

City of Alpine
Parks and Recreation Board Meeting
March 22, 2018
5:30 PM
Minutes

AGENDA

1. Call to order – Kirsten Moody called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers at 803 West Holland Avenue in the City of Alpine, Texas.
2. Determination of Quorum and Proof of Notice of Meeting – Kurt Mannchen, Norma Olivo, and Kirsten Moody were present. David Gibson and Joe Torres were absent. The meeting notice, signed by City Secretary Cynthia Salas, read that it had been posted at 4 PM on March 16, 2018. City employee Patsy McWilliams was also present.
3. Approval of minutes from previous meeting – The minutes were approved with no amendment.
4. Announcements – Ms. Moody reminded the board members to complete the online Open Meetings Act and Public Information Act Training session on the Texas Municipal League website. She also said that a main mission of the members of the parks board at its meetings for the next few months will be to prepare for the coming master parks planning process by becoming educated on all possible aspects of city parks. She suggested that before the next meeting, the board tour the city's parks with a member of city staff. There was general agreement. Ms. Moody said she would contact city staff to try to organize the tour.

5. Information and Discussion Items

A. Update on Keep Alpine Beautiful by Patsy McWilliams, Coordinator of Keep Alpine Beautiful – Ms. McWilliams said that KAB will be hosting a trash-off on April 7 at 9 AM at Baines Park. She said that Sul Ross was participating on another day.

She also said that several groups are participating in the Adopt-a-Spot program. The Methodist Church, the Llanez family, the Humane Society, the Vogel family, and a group of nonprofits have all adopted various parks or other public space in town to improve. The Railroad Park adoption by a group of non-profits recently won a first place award from Keep Texas Beautiful.

Ms. McWilliams also said there's a new recycling bin at Kokernot Park and that the recycling center is closed to the public for the time being because the City has not been able to fill the position to manage the site.

B. Review and discussion of *The Excellent City Park System*, published by the Trust for Public Land –

The committee discussed four main aspects of the report:

- i. a quote on Page 8 to keep in mind as we study parks and their purposes and uses over the next few months: "Successful parks pay dividends for cities – building civic pride, increasing tourism and economic investment, and contributing to health and quality of life;"
- ii. the Seven Factors of Excellence listed on Page 11 of the report: "1. A clear expression of purpose; 2. An ongoing planning and community involvement process; 3. Sufficient assets in land, staffing, and equipment to meet the system's goals; 4. Equitable access; 5. User satisfaction; 6. Safety from crime and physical hazards; and 7. Benefits for the city beyond the boundaries of the parks;"
- iii. a deeper discussion of second factor listed above (an ongoing planning an community involvement process), including elements of an ideal master plan; and
- iv. a deeper discussion of the seventh factor listed above (benefits for the city beyond the boundaries of the parks).

During this item, board members and Dr. Ekta Escovar, representative from Big Bend Parks and Recreation for Kids, discussed recent improvements to the parks.

6. Action Items

- A. Discuss and consider making a recommendation to Council about bathrooms for Kokernot Park – A motion was made by Kirsten Moody to take no action on this item in advance of the master planning process. Kurt Manchenn seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.
- B. Discuss and consider making a recommendation to Council about poisonous plants near the municipal pool at Kokernot Park – After discussion among the board and with city staff before the meeting, it was decided that the avenue open to address the removal of the oleanders was for the concerned member to create a petition and get signatures of 10% of the registered voters to submit to the city.

7. Citizen comments – There were no citizen comments.