

The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, August 6, 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 (arrived late)	Vice-Chair
John Coggeshall	Member
Monica Comeaux	Member
Debra Harper	Member
Karen Tisdell	Member
David Popken	Member
Meredith Brant	Assistant City Secretary

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

1.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Burton introduced Mel Bentley, a super volunteer, who sat in on the meeting.

2.0 NEW BUSINESS

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

Chair Burton stated that staff is hoping for volunteers to provide planter maintenance. She added that the clock installation is complete.

2.2 Consider involvement with the Comprehensive Master Plan.

Chair Burton stated that City Manager Gayle Cook had inquired as to whether the committee would like to be involved with the Master Plan process. Members agreed to participate in the process. Chair Burton stated that she would discuss the details with Ms. Cook.

2.3 Update on doggie bags for parks. (Popken)

Mr. Popken stated that there are three working stations located in Meador and Hester parks.

2.4 Consider replacing barrier netting to protect the Pine Gully wetlands. (Tisdell)

Chair Burton stated that she had discussed the situation with Kevin Padgett who said that the netting will be replaced along with a "digging prohibited" sign.

Ms. Tisdell stated that there is also a problem with bikers bringing in coolers with

alcoholic beverages and using the trail illegally. She proposed that a portion of the trail be restored with vegetation to prevent illegal use of the trail and further destruction.

A motion was made by Ms. Antrobus and seconded by Ms. Tisdell

To consult with staff to consider closing a portion of the trail as a means of controlling trail abuses.

AYES: Antrobus, Burton, Comeaux, Popken, Tisdell.

NAYS: Coggeshall, Harper.

MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE.

2.5 Consider participating in Celebration Seabrook, an event scheduled in November in Old Seabrook.

Chair Burton stated that Ms. Cook had asked if the committee would like to participate in this event. She added that participation would include managing a booth during the celebration, handing out brochures encouraging volunteers as well as trail maps. Members agreed to participate.

2.6 Discuss Council response to the Priority List approved by the committee on April 2, 2015.

Chair Burton stated that Council was not interested in creating a dog park. They suggested looking at a kayak launch first. Possibilities for sites included McHale and Wildwood with a cost of approximately \$10,000. After further discussion of sites, the committee agreed that the best option, if possible, would be at Red Bluff on Taylor Lake.

2.7 Discussion/inquiry regarding the prohibition of alcoholic beverages in Pine Gully Park and its enforcement. (Tisdell)

There was no discussion of this item.

2.8 Consider annual employee appreciation lunch. (Harper)

After some discussion, members determined that the date for the luncheon would be October 14 and volunteers should also be invited. Chair Burton stated that she would check to see if Carothers Gardens is available on that date.

3.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS – The committee will discuss, consider, and if appropriate, take action on the items listed below.

3.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements.

Ms. Harper stated that there has been a landscaping crew working at Carothers. She added that the butterfly garden is looking good. Chair Burton stated that there is a new bench at the Second Street Park.

3.2 Chair's Update on the following:

- **Meeting with city staff** – Ms. Burton stated that the Port berm is near completion and trees will be planted in the fall. Some palm trees have been removed from Second Street due to lethal yellowing. In the meeting with staff, Ms. Cook asked if the committee would like to participate in the tree lighting ceremony.
- **Trail emergency markers** – Markers should be going in soon.
- **Google trails mapping** – Company is unresponsive to inquiries.
- **Bird trail markers** – Mr. Popken stated that he will contact Texas Parks & Wildlife about the markers.
- **Volunteer update** – A brochure will be created to encourage volunteerism.

3.3 Approve the minutes of the July 2, 2015 meeting.

Motion was made by Ms. Harper 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.

#2 – Mr. Coggeshall stated that he has not been able to get in touch with Apache Oil concerning the tree grant due to a glitch on their website.

#16 – Mr. Coggeshall stated that he had met with Ms. Cook about planting trees and she suggested clustering of trees along the new trail. Trees of Houston will be donating trees in the fall to reforest along the median at the traffic circle as well as the ones on the trail and possibly other areas where needed.

#17 – Create separate spreadsheet for tasks for staff.

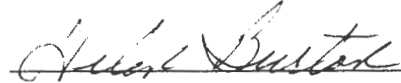
3.4 Consider agenda items and upcoming meeting dates.

The next meeting will be September 3. Agenda items will include:

- Staff appreciation luncheon
- Comprehensive Master Plan

- Clock planter
- Celebration Seabrook
- Issue of alcohol and four-wheelers on Pine Gully trails
- "Turtle pond" clean-up

Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.


Helen Burton, Chair


Meredith Brant, Assistant City Secretary

