

ELGIN PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Thursday, May 27, 2021

Elgin Recreation Center – Studio Room

361 N HWY 95, Elgin, TX 78621

I. **Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM on Thursday, May 27th by chair, Katherine Salmon.

Members Present:

Elizabeth Marzec (Program Manager)

Katherine Salmon (Chair)

Brad Kilgore (Secretary)

Carlos Gandia

Jessica Hunziker

Tiffany Finley

Members Absent:

Sonya Rangel – unexcused (5th unexcused absence)

Nicholas Arthur – unexcused (3rd unexcused absence)

II. **Approval of Minutes – April 1st, 2021**

Motion to approve minutes w/ no changes made by Carlos Gandia and seconded by Jessica Hunziker.

III. **Citizen Communication** - No comments

IV. **Review**

A. Status of Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan (PROSMP)

PROSMP is almost finished and ready to be turned over to the city, pending review from city engineer. The parks dept is getting advice as to how to upgrade parks using city upgrades, like streets and ponds using the general fund. The comprehensive plan will be reconciled with our plan. Codes are being updated to best get either park land that is usable (not in a flood plain) or payment in lieu park land turnover. A fund is already established for subdivisions that choose to pay instead of giving park land. The fund is generally used for land acquisition and is being held for purchasing land for the city. We are also looking into land use agreements to acquire land to maintain for a small fee. Such cases are being used in Shenandoah, Westwind, and possible Saratoga. Parks is looking into land off of County Line Rd that has potential for park land.

B. Community Input – Final Prioritization

Final community input was provided for reference in the meeting. Community Input Plan Expected lifespan column also needs added to the inventory list so we can also anticipate how often assets/amenities will need to be replaced. The community is showing interest in Elgin Parks getting a dog park, cycling courses, frisbee golf, and wifi in the parks. Another viable opportunity to improve the parks in Elgin is to make donations through the Friends of Elgin Parks. Friends of Elgin Parks has become stagnant and is in need of rejuvenation and requires more volunteers and leadership to help revive the much needed organization. Elizabeth has proposed to partner w/ the Main St Coordinator during Sip, Shop, and Stroll and use the lot next to Prosperity and put a food truck, band, and lawn games w/ a booth that canvases for help w/ Friends of Elgin Parks. If we can get a list together to show the

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need to reawaken Friends of Elgin Parks, then there may be a good chance that it may happen.

V. New Business – Discussion and Possible Action

A. Vote to Approve Final Draft Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan
Vote was unanimous with 5 members in favor and 0 members against.

B. Programming and events in parks under COVID19

June 18th – Space Camp from 6-10 PM; July 10th – Cardboard Box Boat Race for kids and adults. No more scheduled events until October w/ Pumpkin Carving. Possible August event w/ bee festival for National Honeybee Day (Aug 21st). To sign up to volunteer for city events, sign up w/ Bastrop Co Cares website or email Elizabeth. A “Get to know the weight room” class for seniors has been a success. Story time is back up and running again w/ Spanish story time coming soon.

C. “Art in Parks” Public Art Plan – The city of Elgin has notes that were located about a public art plan, but more detail is needed. The Parks Board will need to know what we require for public art, such as longevity and other pertinent details. We have resources to public ideas that we can implement into the reworked Public Art Plan. There is a diverse and lively artistic community in Elgin and if there is a better way to showcase that, it will benefit the city of Elgin.

VI. Report from Parks Director and Staff

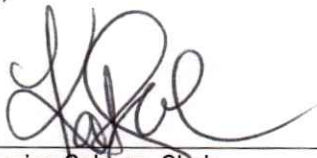
- A. Recreation Center and Park Operations Updates – The rec center is open as well as all of the parks. Masks are currently recommended in the rec center.
- B. Status of CO Bond May 2021 – The bond did not pass, and Parks was not able to receive funds for improvements from bond. Elizabeth is continuing to find other avenues to fund park upgrades and improvements via grants, donations, and bonds. Having Friends of Elgin Parks as a resource would greatly benefit the parks in Elgin.

VII. Announcements - No Comments

Next meeting date: June 17th, 2021 at 6pm @ Rec Center Studio Room

VIII. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn made by Carlos, seconded by Brad; all approved.
Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Attest,



Katherine Salmon, Chair
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board



Elizabeth Marzec, Program Manager
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

BRAD KILGORE
SECRETARY