



MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING
ALEDO COMMUNITY CENTER
104 Robinson Court
Aledo, Texas 76008
Thursday, May 13, 2021
6:00 P.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:13 p.m. by Chairman Gordon Hiebert with the following members present: Shane Davis and Tara McCall, and quorum checked. Staff present: Toni Fisher, Parks Director. Guests in attendance: Larry Colvin, Shadow Johns, Aaron Garmin, all of Weatherford Mountain Biking Association. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Gordon Hiebert.

B. CITIZEN APPEARANCES:

Nelson Rowls, Josh and Kim Rogers and friend, Josh, and Chris Coble.

C. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Discussion and action concerning approval of Minutes from the March 11, 2021 regular meeting.

Gordon Hiebert made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Shane Davis.
Motion carried: 3-0

2. Presentation: Weatherford Mountain Bike Club president, Larry Colvin - concept plan to convert the Aledo Community Center tennis court to a kids' bicycle skills area

Larry Colvin presented the proposed plan for the Aledo Community Center Park, which would include a 1480 LF trail along the creek bed, and conversion of the basketball court in "the Pit" to a kids' pump track skills area. Construction of these elements could take place in October/November of 2021 for completion by February 2022 at a cost of less than \$10,000 which will include all materials and signage; all volunteer labor courtesy of WMBA with Maintenance Agreement in place.

3. Discussion and action regarding Aledo Community Center Park improvements

Discussions were had between the Board and Staff regarding the basketball court rehabilitation vs. the pump track and the pros and cons of each. The financial implications of the ADA compliance for the basketball court and the public safety

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concerns were the rebuttal of Staff in opposition of the basketball court rehabilitation. The pump track will serve a cohesive purpose in conjunction with the trails and, by making the Community Center a trail head, potentially act as an economic driver by bringing bikers to the downtown area.

The Board voted to bring the topic and allow Mr. Colvin to present to Council for discussion and decision regarding the addition of the trail and pump track, motioned by Shane Davis and seconded by Tara McCall. Motion carried: 3-0.

4. Discussion and action regarding fundraising ideas and opportunities for the Parks Department

Staff discussed that it had compiled the beginnings of a Capital Improvements Plan for FY2021-22 through the next five years as per the 2014 Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Master Plan. Ideally, to complete what was suggested for each park, the Parks Budget would require about \$250,000 each year but our budget is only \$50,000. Staff discussed the idea of establishing a Parks Fund to enable donations from citizens and residents, potentially allowing donations through the water bills, on our website, and/or from a QR Code on a sign at Bearcat Park, where the most urgent of funds are needed. Nelson Rowls spoke of the potential of developing the Recreation portion of our department to fund the Parks.

The Board voted to bring the topic of future fundraising before the City Council, first motioned by Gordon Hiebert, and seconded by Tara McCall. Motion carried: 3-0

5. Discussion regarding 2021 community events

Staff informed the Board that the Aledo Summer Blast is scheduled for Friday, June 4, 2021 from 6-10pm and encouraged attendance and/or volunteerism. Shane Davis volunteered to help at the event.

6. Parks Director's Report

Staff updated the Board that all items brought before City Council last month (Aledo Commons' 60% construction plans; transfer of ownership of Parks of Aledo Trails land; and power/lighting to Bearcat Park) were approved and are in progress. The board was also notified that Nick Holman resigned, and that a new board application was received from Nelson Rowls, who was attending the meeting that evening as a citizen appearance.

D. ADJOURNMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING:

The meeting was adjourned by Board Chairman, Gordon Hiebert, at 7:38 p.m.

Passed and approved this 5th day of AUGUST, 2021.


Gordon Hiebert, Chairman