

MINUTES
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M.
118 S. CAGE BLVD., 2ND FLOOR, PHARR, TEXAS

The Parks and Recreation Board of the City of Pharr, Texas met on Thursday, January 5, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. and the following is the record of attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: *Johnny Ramos*
 Oralia Rodriguez
 Allen Williams
 Mari Caballero
 Eduardo Mata
 Daniela Zuniga
 Lorena Singh

MEMBERS ABSENT: *Frank Nuñez*
 Rebecca Lizcano

STAFF PRESENT: *Roel Garza*
 Sergio Alanis
 Cynthia Bernal
 Isaac Escobedo
 Virginia Rodriguez

OTHERS PRESENT: *Juan G. Guerra*

ITEM A: CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Johnny Ramos called the meeting to order.

ITEM B: ROLL CALL

Johnny Ramos introduced the item.

ITEM C: INVOCATION

Johnny Ramos introduced the item. Board member Allen Williams led the invocation.

ITEM D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Johnny Ramos introduced the item. No public comments.

ITEM E. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES: DECEMBER 14, 2016-SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

Johnny Ramos introduced the item. Oralia Rodriguez made a motion to approve the minutes. Mari Caballero seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ITEM F. STATUS REPORT-COMPREHENSIVE PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE-ANN BAGLEY

Johnny Ramos introduced the item. Assistant Director Sergio Alanis informed the Parks and Recreation Committee that Mrs. Ann Bagley did not make the trip down for the meeting. Mr. Alanis informed the members that Mrs. Bagley emailed him a memorandum, which was passed out before the meeting was called to order. Mr. Alanis spoke on Mrs. Bagley's behalf, which included a status update on what Mrs. Bagley has submitted for their review, and where she is at on her timeline. Mr. Alanis informed the members of the department's plans to host a community meeting at a central location to inform residents of upcoming parks and gather any feedback to factor into the planning phases of the parks master plan update. Board member Daniela Zuniga suggested that multiple meetings at multiple locations should take place in order to target the different quadrants of the city. Mr. Alanis then answered questions on Mrs. Bagley's behalf and informed the committee that he would be in contact with Mrs. Bagley in preparations for the next month's advisory board meeting.

ITEM G. STATUS REPORT-SUB-COMMITTEES

Johnny Ramos introduced the item. Allen Williams opened by stating that the newly installed LED lights at Jose "Pepe" Salinas were not turning on until 7:30 p.m. in the evenings, and requested to adjust the timers for the lights to turn on earlier. Assistant Director Sergio Alanis advised Mr. Williams that he would notify in-house electrician Javier Cortez to make the necessary changes to the timers at all the parks to turn on pre-dusk. Mr. Williams brought up a concern about the location of the Amphitheater that is to be located at the Pharr Nature Park, to which Mrs. Mari Caballero echoed. Mr. Williams suggested off-site locations that would allot more space, a possible one being at Allen & William Arnold Elementary, where a city/school park is to be constructed. Mr. Alanis informed the board that the grant awarded by Texas Parks and Wildlife for the Pharr Nature Park would need to be examined before design changes could be made, minding compliance with the aforementioned grant.

Daniela Zuniga requested information regarding the Parks and Recreation Scholarship Fund Account, so that the committee can plan for fundraisers.

Lorena Singh informed the committee that progress was being made in regards to The Mayor's Monarch Butterfly Pledge. Mrs. Singh stated that weekly meetings are taking place with members of the community and interest and involvement remains high.

ITEM H. STATUS REPORT-SPRING RECREATION, AQUATIC PROGRAMS AND DIRECTORS REPORTS

Johnny Ramos introduced the item. Recreation Division Head Isaac Escobedo informed the board that registration for the spring programs would begin January 9, 2017, and programs would commence February 27, 2017. Mr. Escobedo stated that the Spring brochure would be printed and delivered to schools by the first week of February. Mrs. Zuniga asked if we could include a notification to all graduating students informing them about the scholarship application deadline.

Aquatic Supervisor Virginia Rodriguez advised the board members that the learn-to-swim classes have concluded and will resume in February, 2017. Daniela Zuniga asked about Swim USA and what the overall reaction has been. Ms. Rodriguez advised that the lease agreement and ordinances were being amended and created to be presented for City Commission approval (fees, lanes, cost). Ms. Rodriguez also mentioned she was in the process of getting quotes for surface deck mats for the natatorium in replacement of the existing cool deck that has been severely damaged.

Parks and Recreation Director Roel Garza mentioned that the Mayor's Monarch Pledge and Tree City USA ordinance is in progress and requirements are to be fulfilled as required to achieve designations. Mr. Garza went on to mention that the park projects are in the design phases and are to be completed by March or April, are to be bid out in June, and construction to commence late summer or early Fall.

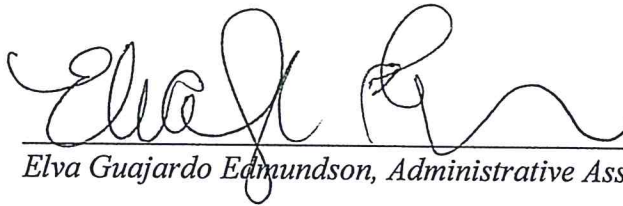
ITEM I: ADJOURNMENT

Johnny Ramos introduced the item. There being no further business, Daniela Zuniga moved to adjourn. It was seconded by Oralia Rodriguez and the motion carried.

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO
CITY OF PHARR**

ON THE 5th DAY OF JANUARY 2017, the Parks and Recreation Committee of the City of Pharr, Texas, convened in a Regular Called Meeting at City Hall, 118 S. Cage Blvd. The meeting being open to the public notice of the said meeting, giving the date, place and subject hereof, having been posted in accordance with chapter 551, Texas Government code (Open Meeting Act) and there being a present quorum, I Elva Guajardo Edmundson, Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant, of the City of Pharr, Texas, certify that this is true and correct copy of the minutes.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elva Guajardo Edmundson', written over a horizontal line.

Elva Guajardo Edmundson, Administrative Assistant

APPROVED DATE:

2-2-17