The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, July 2, 2015 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 (arrived at 5:10)	Member
Monica Comeaux	Member
Debra Harper	Member
Karen Tisdel	Member
David Popken	Member
Robin Hicks	City Secretary

Chair Burton called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

1.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

2.0 NEW BUSINESS

2.1 Consider bench replacement program as proposed by Girl Scout Savannah Lee.

Ms. Burton stated that some of the benches in the parks and along the trails are becoming worn and needing repair. She was approached by Girl Scout Savannah Lee who has an interest in spearheading a project to get new benches for the parks which will also enable her to work toward the Girl Scout Gold Award. Ms. Burton introduced Ms. Lee who explained that a Gold Award Project must be a project which has a lasting impact on the community. It is her intent to elicit enough funding for five new benches through donations and proceeds from a concert to be held in January or February. Ms. Lee is a member of the high school orchestra and she and her friends will be performing. She noted that both the cemetery at Pine Gully and the butterfly garden need new benches. Ms. Lee hopes to complete the project by next summer.

Ms. Burton stated that the city may be able to help with publicity for the concert through the city website. Ms. Lee will give regular reports on her progress to Ms. Burton to pass on to the committee.

2.2 Consider plans for new clock and planter to be located at the traffic circle.

Ms. Burton stated that no progress has been made toward the installation of the clock. Ms. Harper stated that she has ideas for a three tiered planter using a variety of plants. She added that volunteers would be needed to maintain the plants and a soaker hose should be used for irrigation. Ms. Tisdel added that as this is a city project and is in a visible area where commercial growth is anticipated, the area should be professionally maintained. Ms. Antrobus concurred. Ms. Harper stated that she would help put in plants, but would not want to be responsible for maintenance.

Ms. Burton suggested that this item, along with plans/drawings, be considered further at the August meeting.

2.3 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2015/2016.

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

To elect Ms. Burton as Chair and Ms. Antrobus as Vice-Chair.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

3.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS

3.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements.

Ms. Burton stated that Mel Bentley is doing a great job on Mohrhusen Park. Ms. Harper added that in addition to the upkeep at Mohrhusen she has also begun painting the gazebo. Ms. Burton also mentioned that the Coastal Birding Trail markers are fading and one is missing from McHale Park. Mr. Coggeshall stated that he had attempted to get in touch with the Parks & Wildlife Department for replacement signs to no avail. Ms. Antrobus suggested making a call rather than emailing. Ms. Harper proposed planting mimosas along the trail at Baybrook Park. Mr. Popken mentioned that additional doggie bag stations have yet to be installed.

3.2 Chair's Update on the following:

- Meeting with city staff - This item was not specifically discussed.
- Trail emergency markers – Staff is behind on this project due to the rain.
- Google Trails mapping attempt – There is a Google Trails device/camera which is worn as one treks along the trails creating a realistic visual of the trails. This would be a great tool for trails information on the website. It was suggested that all members email Google Trails regarding acquiring this tool.
- Bird trail markers – discussed above.
- Volunteer update – Volunteers were awarded brass leaves and certificates of appreciation.

3.3 Approve the minutes of the May 7, 2015 meeting.

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

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.

John Coggeshall gave an update on various trees.

3.4 Consider agenda items and upcoming meeting dates.

The next meeting will be on August 6. Agenda items will include:

- The clock planter
- Doggie bags
- Consider involvement with the Comprehensive Master Plan.

Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Helen Burton, Chair

Robin Hicks, City Secretary

THE CITY OF SEABROOK TEXAS