



**Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston
Joint Meeting with Galveston City Council
601 Tremont Street, Galveston, Texas 77550**

4/22/2021 - Minutes

I. Call Meeting To Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 a.m.

II. Roll Call And Declaration Of A Quorum

Roll was called and a quorum declared.

Trustees Present: Spencer Priest, Will Wright, Dave Jacoby, David Collins, Steven Creitz, Marty Fluke, Jason Hardcastle, Maureen Patton and Jason Worthen.

III. Conflict Of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts declared.

IV. 2021 Tourism Season Projections (Spencer Priest, Chair)

Spencer Priest gave an overview of the recent Spring Break in Galveston. He reported that spring break can be a good indicator of the tourism season and the statistics monitored by the Park Board indicate that the summer season should be a prosperous one for Galveston in 2021. Mr. Priest shared that the data from Smith Travel Resources for hotels, show that the 2021 two-week spring break period produced the highest average daily rate and revenue compared to the last eight years examined even though occupancy was 6th on the list of years compared. He also shared that the Park Board managed parks overall have also seen an increase in revenue year over year. Kelly de Schaun shared that while the increase in the Seawall parking rate is a factor, the other coastal parks are performing well over the 2019 benchmarks as well.

V. Discuss Stewart Beach Development Options (Dave Jacoby, Task Force Chair)

Dave Jacoby gave a brief history on the status of the pavilion at Stewart Beach and the work the Park Board has done the past several years to determine the best course of action for the park. He shared that after reviewing all of the information and looking at the cost to build a new pavilion the Park Board created a task force that began looking at the potential of a Public Private Partnership to develop the park. Mr. Jacoby reported that a request for proposal was done seeking an advisory firm to assist with this process and that Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL), was hired. He shared with Council the location at Stewart Beach being considered for development and reported that the Park Board is seeking support from Council to proceed with the publication of a Request for Qualifications for this Public Private Partnership. He also reviewed the proposed timeline. Mayor Brown reported that Council could consider the resolution of support at their May meeting.

VI. Discuss \$1.4 Million RESTORE Grant Opportunity For East End Lagoon (Steven Creitz, Chair, East End Lagoon Advisory Committee)

Steven Creitz gave an overview of the East End Lagoon and the funding received since the Park Board took

over management in 2017. He shared several of the improvements made including the ADA accessible trail, signage, bollards and berms to control access and the creation of the business plan for the area. Mr. Creitz reported that the Park Board received notice that the RESTORE grant submission for \$1.4 million for Phase 1-A of the City's master plan will be awarded. He gave an overview of Phase 1-A which includes an open air interpretive center, parking, signage and trails. Mr. Creitz asked that council consider releasing the \$50,000 annual contribution previously approved by council to begin work on the creation of the fee based outdoor recreational opportunities. David Collins shared that this could be added to the May council agenda for approval.

VII. Presentation Of Park Board 2021-2026 Capital Improvement Plan (Kelly De Schaun, CEO)

Spencer Priest reported that the Park Board was tasked by the interlocal agreement with the City to develop and maintain a five-year rolling Capital Improvement Plan for the city assets managed. He stated that this is an overview of the draft and that the plans will be submitted in July/August for council approval. Kelly de Schaun reviewed the process for formatting these plans and shared that all items over \$10,000 are included. She added that in addition to the plans for the parks, also included are the plans for the beach nourishments since a portion of the funding is coming from the IDC which has lead to \$50 million in beach projects

VIII. Adjournment

Spencer Priest thanked Council for the opportunity to share and the joint meeting was adjourned at 9:14 a.m.