagle Scouts will be making recycle bins and distributing them in various parks
- The City asked the input of the Committee regarding a citizens request to have a port-a-can placed in McHale Park and Main Street; The committee suggested to not place the port-a-can at those locations.
- Whataburger closed on July 30, 2018
- The grant application for pindo palm trees is still being reviewed.
- The City's Capital Improvement Projects meeting will be on August 8, 2018 at 6 p.m.
- The City's Budget Workshop meetings will be August 13-15, 2018 at 6 p.m.

Public Works Director, Kevin Padgett, reviewed the Park CIP with Open Space and Trails Committee. These projects are recommended by staff and the timeline given to these projects are due to budget constraints.

- P1 – Pine Gully Hike and Bike Trail recommended for FY 21
This project will connect the back of public works to go over the bridge to reach the berm at the Port property and run west to Old Highway 146. This will give us connectivity to all of our parks to Armand Bayou.
- P2 – East Meyer Hike and Bike Trail recommended for FY 23
This will begin at the intersection at Bayport and East Meyer then run East along the road right away to North Meyer. This will bring connectivity to the intermediate school.
- P3 – Main Street Pindo Palms recommended for FY 19
The City is hoping to be awarded a grant to pay for the palm trees down Main Street since there are hardly any left due to a disease infection. These palm trees should be resistant to any diseases. The idea is to keep a continuous coastal look on Main Street.
- P4 – Baybrook Tennis & Basketball Courts Resurfacing recommended for FY 19
The resurfacing has not been done in 20 years.
- P5 – Robinson Park Parking Lot Increases recommended for FY 20
The parking lot and the park will be extended all the way to the Southwest Building.
- P6 – Wildwood Playground Equipment Replacement recommended for FY 21
The Wildwood Park playground equipment is the oldest but not as utilized as other playgrounds in the City.
- P7 – Meador Park Trail Lights recommended for FY 22
Over 1600 feet of solar lights will give coverage to the trail at the park for those wanting to run/walk during the night.
- P8 – Bayside Kayak Launch recommended for FY 23
It will be a floating launch with rollers to be able to “roll out” into the water.
- P9 – Red Bluff/Taylor Lake Kayak Launch recommended for FY 23
This will be a joint venture with Harris County.

2.3 Update on removal of invasive species at Seabrook Prairie. (George Kyame)

After assessing the damages from the dump truck incident the prairie received, Mr. Kyame is pleased to say that not much damage was caused after all.

2.4 Report on Bird Conservation Grant.

The City did not receive the grant but the osprey perch is still moving forward. The City will provide the supplies to build the perch and Member Coggeshall can utilize the Public Works facility to build the perch.

2.5 Report on the relocation of trees in front of Walgreens.

The trees are looking really good after being relocated and are being watered regularly.

86 **3.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS**

87 **3.1 Discussion on volunteer hours.**

88 The Committee members gave their volunteer hours to Chair Burton during the meeting to
89 keep records current.

90 **3.2 Discussion on birding event to be held in the City of Seabrook parks.**

91 A birding seminar will be held September 20, 2018 by the Audubon Society at the Seabrook
92 Public Works facility from 7pm – 8:30pm. A bird walk will be held by the Audubon
93 Society at the Public Works facility on September 22, 2018 from 9am – 11am that will
94 teach how to identify birds by their silhouette and other features.

95 **3.3 Discussion on making Baybrook more inviting.**

96 Member Harper is hoping for an arbor, picnic tables, and benches now that the trees from
97 Walgreens have been planted.

98 More plants will be planted by the tennis court because the tallow trees that are there have
99 died. It is very strange that only the tallow trees seem to be the ones dying.

100 **3.4 Discussion on trash cans, recycle cans, and receptacles for cigarettes in the Seabrook**
101 **parks.**

102 The City is getting 15 receptacles for cigarettes to be distributed throughout various parks.

103 Chair Burton reached out to Keep America Beautiful about a possible grant opportunity
104 regarding recycle cans but has not heard back from them yet.

105 **3.5 Discussion on erosion at Pine Gully.**

106 The erosion control project will take place in the Fall.

107 **3.6 Discussion on revegetating where the cane berm was removed in Meador Park.**

108 No updated information at the time.

109 **3.7 Discussion on pollinator pathway.**

110 No updated information at the time.

111 **3.8 Discussion on seed library.**

112 The Evelyn Meador Library is very excited about having a seed library. The Library said
113 they can get a card catalog to hold the seeds. The committee will work to get some seeds
114 to add to the seed library. A community garden can benefit from this seed library.

3.9 Discussion on possible developments under the Kemah-Seabrook bridge due to the expansion of SH146.

The boat launch under the bridge will be gone due the SH146 expansion.

A boardwalk was proposed as a possible development for under the bridge, but there is nothing set in stone.

Member Harper questioned if a kayak launch can be placed under the bridge. Chair Burton stated she doesn't believe the idea of having a kayak launch under the bridge has been thought of. Member Antrobus thinks this would be a very good place to have a kayak launch since it is close to the bay. Member Coggeshall stated that there will be two places in Seabrook that will have a kayak launch and that should be plenty for the City.

Until the SH146 expansion evolves it is hard to say what the possible developments under the bridge may be. The committee would like to see the drawings of SH146 again to see how the area under the bridge will look as this will provide a better understanding.

3.10 Discussion on Tree Planting Day for 2019.

The Committee did not apply for the Apache grant. Trees of Houston will sponsor the City for the next tree planting day. Barry Ward, the Executive Director for Trees of Houston, will be going on a tour of the City parks with Member Coggeshall to provide recommendations as to what trees will work best for this area and how to care for the trees that have been planted.

4.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS

4.1 Approve the minutes for the July 5, 2018 meeting.

Motion was made by Member Harper and seconded by Member Cable

To approve the minutes of the July 5, 2018 meeting

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

4.2 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning the Action Item Checklist.

No updated information at the time.

4.3 Consider and take all appropriate action concerning recommendations to Public Works Director on projects.

Member Coggeshall asked the progress of an irrigation system Pine Gully Park along the front trail where trees are donated to help them flourish. The Public Works Director stated

that the parks department is not responsible for the irrigation systems, it is the water department.

4.4 Consider agenda items and upcoming meeting dates.

The next meeting date is September 6, 2018.

The Committee suggested the following items for the next agenda:

- Update on the Osprey Perch
- Discussion on kayak launch
- Discussion on appreciation lunch
- Discussion on the appearance of the park sign

Upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.


Helen Burton,
Chair


Stephanie Martinez,
Executive Administrative Assistant