

The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, October 1, 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 (exc. abs.)	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

Ms. Antrobus stated that she had spoken with the City Manager concerning the use of Carothers Gardens and the recent restriction of weddings. She stated that the plan is to encourage more community friendly uses for the property such as classes as opposed to weddings. Ms. Antrobus asked that discussion of this matter be continued at the January meeting.

2.0 NEW BUSINESS

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

Chair Burton showed drawings for the clock planter which are different than the original. She stated that the county requires a low profile planter with low profile plants for visibility. The type of plant has not yet been determined.

2.2 Consider involvement with the Comprehensive Master Plan.

Chair Burton stated that Ms. Cook had advised that after the Master Plan is complete, the committee should revisit the Parks Master Plan to make sure they are in sync.

2.3 Consider issues of violations of park rules and protection of the marsh at Pine Gully.

Chair Burton stated that signs are up regarding violations and the fence is going up to protect the marsh. Ms. Tisdell stated that rather than netting, it is a paddock fence, which will be more effective.

2.4 Consider participating in Celebration Seabrook on November 14 in Old Seabrook from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Members agreed to work the booth at the festival with the following schedule:

David Popken – 11:00-1:00

Helen Burton – 1:00-3:00

Karen Tisdell – 3:00-5:00

John Coggeshall – 5:00-7:00

Debra Harper – 7:00-9:00

2.5 Consider annual employee appreciation lunch rescheduled for October 21.

Members discussed the menu, attendees and the starting time of 11:30.

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

Chair Burton stated that she had been by to look at the pond and it appeared that the water has natural occurring tannin along with leaves and sticks. Ms. Harper stated that she would like to have the lumber removed from the pond which is located nearest the butterfly garden, ideally have the turtle pond aerated and have the general area cleaned up. Members agreed to add the task of removing the lumber and other unnatural debris from the pond to the staff task list, but to leave the turtle pond as is in its natural state.

2.7 Consider items for report to Council in October. (Burton)

Members reviewed items to be reported to council.

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. Antrobus stated that she had planted seeds and watered an empty patch near the parking lot at Pine Gully, but only a few plants came up, although some cover grass has grown in. Mr. Coggeshall stated that he would get soil samples and have them tested. Suggestions for plants to put in that area included mulberries, lantana and sunflowers.

3.2 Chair's Update on the following:

Chair Burton reported as stated below.

- Meeting with city staff – The city tree lighting will be December 3 at Mohrhusen Park. The bollards at the trailheads will be removed.
- Trail emergency markers – The trail markers are in and have been uploaded to Google maps.

- Volunteer update – Two potential volunteers, one changed her mind and the other was not responsive to attempts to contact.

3.3 Approve the minutes of the September 3, 2015 meeting.

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

To approve the minutes as written.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

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

There was no discussion on this item.

3.5 Consider tasks for Parks staff.

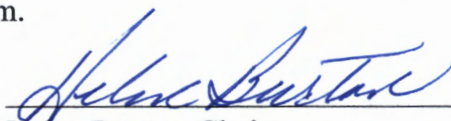
There was some discussion, but no items were added to the task list.

3.6 Consider agenda items and upcoming meeting dates.

The next meeting will be November 5.

Mr. Coggeshall stated that he would like to consider, as agenda items, what to do about the fishing line collector posts and review of the tree planting map.

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


Helen Burton, Chair


Meredith Brant, Assistant City Secretary

