



**MINUTES**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING**  
**ALEDO COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**104 Robinson Court**  
**Aledo, Texas 76008**  
**Thursday, March 11, 2021**  
**6:00 P.M.**

**A. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

1. Discussion and action concerning approval of Minutes from the February 13, 2020 regular meeting
2. Discussion and action regarding "Aledo Commons 60% Construction Design Documents" as prepared by Kimley-Horn
3. Discussion and action regarding transfer of ownership of Parks of Aledo Trails land
4. Discussion and action regarding the addition of power and lighting to Bearcat Park
5. Discussion and action regarding appointment of Parks & Rec Board offices
6. Discussion regarding Bearcat Park Playground Toddler Playground improvements

**B. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Parks and Recreation Board met in regular session on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at the Aledo Community Center, 104 Robinson Road, Aledo TX 76008. Gordon Hiebert, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at **6:05 p.m.** with the following members present: Shane Davis and Cain Williams. Staff members present: Parks Director, Toni Fisher. Guests in attendance were, in person: Justin Welborn of JRH Developers and Aaron Garmon of the Weatherford Mountain Biking Club, and virtually: Brad Lonberger and Katherine Utecht of Kimley-Horn.

1. Invocation –  
Invocation was led by Chairperson, Gordon Hiebert
2. Pledge of Allegiance –  
Pledge was led by Chairperson, Gordon Hiebert
3. Quorum Check -  
A quorum was present at this meeting.

**C. CITIZEN APPEARANCES:**

None.

**D. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

**1. Discussion and action concerning approval of Minutes from the February 13, 2020 regular meeting**

Shane Davis made a motion to approve the February 13, 2020 minutes; the motion was seconded by Cain Williams. Motion carried 3-0

**2. Discussion and action regarding appointment of Parks & Rec Board offices**

Toni Fisher advised the Board that the City Council appointed Gordon Hiebert as Board Chair and opened the floor for nominations or volunteers for the position of Board Vice-Chairperson and Secretary.

Cain Williams made a motion to nominate Shane Davis as Board Vice-Chairman; the motion was seconded Gordon Hiebert. Motion carried 3-0.

Gordon Hiebert made a motion to nominate Cain Williams as Board Secretary; the motion was seconded by Shane Williams. Motion carried 3-0.

**3. Discussion and action regarding transfer of ownership of Parks of Aledo Trails land**

Justin Welborn presented the Parks Board with the slideshow he'd presented to City Council at the February Council Meeting. Justin discussed the Parks of Aledo Trail and his proposal to transfer ownership of the trail to the City vs. the Parks of Aledo HOA. Justin presented the maps of the trails in question, his maintenance budget, and Google reviews of the trails. He explained that his request for the City to overtake the trails was because if the HOA were to have ownership, he would eventually have to step away from the HOA Board and there would be no guarantee that they would continue with the Weatherford Mountain Biking Association's stewardship or maintenance of the trails.

Cain Williams made a motion to accept ownership of the Parks of Aledo Trails; the motion was seconded by Shane Davis. Motion carried 3-0

**4. Discussion and action regarding "Aledo Commons 60% Construction Design Documents" as prepared by Kimley-Horn**

Brad Lonberger and Katherine Utecht from Kimley-Horn began reviewing the plan for Aledo Commons Park. Katherine presented the most recent drawing and discussed the most recent changes. The plans reveal an amphitheater, seating area, sail shades for covering, a pavilion, walking trails, and added parking to the existing lot and on South Front Street. Katherine identified the need for retaining walls in many areas due to the grade of this park and along South Front Street. The Board

questioned the parallel parking spaces along S. Front Street and suggested the potential to change the food truck parking to 45° pull-in parking spaces. Katherine stated that they could try it, but the grading could still be an issue, especially with the sidewalk winding around it. Brad pointed out that the future City Hall site would provide overflow parking.

The Board asked about the boulders and marquis sign as they are shown on one of the drafts. Brad stated that they were included and also mentioned that with the area becoming a more active downtown, it will naturally give traffic reasons to slow down. Katherine and Brad also discussed the handrails being screened with vegetation which will help to buffer road noise and lights.

The Board raised concerns about the overhead electric line and drainage. Brad and Katherine stated that the lines can be slightly realigned to accommodate the plan, and the construction docs will have a drainage plan. Further, nothing with a deep foundation would or could go on top of the 24" pipe on the center line.

The Board discussed the proposal of the phased approach. Brad elaborated that perhaps the Front Street improvements are Phase II wherein the amphitheater and some of the sidewalk improvements are Phase I. This would allow for better use of the first Phase and Aledo Commons can be the centerpoint for downtown events.

The estimate for construction costs of \$795,000 is in today's budget, but does not include a number of retaining walls, which depend on the final design, and timing will be a factor since construction costs go up 6% each year. If Council moves forward on this project, the construction plans will be 100% finished, and we can go directly to bid.

Cain Williams made a motion to proceed with the 60% Aledo Commons design plans to City Council with the following recommendations:

- Clarification as to on-street parking on S. Front Street and consideration of 45° parking spaces
- In favor of a phased approach for this project

The motion was seconded by Shane Davis. Motion carried 3-0

## **5. Discussion regarding Bearcat Park Playground Toddler Playground improvements**

Toni Fisher explained that the slide from the previous playground had a stress crack in it and it needed replacement. The original company's mold was destroyed and the slide that they said would fit did not. Since we didn't want to have equipment that was boarded up and partially unusable and unsafe, we decided to replace the Toddler playground unit, which cost a total of \$35,079, including installation. We received a credit from the original company for the slide that didn't fit, and used it to

purchase two new benches. The new unit has the same footprint of the previous structure, it has more components, it is metal, it is shaded, and it is ADA compliant.

**6. Discussion and action regarding the addition of power and lighting to Bearcat Park**

Toni Fisher informed the Board that last year she had researched that Tri-County owns the gear box in front of Bearcat Park and FM5, and there is room in it for a drop for power. Their 2020 estimate for installation of new underground service is \$4,023.23. The current estimate for Purefoy Electric to run power to the park and provide two poles and two dusk-to-dawn low lights is \$3,950, for a total of \$7,973.23. She explained that because this is a permanent improvement on park property, the City must request for approval from Aledo ISD.

The Board asked about solar lights. Toni stated that she got pricing from two different companies, and pricing was over \$7,000 per light. If they are not industrial lights, they will not stay illuminated all night.

Cain Williams made a motion to move forward for accept the proposal to add power and two lights to Bearcat Park with the following recommendation:

- Include wiring for a security camera should one need to be added in the future

The motion was seconded by Shane Davis. Motion carried 3-0.

**E. Other business:**

- The Board requested quarterly meetings
- Toni stated that we were moving forward with the 2021 Community Events

**E. ADJOURNMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING**

The meeting was adjourned by Board Chair, Gordon Hiebert, at **7:59 p.m.**

Passed and approve this 13 day of MAY, 2021.

  
Gordon Hiebert, Chairperson