

The Open Space, Beautification and Preservation Committee of the City of Seabrook met on Thursday, December 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 (Absent)	MEMBER
JOHN COGGESHALL	MEMBER
DEBRA HARPER	MEMBER
JACKIE TINGLE (Absent)	MEMBER
KAREN TISDEL	MEMBER
MEREDITH BRANT	ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY

Chair Helen Burton called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

1.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Burton stated that she had received a call from Joe Farella inquiring as to whether the committee or city could help with the funding of the landscaping at the veterans memorial. As the committee does not have a budget, she suggested two of the TXU trees be planted there and a meeting with Kevin on-site to determine whether anything else could be done.

2.0 NEW BUSINESS

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

- **Fundraising** – Ms. Burton stated that to date the committee has raised \$12,213. She stated the Mr. Templin had agreed to the donation jar at the front counter at City Hall. Also, brochures will be distributed at the Art Consortium event.
- **Construction** – Ms. Burton stated that Mark Del Toro is donating seven or eight benches to the playground. They are made of recycled plastic and are very nice. She added that the Rotary Club will build a slide for the playground within the next few months. Ms. Burton consulted with the Maas regarding plants for the sensory circle. Mints, rosemary and butterfly weed were recommended. Several types of statuary were considered for the center of the pavers.

Motion was made by Karen Tisdell and seconded by Debra Harper

To install 3 to 5 posts of varying heights with seagulls affixed to the tops of each.

43 AYES: Burton, Coggeshall, Harper, Tisdell.

44 NAYS: Antrobus.

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46 MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE.

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- 48 • **Recognition of donors** – not discussed.
 - 49 • **Distribution of brochures** – Brochures were distributed at the Happy Hikers
 - 50 event.
 - 51 • **Other** – not discussed.
- 52

53 **2.2 Consider locations for planting trees.**

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55 Mr. Coggeshall stated that he met with Arthur Chairez and Kevin Padgett regarding the

56 TXU guidelines for tree donations. He stated that Mr. Chairez indicated he had the staff

57 and capabilities for meeting the irrigation requirements. Mr. Coggeshall recommended 20

58 to 25 trees at 10-20 gallons each with a portion of them planted in Meador Park along the

59 trail in the southwest corner. Other locations would include the Pine Gully Park picnic

60 areas, two trees along the water's edge at Carothers Gardens and two at the veteran's

61 memorial. Suitable trees for this area include the Shumard Red Oak, Laurel Oak or

62 Drummond Red Maple. He stated that he will mark the spots for trees with paint, take

63 pictures and send to TXU to get things started.

64

65 **2.3 Consider recommendations for transplanting oaks from Antrobus garden to**

66 **Carothers property. (Antrobus)**

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68 Ms. Antrobus stated that she has 19 young trees which include red oak, willow oak,

69 yaupon and cedar elm. She spoke with Mr. Chairez and Mr. Padgett, who inspected the

70 trees and were agreeable to transplanting them to Carothers Gardens. Ms. Antrobus

71 recommended that red oaks be planted along the north boundary, interspersed with the

72 bay trees; yaupon and red oak planted in gap in vegetation screen; and red oak, willow

73 oak and cedar elm placed within existing beds.

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

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77 To follow the recommendations of Ms. Antrobus to transplant trees at Carothers Gardens.

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79 MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

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2.4 Consider recommendations and update for mowing reduction and native seed planting at Wildlife Refuge. (Antrobus)

Ms. Antrobus presented a drawing for proposed mowing areas at the Wildlife Refuge. She suggested that regular mowing should occur only beside the trail and a curving both from the sign to the feed and back to the trail; annual mowing in winter of all that is now grass; and grass/wildflower seedings should be in five visible locations, all with shade from the afternoon sun.

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

To approve recommendations made by Ms. Antrobus for the Wildlife Refuge.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Ms. Antrobus stated that she would spray paint the trail that is to be mowed in February or March.

2.5 Consider further development of McHale Park. (Antrobus)

Ms. Harper stated that Mc Hale Park is an attraction for visitors to Seabrook and has great potential as a waterside park. She suggested that its use be expanded and improved. Currently, there is a landscaping box with nothing in it; if nothing is to be planted there, the box should be removed. Since the park is in an area of transition, she asked that it be kept in mind for future improvements.

2.6 Consider a new name for the Municipal Swimming Pool. (Dearman)

Ms. Burton stated that Ms. Dearman had sent an email suggesting that the committee consider re-naming the pool complex, if desired, prior to the installation of new parks signs.

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

To name the pool complex "Seabrook's City Splash."

AYES: Burton, Coggeshall, Harper, Tisdell.

NAYS: Antrobus.

MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE.

Ms. Burton stated that this recommendation would need to go to City Council for approval.

2.7 Update by Helen Burton on the following items:

- **Process for eradication of Chinese tallow trees** – The tallow trees have been sprayed for eradication.
- **Mural at the skateboard park** - Ms. Tisdell stated that she no longer has a contact for this project.
- **Happy Hikers event** – Ms. Burton stated that this was a very successful event.
- **Quarterly report to City Council** – Ms. Burton gave report to Council on December 4.

3.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS

3.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements.

Mr. Coggeshall reported that he had made signs for the forts at Pine Gully as well as a new sign for the butterfly garden.

3.2 Approve minutes of the November 1, 2012 meeting.

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

To approve the minutes as written.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

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

Mr. Coggeshall stated that he would talk to Mr. Templin concerning pursuing a grant request. (Item 2)

Mr. Coggeshall stated that there had been graffiti on the backside of the skateboard park, but it has now been taken care of. (Item 4)

Ms. Tisdell reported that the Corps permit for Pine Gully (Item 6) has been delayed until the end of the year. Previously the target date was November 15.

Ms. Burton stated that the Happy Hikers (Item 12) meet in Seabrook the second Saturday every November.

Ms. Burton stated that Item 13 can be removed as it is a completed project.

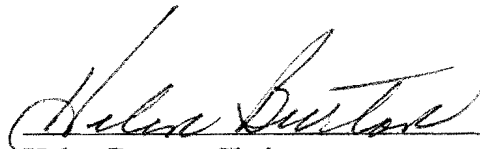
3.4 Consider agenda items and establish future meeting dates.

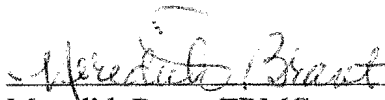
The next meeting date is January 3. Agenda items should include:

- Natural Playground
- Tree planting
- Update on transplant of trees
- Update on cessation of mowing.

Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:3 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 3RD DAY OF JANUARY, 2013.


Helen Burton, Chairperson


Meredith Brant, TRMC
Assistant City Secretary