

Santa Fe Parks and Recreation Board

Board of Directors Meeting

July 25, 2022, 5:30 P.M.

Council Chamber 12202 HWY 6 Santa Fe, TX 77510

MINUTES

1. Rebecca Martinez called the meeting to order at 5:32 P.M.
2. Roll Call: Joanne Woolsey, absent
Jeannie Theilemann, present
Rebecca Martinez, present
Bill Pittman, present
Chris Bozeman, absent
Mike Wilburn, present
Becky McClain, present, City Liaison
Alun Thomas, present, Interim City Manager
Terri Westmoreland, Community Services
3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:
Bill Pittman gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Citizen/Guest Comments: Danny Staley came to talk to the board about the possibility of a skate park being installed at a park in Santa Fe. Matt Tasks from I45 Now was present to interview Danny Staley regarding his proposal of the skate park. Chevy Chavarria came to support Danny Staley in his efforts and share ideas on how a skate park would affect the youth of the city. Danny shared how skateboarding gives the youth something to do. He explained how far most skateparks are from Santa Fe. Benefits include, gives kids that aren't involved in team sports something to do and make new friends, safe place for these kids to gather, physical activity, mental health benefits, creative outlet. Funding is anywhere 200k and up. Grants are available including Government grants. Ideas for location, Runge Park, well lit and central location. Danny spoke with SPA Skateparks who have installed Texas City and Alvin skateparks. Per Danny, space needed as little as 3,000 square feet and up, and can design around trees and landmarks. Having a skatepark keeps citizens spending money in town as well as bringing families from nearby towns. Bill Pittman asked about liability and Danny explained that Skate parks fall under the city's general liability "at Your Own Risk" just like any other public park use. Bill Pittman mentioned that EDC may be interested in looking at how much tax base a skatepark would bring into the city and may help fund it but thinks acquiring grants would be easiest. Becky shared that there are 10-20 junior high kids have been skating at JT Park. Danny shared that Professional skaters do bring groups into town just to watch them skate. Big "O" from Pasadena also brings a crowd to surrounding skats parks. Jeannie shared that from the district's point of view they have seen a deficiency in fine motor skills because of the pandemic and having a skate park would help with that. Chevy shared that most kids in town that own a skateboard only have a driveway to use to practice. Rebecca shared that the parks board has tossed around the idea of a skate park but didn't know what kind of response the community would have. Rebecca also shared that Hunter Meade with ZUMIEZ wants to discuss possible corporate partnership and help fund the skate park. Chevy shared that lots of clients have expressed interest in having a

skatepark. He also said skating helps kids with mental health when they land a trick. Helps with loneliness and belong to a community. Chevy also shared about fundraising and support for the park through letting businesses advertise at park. Terri shared that vandalism has been a huge concern. Danny was asked to email Rebecca the power point and other information he had gathered for further discussion at future meetings. Alun added the company Vans would be a great company to get a grant from. Bill Pittman and Rebecca thanked the citizens for coming.

5. Presentation and Approval of Minutes: N/A

6. Discussion and Possible Action:

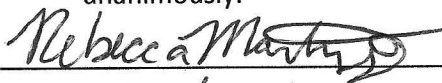
- a. After learning from Danny and Chevy there was further discussion about skate park location, lighting. Alun suggested maybe the skatepark be behind the police department, as there is open empty land there and it is well lit. Terri suggested that we ask Danny to be the project liaison as it is not necessary for him to be a board member. We all agreed that we need Danny to head up the project since he has been researching for three years. Mike shared that it gives kids something positive and physical activity.
- b. Recap of Santa Fe Summer Kickoff in conjunction with the Pocket Market. Rebecca said the Parks Board expenses for the event were \$1,045.00 from the safety fair budget line item. Board members shared their thoughts about the event. It was agreed it was a huge success. The board members loved the water cooler fan and the board should purchase one. Rebecca said they are priced around \$1,500. The Pocket Market will be continuing to host the event at Joe Tambrella Park moving forward. Becky reminded everyone about the vendors driving in the park after rain, and we need to make sure we have Robert there to tell them whether than can drive on the grass or not. Rebecca made a motion to keep the fees charged to the Pocket Market the same, and have it moved to Joe Tambrella Park and motion was seconded by Bill Pittman. Motion passes unanimously.
- c. Policies and Procedures: Discussion on how to spend Clear Channel funds and possible grant match from the state. Alun said that a city employee would work on the Texas parks grant. Possible things to spend grant funds on are: Ballard lighting around walking trail at Joe Tambrella Park, String Lighting at amphitheater and surveillance. Becky shared that we need an ADA sidewalk and a platform for wheelchairs and scooters to park. We need to put a wood backdrop on the amphitheater. Maybe Valero can donate the lumber and manpower to help us with these additions. Bill suggested that we need to design it and make sure it is done in compliance. Becky shared that city engineer would like to design the ADA compliant addition to the amphitheater. Becky shared that the vandalism was \$375 worth of damage to the baby slide. Officer was to serve and ticket the mom for the minor vandalism which was recorded by current surveillance. Damage is also on the exercise equipment. Discussions of which budget repairs will come from. Restitution was discussed. Rebecca said to prioritize surveillance and ADA first with funds we have. Becky shared that we should add a camera on the pavilion facing the bathrooms and on the other corner facing amphitheater. Becky is the only one that views the camera footage and PD has access to it. PD should be viewing the footage also.
- d. Volunteer program from Paul with Valero. Terri shared that Valero used to gives checks to projects or events, around 2k. Rebecca was asked to see if that is something that the

parks board can take advantage of. Rebecca presented the quote for a 6x6 fence at Joe Tambrella park. It was determined after discussion that we should survey the residents along the side JT Park, before moving forward with a fence. The reason the bushes were removed was to improve the drainage. Becky made a motion to table this item, Rebecca seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

- e. Upcoming events: Heritage Festival is being held on November 12, 2022. Bill shared that the Chamber would like for the Parks Board to volunteer and split the funds raised. Bill suggested that a board member attend the chamber meetings moving forward regarding the event. Jeannie will find out about future meetings. The Chamber parade is December 3rd. Rebecca made a motion that Christmas in the Park and City Tree Lighting be held on November 29, 2022 6-8pm at Joe Tambrella Park/Library. Further Discussion about Christmas in the Park will be done as details unfold such as: dancers, live nativity, food trucks. Rebecca made a motion to table Christmas in the park event, Bill seconded. Motion passes unanimously. Terri asked how to pay for the dry cleaning of the bunny costume. Rebecca suggested that we pay for it from the 9583 line item in the budget which is the easter event.
- f. 2023 budget discussion. Bill proposed we move 5k from line item 9542 to 9581. This would change the amount in landscaping materials budget to 5k and special events to 7k. Rebecca explained that the landscaping materials budget includes the maintenance of the therapeutic garden as agreed upon with KSFb which the 5k would cover. Bill asked about the child safety fair and this year we pulled summer kickoff funds from safety fair. Becky suggested we pay for the slide that was damaged be paid for out of the park equipment line item. It was proposed to change the name of Child Safety fair to Child Fair. Bill made a motion to keep or adjust budget as follows: improvements 100., Landscaping materials change to 5k, Parks equipment 500., Heritage festival 4500., cornhole 500., Special events 7k, Child Fair 2500., Easter event 1500., Christmas event 1000. to total a budget of \$22,600. Mr. Wilburn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- g. Santa Fe Parks and Recreation Board's master plan and structure.

Terri reminded the board that we have a vacant seat. Bill asked that the board ask around to see if we could get another board member. It is proposed that we nominate and appoint chair and vice-chair next meeting. Becky is to work as treasurer of the board. Terri has not been able to do the minutes since they are shorthanded. Secretary appointment and minute duties were discussed and it was not agreed upon who's responsibility this falls on. Alun shared that parks board should have a master plan for the parks board. We should be looking for opportunities i.e. improvements, facilities added, additional parks. Discussion: board would like to see more green space, water fountains, skate park, dog park, movie nights in the park, music nights.

- 7. Schedule future meetings: Rebecca made a motion to schedule the next meeting for August 22, 2022. Bill seconded. Motion passes unanimously.
- 8. Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:21P.M. Mike seconded. Motion passes unanimously.


Rebecca Martinez, Chairperson
8/22/22