

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Belton Park Board of Directors
April 19th, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: Terry Ward, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Ward, Dave Daniels, Jennifer Garner, Zeb Morlok (Zoom), Mike Miller, Rusty Sullivan, Charlie Dalzell, Adrian Hall

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bryan Murdock

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Rusty Sullivan

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Regular Park Board Minutes for March 15th, 2021 minutes were approved as submitted.

PRESIDENT'S COMMUNICATIONS: Mr. Ward stated that the city had their elections a couple weeks back and that not one incumbent councilperson had been re-elected. He mentioned that Belton also has a new City Mayor, Mr. Norman Larkey, and that he looks forward to getting to work with him.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: Mr. Rob Powell asked to come speak with the Park Board about the summer Cruise Nights. He told the board that he was recently elected as a city council person, but that this evening he was coming to the board as a Belton citizen. He told the board that he had several concerns about how the cruise nights were run in previous years. He said he hoped to be able to offer some suggestions to the parks about the event now that the Parks Department is running the cruise nights. He shared some of his concerns regarding the start and end time of the event, traffic issues at the end of the evening on Main Street, and the volume of the music played at the event. Discussions followed.

Mr. Morlok entered the meeting via zoom.

COUNCILWOMAN LIASON REPORT: Mr. Ward told the board that Mayor Larkey is working on assigning the park board a new city council liaison.

CITY MANAGER REPORT: Alexa Barton told the board that the city recently received a grant for the senior center program. She said they will now be able to provide transportation to and from the senior center for the seniors who need it. She told the board that they are still waiting to hear from the treasury what the guidelines will be on getting lost revenue reimbursed through the American Rescue Act. Ms. Barton noted that the city recently applied for another grant for the Senior Center to be able to get new flooring, windows, and tables for the building. She said they are still waiting to hear if they have received that grant. She noted that the city put \$30,000 into the FY22 budget to make repairs to the Minnie building, whether they receive the grant or not.

PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT:

Mr. Welborn stated that foot traffic is picking up at the Wellness Center. He reported to the board that he met with the new Mayor last week and said he felt the meeting went very well. He noted that he will be reaching out to the new council members to set up meetings with each of them as well. Mr. Welborn said that Ms. Oliver continues to respond to the auditors with their requests. Discussions followed.

Ms. Braun said that memberships are picking up again. She said that she is starting to see faces of members that she has not seen in over a year. Ms. Braun reported that there will be four outdoor fitness sessions that are planned for May through August. She said they are trying to plan a family fun fitness day for the last one in August. She reported to the board that she is planning to end the virtual classes on June 1st. She said there is not many people still watching them and that it is expensive each month to offer that. Discussions followed.

Mrs. Meehan reported that the Easter Egg hunt last month went very well. She said there was a lot of kids that came out. She noted that they eliminated all inside activities and overall, the event was still a success. She said they are looking forward to the Kite Day on Sun., May 16, in Wallace Park. She noted it has received lots of chatter on Facebook, and they are expecting a big crowd. Ms. Meehan reported that they are finalizing plans for the Hy-Vee SummerFest, set for Fri., June 5. She reports that new this year there will be a cornhole tournament and a kid's peddle tractor pull. She reported to the board that they offered a special in April to all chamber members, giving them the corporate rate through the end of the month. She said to date no member has signed up. Mrs. Meehan also reported that rentals are picking up across the board, including summer Cabana parties. She noted they are hosting five special events at the Station in April, down just one compared to 2019.

Mr. Feeback was off for the day, so Mr. Welborn reported for maintenance. He mentioned that the two maintenance workers that were furloughed over the winter both decided to stay at the city departments they were sent to and will not be coming back to the parks department. He said the grass is growing and they are having a hard time keeping up with the mowing. Mr. Welborn noted they are still needing to hire one full time maintenance worker and at least one more seasonal worker. He told the board that they stocked channel catfish at Cleveland Lake last week. A couple of maintenance issues at the parks were brought up by board members and discussed. Mr. Welborn told the board that he recently met with the new police chief. He said the police now have keys to the bathrooms and facilities at the parks in case there is any issues. He said he also spoke with the chief about how the parks and police will work together at special events in the future.

Kevin Goodman was attending a parent meeting and Mr. Welborn reported for recreation. He said that the south metro has struggled with all the rain this season. He said all the spring sports are up and running. Mr. Welborn noted that Mr. Lopez, athletic facilities supervisor, has high level baseball experience and will be offering a new baseball clinic this spring. He said they will also use a Belton high school baseball and softball players to help at the clinic.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: Mr. Dalzell reviewed the March financials and the end of fiscal year finances. Mr. Ward gave a hats off to, what he called, the best staff around. He said he felt the staff had made the best out of a terrible situation last year with the COVID pandemic and that the bottom line was much better than anticipated at one point.

Recreation: Mr. Miller said the recreation committee did not meet. He said he recently had driven around to all the parks and noted that the parks are full of people utilizing them right now.

Building and Grounds: Mr. Sullivan said building and grounds had met to discuss purchasing a new vehicle, replacing an HVAC unit at the HBWC, and purchasing playground material. He said the first item discussed was purchasing a new 2022 Ford F250 Crew Cab 4x4 (X2B) from Joe Machens Ford Lincoln to

include snowplow and salt spreader from Knapheide Truck Equipment on a state bid contract (MODOT). Mr. Sullivan said the staff recommended to purchase the vehicle in total. Mr. Sullivan made the motion to approve the purchase in total not to exceed \$53,000.00, to include installation and accessories as necessary for the project. Mr. Ward seconded. Mr. Ward said the truck Mr. Feedback is driving around is a safety hazard. Discussions followed. **Motion carried with all ayes.** Mr. Sullivan said the next thing discussed was purchasing a new HVAC unit for over the spin room. Mr. Feedback had 3 bids in the packet. Mr. Sullivan made the motion to approve the PM Contracting Inc. bid not to exceed \$8,300.00, to include delivery and installation for the project. Mr. Ward seconded. Discussions followed. **Motion carried with all ayes.** Mr. Sullivan said the 3rd item they discussed was replacing the playground mulch in all the playgrounds. He said the plan was to purchase kiddy cushion mulch through Foster Bros. Wood Products in the amount of \$3,195.00. Mr. Feedback said this was a budgeted item.

Personnel: Did not meet.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Mr. Miller said that next year is Belton's 150-year anniversary. He said he would like to help host the parade. Mr. Welborn said he would ask at the department head meeting if they have started making plans for the celebration.

Announcements:

Mr. Welborn told the board that this upcoming weekend is their first cruise night on Main St. He said that there will be a learning curve for these events as the summer goes on. He said the show will be from 4-8 and that he will probably get there about 3 to set up.

Mr. Ward made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Daniels seconded. **Motion carried with all ayes.**

Adjourn: 7:13pm