

The Open Space and Trails Committee met in on Thursday, November 7, 2013 at 5:05 p.m. 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
Karen Tisdell	Member
Meredith Brant	Assistant City Secretary

ALSO PRESENT:

Arthur Chairez	Public Works/Parks Director
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1.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

2.0 BUSINESS

2.1 Update on trails by Parks Department.

Mr. Chairez reported on the following activities/projects:

- Trail construction has caused trails to be closed in three places.
- The second phase of Pine Gully will begin in early December and will be completed within 90 days.
- Once cord grasses are planted, other plants and trees can be planted.
- The trail extension grant should be available soon. Funds will enable the trail to extend west to Old Highway 146.
- Lower Pine Gully has been impacted by continued siltation. Once the jetties are in place and the gully is dredged, the problem should be resolved.
- Oleanders will be planted on the top of the berm at the fire training ground.

2.2 Discuss/consider planting along the perimeter of the fire training ground.

This item was discussed above.

2.3 Planting along new trail in Robinson Park.

The committee will consider this item once trail is complete.

2.4 Consider plans for sensory garden.

Ms. Burton stated that the sensory garden has grass growing in it and there is not enough manpower to keep it weeded and watered as needed. She suggested that crushed granite be put in and boulders installed which would require no maintenance.

Motion was made by Karen Tisdell and seconded by John Coggeshall

To put crushed granite and boulders in the sensory garden of the natural playground.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

2.5 Update on Happy Hikers event scheduled for November 9.

Ms. Burton stated that she had purchased snacks for the hikers. Members will work in two shifts, from 9:00 to 11:00 and 11:00 to 1:00 on the day of the event.

2.6 Report on dedication of Natural Playground.

All members agreed that the event went well and that the Parks Department had done an excellent job in the park.

2.7 Report on the parks volunteer program.

Kevin Padgett had prepared a list of volunteers which was distributed to members.

3.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS

3.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements.

Ms. Comeaux questioned whether the lights on the soccer field at Friendship Park were on timers or manually operated. Mr. Coggeshall stated that they were manually operated as needed by the teams that play there.

3.2 Approve the minutes of the October 3, 2013 meeting.

Motion was made by Karen Tisdell and seconded by Sally Antrobus

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 was interested in applying for a TXDoT grant with the idea to create a trail under the power line which runs along the railroad. The city manager had discouraged him last year due to the many projects the city already had upcoming. The city manager also stated that he (Mr. Coggeshall) might go to EDC to seek support for maintenance of such trail. Mr. Coggeshall stated that it is too late to apply this year, but he would like to pursue it for next year. Members suggested that he meet with the city manager first and if encouraged, seek out support from EDC.

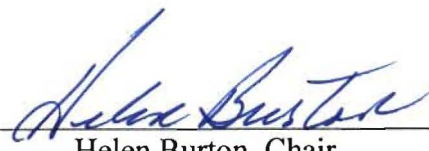
3.4 Consider upcoming meeting dates and agenda items.

The next meeting will be December 5. Agenda items will include:

- Presentation of informational signs (Comeaux)
- Planting along new trail in Robinson
- Report on Happy Hikers
- Volunteer program

Upon motion, Chair Burton adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Approved this 5th day of December, 2013.



Helen Burton, Chair



Meredith Brant
Assistant City Secretary

