



Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston

2/22/2022 - Minutes

I. Call Meeting To Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m.

II. Pledge Of Allegiance

The pledge was recited by those present.

III. Roll Call And Declaration Of A Quorum

Roll was called and a quorum declared.

Trustees present: Spencer Priest, Maureen Patton, David Collins, Steven Creitz, Marty Fluke, Jason Hardcastle and Dave Jacoby.

IV. Conflict Of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts declared.

V. Requests To Address The Board

A comment from Joanie Steinhaus with Turtle Island Restoration Network was read regarding agenda item VII.

VI. Recognition

A. Employee Spotlight - Rey Soto (Susan Keeble, 5 Minutes)

Susan Keeble introduced Coastal Zone Management employee Rey Soto and shared a brief overview of his career with the Park Board that includes working as a heavy equipment operator and supervisor. Mrs. Keeble also reported that Mr. Soto will be celebrating 20 years of service this month.

B. Staff Recognition Of Parks Team (Vince Lorefice, 5 Minutes)

Vince Lorefice recognized the Parks team members who were involved in the renovation of restrooms/showers at Dellanera RV Park and shared before and after pictures of the areas renovated. Staff recognized included: Richard Wallace, Jonathan Histo, Jose Adan Cazares, Dylan Pippin and Justin Painter.

VII. Tourism Development

- A. Discuss And Consider Selection And Approval Of July 4th Celebration Activities (Michael Woody, 20 Minutes)

Michael Woody reviewed several activities for consideration in celebration of July 4th which included traditional fireworks, a laser show and a drone show as well as a series of parades. In addition, he reviewed events being considered for Freedom Days, which is the two-week period between Juneteenth and July 4th. These included a Freedom Days passport, window decorating contest and weekend events such as sandcastle building and music on the sand.

Mr. Woody reported that should the Board approve a traditional fireworks show, this would have to take place on either July 2nd or 3rd as the 4th of July was not available through any vendors they contacted. He stated that the Tourism Development Advisory Committee (TDAC) is recommending doing the drone show and using the remaining funds for some of the other activities as funds allow. Mr. Woody shared that staff is seeking approval to use up to \$100,000 for these activities.

Motion Maureen Patton motioned to approve the \$100,000 funding to do a drone show with the remaining funds used for other activities as available.

Second: Dave Jacoby seconded.

Vote: Approved (6-1, Hardcastle opposed).

VIII. Administration

- A. Presentation On The Planning Assistance To States Project For An Offshore Breakwater Off Dellanera RV Park (Sheryl Rozier / Coraggio Maglio, P.E. / Patrick Kerr, P.E. / Emily Perron / Larry Wise, P.E., 20 Minutes)

Patrick Kerr with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Larry Wise with Baird presented an update on the Offshore Breakwater Project. The update included a short background on the project, FEMA's involvement, the solutions developed and alternative analysis with focus on the preferred solution and what the result would look like and how it would perform.

- B. First Reading Of Proposed By-Law Amendments Concerning Article V - Meetings And Article XIV - Park Board Management Policies (Carla Cotropia, 5 Minutes)

Carla Cotropia reviewed the proposed by-law amendments which included amending the board meeting governance language to reflect the change from Robert's Rules of Order to the recently approved policy and to correct the job title from Executive Director to CEO that was previously missed..

- C. Park Board Advisory Committee Updates

Current committee activities were shared with the Board. These included discussions of the Seawolf Park master plan, short term rental update, presentations on the sustainability plan and the strategic marketing plan for the Workforce Development committee.

IX. Executive Session

The meeting entered executive session at 2:40 p.m.

- A. A. Pursuant To Texas Government Code Section 551.071 - Consultation With Attorney On A Matter In Which The Duty Of The Attorney To The Governmental Body Under Texas Disciplinary Rules Of Professional Conduct Of The State Of Texas Clearly Conflicts With This Chapter - Legal Matters Concerning Litigation - Sonya Poretto V The City Of Galveston Park Board Of Trustees Et Al

X. Action Item (S) Resulting From Executive Session

The open meeting resumed at 3:13 p.m.

A. Discuss And Consider Action For Any Executive Session Item Listed On The Meeting Agenda

There was no action taken.

XI. Operations

A. Discuss And Consider Approval Of Award For The Construction Of The Stewart Beach Parking Area Drainage Project (Sheryl Rozier, 10 Minutes)

Sheryl Rozier gave a brief overview of the history of the project and shared that the funding is covered by grants from the City of Galveston Industrial Development Corporation and the Texas General Land Office Coastal Management Program. Mrs. Rozier reported that two bids were received and staff is recommending the award of contract to Lucas Construction Company who presented the lower bid and has successfully completed projects for the Park Board in the past,

Motion: Marty Fluke motioned to approve the award of contract to Lucas Construction Company for the Stewart Beach drainage project.

Second: Maureen Patton seconded.

Vote: Approved (7-0).

B. Discuss And Consider Status And Options To Terminate Jones Lang LaSalle Contract To Provide Public Private Partnership Advisory Services For Stewart Beach (Kelly De Schaun, 10 Minutes)

Motion: Marty Fluke motioned to defer this item.

Second: Jason Hardcastle seconded.

Vote: Approved (7-0)

C. Discuss Seasonal Exemption Changes For Beach Parks (Nate Stevens, 10 Minutes)

Nate Stevens shared that currently the parks operate on a seven-month season from mid-March to mid-October to maintain the seasonal exemption status. He stated that there is another way to maintain this status by operating under the 33 1/3 rule which consists of comparing revenues from the six highest gross revenue months and applying this against the six lowest gross revenue months in a twelve-month period. Season exemption status may be obtained if the average receipts over the lowest gross revenue six -month period are no greater than 33 1/3% of the average receipts from the highest gross revenue six-month period. Mr. Stevens reported that staff would like to modify the operating schedule to allow for coverage longer than seven-months by adjusting staffing at the beginning and the end of the seasons and would like to take this to the Finance and Operations Committee for further investigation. The Board agreed to send this to the Finance and Operations committee for review.

D. Discussion On Federal Seaweed Maintenance Permit Renewal, Geography And Implications For The HOA/POA Extreme Inundation Program (Kimberly Danesi, 20 Minutes)

Kimberly Danesi reviewed the history of the Federal seaweed permit and the Park Board's steps in obtaining this permit. She shared that the permit currently covers the length of the island and that a previous discussion led to a Board decision to limit the permit application when renewing to only the areas managed directly by the Park Board and the City of Galveston. Mrs. Danesi stated that a

meeting was coordinated with the home/property owner associations and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 2018 to discuss the process for obtaining a permit to cover their areas since the extreme inundation program currently offered by the Park Board would cease once the permit is renewed.

Marty Fluke reported that the Short Term Rentals are currently contributing over 50% of the hotel occupancy tax and limiting the coverage of the permit could put millions of dollars at risk. He requested that the Beach Maintenance Advisory Committee (BMAC) review the permitting plan before a final decision is made on the area included.

E. Update On Concessionaire Partner Program Timeline (Ann Hobing, 5 Minutes)

Ann Hobing reviewed the concessionaire program timeline and status of current concessionaires. She shared that the request for proposal responses are due and staff will be reviewing these and working to onboard new partners. David Collins and Marty Fluke expressed concern that the program is not further along with Spring break in March. Ms. Hobing acknowledged the concerns and reported that with the restructure of the plan finalized, next season should run on time.

XII. Consent

Motion: Maureen Patton motioned to approve the consent agenda items.

Second: Steven Creitz seconded.

Vote: Approved (7-0).

- A. Discuss And Consider Approval Of Meeting Minutes (Schel Heydenburg)
- B. Discuss And Consider Approval For The Replacement Of Old 600-Amp Main Power Service At Dellanera RV Park (Tim Jackson)
- C. Discuss And Consider Approval For Re-Mulching The Playground At Seawolf Park (Corey Holcomb)
- D. Discuss And Consider Approval Of Purchase Of Mobile Shade Structures (Vince Lorefice)
- E. Discuss And Consider Awarding Concessionaire Agreements To Begin In The 2022 Season (Ann Hobing)
- F. Discuss And Consider Approval Of Side By Sides For Beach Patrol (Peter Davis)
- G. Discuss And Consider Approval Of Yamaha VX 1050E-XA For Beach Patrol (Peter Davis)
- H. Discuss And Consider Approval Of Tourism Development Expenditures (Michael Woody)
- I. Discuss And Consider Approval Of Special Event Funding For 2022 Motosurf Texas Cup (Bryan Kunz)
- J. Discuss And Consider Approval Of 2022 Federal Legislative Agenda (Kelly De Schaun)
- K. Discuss And Consider Approval To Renew Legislative Agenda Support Agreement With Thorn Run Partners (Kelly De Schaun)

XIII. Monthly Report

The monthly Island Times report was distributed to the Board along with the talking points for the month.

XIV. Future Agenda Items

Seaweed inundation program.

XV. Announcements

Steven Creitz announced that the East End Lagoon received a special recognition from the Houston-Galveston Area Council in the Parks and Natural Areas category.

XVI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Schel Heydenburg
Board Reporter

Dave Jacoby
Board Secretary