

The Open Space, Beautification and Preservation Committee of the City of Seabrook met on Thursday, September 6, 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:

SALLY ANTROBUS	VICE CHAIR
HELEN BURTON	CHAIR
HEATHER CABLE	MEMBER
JOHN COGGESHALL	MEMBER
DEBRA HARPER (ex. abs.)	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

There were none.

2.0 NEW BUSINESS

2.1 Discuss the various aspects of the Natural Playground including, but not limited to the following:

- **Fundraising** – Ms. Cable was able to make contact with Port of Houston and has requested \$40,000. Ms. Tingle stated that there is a possible donation for funds or lumber. Ms. Burton stated that construction on the Rotary's forts will begin on the 29th of this month. Additionally, a monetary contribution has been made for the zip line.
- **Fundraising party** – Members discussed various event possibilities.

Motion was made by Jackie Tingle and seconded by John Coggeshall

To table fundraising events until after the first of the year.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Ms. Burton stated that she has the Chamber of Commerce list and will continue to send out letters and brochures asking for funding.

- **Construction** – Ms. Burton stated that fort construction will begin this month; some tires of the tire dragon have been replaced and the cedar posts are at the park.

- **Recognition of donors** – Ms. Cable stated that currently the plan is to place small plaques on the fence and the rotary will hang a “Rotary” sign over the fort entrance. She added that once structures are complete it will be easier to determine the best place for donor signs.

- **Distribution of brochures** – The distribution of brochures will continue. Ms. Burton stated that as a result of the brochure distribution, a company that builds park benches from recycled plastic will donate all the benches needed for the park.

Ms. Antrobus stated that she would like for the brochures to be included in the monthly newsletter.

Ms. Burton stated that Ms. Dearman had sent press releases about the natural playground to local papers.

- **Possible new tire projects** – There were none.
- **Other** – No additional items were discussed.

2.2 Update on wildflowers/grasses for Robinson Park. (Antrobus)

Ms. Antrobus stated that it may be counterproductive to plant flowers and suggested that native grasses and other native plants be planted instead. She stated that it is not an urgent matter and planting will be appropriate in the winter or early spring.

Motion was made by Heather Cable and seconded by Sally Antrobus

To reduce mowing near the entry of Wildlife Park.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion was made by Karen Tisdell and seconded by Jackie Tingle

To task Sally Antrobus with planting seeds at Wildlife Park as determined at the August meeting.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

2.3 Consider possibilities for development of a park located at the south Repsdorph Road right-of-way, an undeveloped lakefront parcel of land which is owned by Harris County. (Antrobus)

Ms. Antrobus stated that this parcel of land is owned by Harris County and would be a nice space for a waterfront park. She added that she had spoken to the mayor about it and he was not in favor of using the property as a park.

Ms. Burton stated that she had spoken briefly with the city manager about this and was told that the city did not have the resources for creating and maintaining another park.

Ms. Tingle stated that she had spoken to a member of P & Z about this property and he discouraged the idea of a park as this property and the surrounding property has potential for economic development.

Ms. Tisdell stated that members should research the possibilities for this property.

Motion was made by Jackie Tingle and seconded by Karen Tisdell

To appoint Sally Antrobus to check with Harris County and look into the possibilities.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

2.4 Consider eradication of Chinese tallow trees, particularly in Brummerhop Park. (Tingle)

Ms. Tingle spoke to Mark Kramer about the best way to get rid of tallow trees and he suggested waiting until a time when the soil is soft and pulling by hand or to purchase a fifteen gallon drum of Garlon, a non-restrictive herbicide, to spray on the stems. A drum sells for \$350.

Ms. Burton stated that she would relay this information to Arthur and get his opinion on how to proceed.

2.5 Consider painting a mural at the skateboard park. (Tisdell)

Ms. Tisdell stated that by allowing the painting of a mural at the skateboard park may circumvent graffiti.

Ms. Burton stated that she would speak to Arthur about this idea and report back to the committee.

2.6 Consider the protection of the shell middens at Pine Gully Park. (Cable)

Ms. Cable stated that people continue to dig in the middens and the Police Department cannot enforce without a sign. She added that the middens are protected by the Antiquities Code and digging is a prosecutable offense. Ms. Cable suggested a sign be erected at the site to deter further digging at the site.

Ms. Tisdell stated that a warning sign about snakes might serve as a deterrent also.

Ms. Tingle also suggested planting a thorny plant to block the way to the middens.

Ms. Burton stated that she will talk to Arthur and the Police Chief about posting signs as well as planting to block the passage to the middens.

2.7 Consider parking at Meador Park. (Cable)

Ms. Cable stated that when there are big events held in the park there isn't sufficient parking. She added that she has measured the area and proposed that the city might consider creating eighty (80) additional parking spaces along Meyer and Hammer streets.

No action was taken on this item.

2.8 Consider planting flowers on the new mounds at Pine Gully Park. (Tingle)

Motion was made by John Coggeshall and seconded by Sally Antrobus

To plant flowers/vegetation on the mounds at Pine Gully Park.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

2.9 Update and discussion of revenue generated to date from both the Carothers Gardens and Pine Gully Park. (Tingle)

Ms. Tingle stated that she was curious about revenue generated by Pine Gully Park Carothers. When planning for park projects, take into consideration cost versus revenue. She stated that she is in favor of opening up the Carothers property to the public and to allow visitors to park in the parking lot of the Carothers property.

Ms. Antrobus suggested that rates should be revisited. She added that she is also in favor of opening the property and the parking lot for the public.

Ms. Burton stated that the rates had been recently reworked. Ms. Brant stated that she would send out the resolution to members. Ms. Burton suggested placing an item on the agenda next month to consider operations and access of Carothers property.

John Coggeshall left the meeting.

3.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS

3.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements.

Ms. Antrobus stated that at one point LeaAnn had requested park information for the website. She also would like to see the Trails Plan and the Parks Plan posted on the website.

3.2 Approve minutes of the August 6, 2012 meeting.

Motion was made by Sally Antrobus and seconded by Karen Tisdell

To approve the minutes as written.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING.

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

On Item 6, Ms. Antrobus reported that the last of the money has come through on the Pine Gully grant.

On Item 10, Ms. Burton stated that the next report will be given in November.

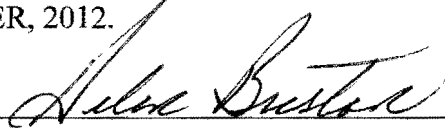
3.4 Consider agenda items and establish future meeting dates.

The next meeting will be October 4. Agenda items should include:

- Specify locations for planting trees
- Update on wildflowers/grasses
- Eradication of tallow trees
- Report of mural for skateboard
- Consider the two signs for Pine Gully
- Mowing parks
- Access to Carothers
- Website content

Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 4th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2012.


Helen Burton, Chairperson


Meredith Brant, TRMC
Assistant City Secretary