

The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, September 3, 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	Member
Monica Comeaux	Member
Debra Harper	Member
Karen Tisdell	Member
David Popken (exc. abs.)	Member
Meredith Brant	Assistant City Secretary

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

1.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no public comments.

Chair Burton stated that Chief Sean Wright would be speaking on park issues, so with the committee's permission items would be taken out of order to address Item 2.3 first. There was no objection.

2.0 NEW BUSINESS

2.3 Consider remedies to be taken for the protection of the middens, marsh grasses and trails along Pine Gully including the installation of green net barriers, allowing a portion of the trail to revert to natural vegetation, the strategic placement of warning signs and violations of alcohol use and vehicles on the trails. (Tisdell)

Chair Burton stated that the violations are the issues of concern which Chief Wright can address.

Chief Wright stated that he had reviewed information concerning waterways for which there are no ordinances in place to enforce. He added that in order to keep people out of the marsh and the water, the first step would be to make the public aware of the rules by posting signs and possibly posting information on the website. There are no parks hours except for motor vehicles, so walkers still have access after the gates have closed. Signs with stated prohibitions posted along the trails should include the notice that violators will be reported, the Seabrook police badge and contact number. These measures will make it easier for police to enforce.

Members determined that appropriate placement of signs would be at the Todville gate, the cemetery, the middens, the parking lot at Pine Gully, Robinson Park at Todville,

Wildlife Park and the new trail entrance.

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

To place signs to discourage abuses in the parks.

AYES: Burton, Coggeshall, Comeaux, Harper and Tisdell.

NAYS: Antrobus.

ABSTAIN: none.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

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

Chair Burton stated that she had spoken with Kevin Padgett concerning the landscaping and the maintenance. She told him that committee members were not able to take care of the maintenance of the plants. Ms. Harper stated that she would be happy to work with the landscaper.

2.2 Consider involvement with the Comprehensive Master Plan.

Chair Burton stated that most likely the committee's involvement would not be necessary until December.

2.4 Consider participating in Celebration Seabrook, an event scheduled November 14 in Old Seabrook from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Chair Burton stated that Ms. Cook is looking for ideas for decorations. Additionally, members would work a tent where they can promote the city's trails and parks, recruit volunteers, provide information on Trash Bash (an event needing a coordinator), Savannah Lee can sell tickets to her event which will raise money for park benches.

2.5 Happy Hiker event to be held in Seabrook on November 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Chair Burton stated that after speaking with the City Manager, it was determined that the city would no longer offer refreshments for this group as they have in the past.

2.6 Consider annual employee appreciation lunch on October 14.

Members planned menu and who would be invited. It was determined that volunteers would also be included. Invitations will go out via email.

2.7 Consider clean-up of the pond at Hester Park. (Harper)

Ms. Harper stated that the pond has dead branches, debris and the water is very black. Chair Burton suggested that all members go out to look at the area in question and come back with ideas for the pond.

3.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS

3.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements.

Chair Burton stated that it is very helpful to staff when members check their assigned parks and send a report to Kevin, Arthur and Saul. Thanks to John and Karen for sending in their reports.

Ms. Antrobus suggested that succulents be planted in the bare spot near the Pine Gully parking lot.

3.2 Chair's Update on the following:

- **Meeting with city staff** – Ms. Cook is going to check into having sign at Robinson refurbished with bird pictures, also see about the intern working on the volunteer brochure and the trail brochure. Staff plans to open up Mohrhusen Park by removing some of the bushes. She will meet with Gayle tomorrow concerning the removal of bushes.
- **Trail emergency markers** – This project should soon be complete. Upon completion new trail maps will be produced.
- **Volunteer update** – We are losing our volunteer who has done such a great job on Mohrhusen Park.

3.3 Approve the minutes of the August 6, 2015 meeting.

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

to approve the minutes with an amendment to page 3, line 101, replacing the question mark with the information that contact had been attempted, but there was no response.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

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

#16 - Mr. Coggeshall stated that he is meeting with Trees of Houston at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday to see what trees are needed in Wildlife Park.

3.4 Consider tasks for Parks staff.

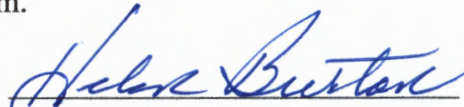
As per previous discussion, additional signage at trail heads should be added as a task for Parks staff. Also add removal of tree stakes at Carothers between the house and casita and the placement of bollards at the entrance of all trails.

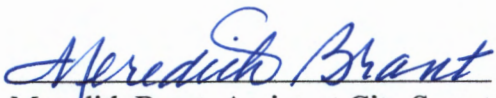
3.5 Consider agenda items and upcoming meeting dates.

Items for the October 1 agenda should include:

- Clock planter
- Comprehensive Master Plan involvement
- Issues In Pine Gully and progress of trail signage
- Participation in Celebration Seabrook
- Employee Appreciation Luncheon
- Pond clean-up at Hester Park

Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.


Helen Burton, Chair


Meredith Brant, Assistant City Secretary

