



## Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston

6/2/2022 - Minutes

### I. Call Meeting To Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 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, Will Wright, Dave Jacoby, David Collins, Steven Creitz, Marty Fluke, Jason Hardcastle, Maureen Patton and Jason Worthen.

### IV. Conflict Of Interest Declarations

Maureen Patton declared a conflict with agenda item VII - B and submitted a conflict of interest declaration form.

### V. Requests To Address The Board

Torrina Harris addressed the Board regarding agenda item VII-B.

Peggy Zahler addressed the Board regarding agenda item IX-C.

Ted O'Rourke addressed the Board regarding plans for a memorial riding track in memory of Dr. Nancy Hughes.

### VI. Recognition

#### A. Recognition Of Ball High Student Interns Emani Pines And Sky Denson (Susan Keeble, 5 Minutes)

Susan Keeble recognized Ball High School Hospitality Club interns Emani Pines and Sky Denson for their work this past school year for the Park Board. She shared that they assisted in Tourism Development and the General Fund departments as well as with the Workforce Development Committee.

#### B. Employee Spotlight - Jacquelyn Helton (Susan Keeble, 5 Minutes)

Susan Keeble recognized Destination Experience Director, Jacquelyn Helton for her 10-year

anniversary with the Park Board and shared a short overview of her career to date with the Park Board.

## VII. Tourism Development

### A. Presentation Of 2021 Economic Impact Study (Tariq Khan, 15 Minutes)

Tariq Khan with Tourism Economics presented the 2021 Economic Impacts of Tourism report which included visitor economy trends, visitation and visitor spending, tax contributions and the economic impact methodology.

Mr. Khan reported that in 2021, visitor spending came in at a record amount of \$913 million with most, \$627 million contributed by overnight visitors, followed by \$193 by day visitors and \$24 million by cruise passengers. He shared that this spend contributed to over \$106 million in state and local taxes. Mr. Khan also shared that tourism sustained 10,800 jobs on Galveston Island in 2021.

### B. Discuss And Consider Special Event Incubator Funding For 2022 Emancipation Celebration (Bryan Kunz, 10 Minutes)

Bryan Kunz reported that in celebration of Juneteenth, the Nia Cultural Center will be hosting an event at the 1894 Grand Opera House to honor those on the local and national level who have made an impact on history for the equality and freedom for African Americans. He reviewed some of the activities scheduled to take place at the event and the importance of it for Galveston as the birthplace of Juneteenth. Mr. Kunz shared that this event is appropriate for the incubator funding even though it missed the timeline requirement and vetting by the Tourism Development Advisory Committee. He stated that staff is supportive of providing funding for this event.

June Collins Pulliam and Sue Johnson with the Nia Cultural Center addressed the Board regarding their request for funding. Ms. Pulliam shared that this event will be held on Friday, June 17, 2022, and will be the kickoff for the multiple events planned for Galveston over the weekend and the official holiday on Monday, June 20, 2022. Ms. Johnson reported that she has been receiving calls from all over regarding Galveston's Juneteenth events. She shared that they currently have \$34,000 in funding and are asking for \$16,000 to meet their budget of \$50,000.

Will Wright stated that the incubator funding limit is \$10,000 and asked how the Board could contribute the full ask of \$16,000. Bryson Frazier recommended that instead the Board make the funding a donation. Michael Woody shared that the Special Event funds that require Board approval has availability to support this.

**Motion:** Dave Jacoby motioned to approve funding of \$16,000 from the Special Events fund.

**Second:** Steven Creitz seconded.

**Motion:** Approved (8-0-1, Patton abstained).

## VIII. Administration

### A. Presentation Of Strategic Plan Mid-Year Updates (Kelly De Schaun, 15 Minutes)

Kelly de Schaun presented an update on the initiatives approved as part of the strategic plan. She shared that the four main areas of plan include Destination Experience and Engagement, Destination Stewardship, Community Alignment and Industry-Leading Practices and highlighted several initiatives in each area.

### B. Standing Committee Monthly Updates (Committee Chairs, 10 Minutes)

The committee chairs reported on the current activities of their respective committees. These included updates from Hal Needham on sargassum and the hurricane season expectations, support for the beach patrol headquarters planning, free trash bag pilot program for beach goers, marketing and communication plans and the Ball High School internship program planning.

C. City Council Liaison Report (David Collins, 5 Minutes)

David Collins shared the schedule for trustee appointments stating that applications are due by June 9, 2022, with interviews scheduled for June 16, 2022. Council will vote on appointments at the June 23, 2022, meeting.

D. Stewart Beach Ad Hoc Committee Update (David Collins, 5 Minutes)

David Collins reported that the committee will be having their next meeting June 3, 2022. He also shared that committee member, Jeff Sjostrom will be leaving the Galveston Economic Development Corporation at the end of June and taking a position in another City.

IX. Operations

A. Update On The Stewart Beach Drainage Project (Kimberly Danesi, 10 Minutes)

Kimberly Danesi reported that the project has reached substantial completion and the park was reopened as planned for Memorial Day weekend. She shared that staff is working on final items such as signage and that the Texas General Land Office has made visits and are pleased with what they have seen. Mrs. Danesi showed drone footage of the area and how the drainage system is working successfully after two recent rain events.

B. Discuss And Consider Approval Of Agreement With Cavalla Historical Foundation (Kelly De Schaun, 10 Minutes)

Kelly de Schaun reported that, she along with Carla Cotropia, worked with Brian Abugel and Tim Beeton with the Cavalla Historical Foundation to draft the proposed agreement and that the entities are working very well together.

**Motion:** Jason Hardcastle motioned to approve the agreement with Cavalla Historical Foundation.

**Second:** Marty Fluke seconded.

**Vote:** Approved (9-0).

C. Discuss And Consider Approval Of Beach Patrol Headquarters Schematic Design Contract (Peter Davis, 15 Minutes)

Peter Davis shared that this item was discussed at the previous Board meeting and he is now back to ask for approval to move forward with the contract with Rogers Partners on the schematic design of a beach patrol headquarters. He shared that staff is working on the options to house beach patrol in the interim and that the plan is to bring these back for consideration in July.

**Motion:** Spencer Priest motioned to approve.

**Second:** Maureen Patton seconded.

**Vote:** Approved (9-0).

D. Update On The Mobile Amenities Project At Stewart Beach (Vince Lorefice, 5 Minutes)

Kimberly Danesi shared an update on the mobile amenities at Stewart Beach. She reported that the concession and restroom trailers have been delayed due to aluminum supplies and additional engineering but that all other equipment and structures have been completed. Mrs. Danesi shared pictures of the area and reported that all of the fabrication was done by Park Board staff.

X. Consent

**Motion:** Will Wright motioned to approve consent agenda items B through F.

**Second:** David Collins seconded.

**Vote:** Approved (9-0).

Consent agenda item A was pulled and voted on separately.

**Motion:** Marty Fluke motioned to approve consent agenda item A.

**Second:** Steven Creitz seconded.

**Vote:** Approved (7-0-2, Patton and Priest abstained).

- A. Discuss And Consider Approval Of Park Board Of Trustees Meeting Minutes (Schel Heydenburg)
- B. Discuss And Consider Awarding Concessionaire Agreements To Begin June 2022 (Ann Hobing)
- C. Discuss And Consider Funding Artist Boat For Bucket Brigade, Beautify The Bucket And World Ocean Day (Kimberly Danesi)
- D. Discuss And Consider Approval To Execute An Agreement With Atkins For Monitoring Services For The Stewart Beach Drainage Project (Sheryl Rozier)
- E. Discuss And Consider Approval Of Labor Expense For Patriotic Lighting Installation On Strand, Post Office And West Market, Running Memorial Day To Labor Day (Michael Woody)
- F. Discuss And Consider Special Event Incubator Funding For Island Rideout And Bike Expo (Bryan Kunz)

XI. Executive Session

The meeting entered Executive Session at 3:54 p.m.

- A. Pursuant To Texas Local Government Code Section 551.074 - Personnel Discussion - Chief Executive Officer And Chief Financial Officer Annual Evaluations

XII. Action Item (S) Resulting From Executive Session

The open meeting resumed at 4:25 p.m.

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

There was no action taken.

XIII. Chair Update On Recent Activities And Board Officer Elections (Chair, 10 Minutes)

Spencer Priest announced that he would not be seeking the position of Chair for his final year as a trustee. He thanked everyone for their support over the past four years.

Mr. Priest recommended that the meeting currently scheduled for the end of June be cancelled and that the July meeting be moved to either July 13 or 14, 2022 to accommodate the swearing in of new trustees and the election of officers for the Board. A survey will be done to check availability for these dates.

#### XIV. Future Agenda Items

- Board officer appointments
- Beach Patrol update on options for temporary location
- Short Term Rental RFP results

#### XV. Announcements

The June talking points were distributed to the trustees. These included Coastal Zone Management updates, current lodging insights, beach safety statistics and event information for Juneteenth and July 4th.

#### XVI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

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Schel Heydenburg  
Board Reporter

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Dave Jacoby  
Board Secretary