MINUTES OF THE PARK AND RECREATION
BOARD OF THE CITY OF GLENN HEIGHTS, TEXAS

February 28, 2019

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTIES OF DALLAS AND ELLIS
CITY OF GLENN HEIGHTS

On the 28th day of February 2019, the Parks and Recreation Board of the City of Glenn Heights met in a regular meeting at the Glenn Heights City Hall in Glenn Heights, Texas located at 1938 S. Hampton Road with the following members present:

Board Members:

Milton “Charles” Bell * Chairman
Belyne Bland-Xochihua * Vice Chair
Brian Cornish * Board Member
Michael Leistner * Board Member
Arnold Davis Jr * Board Member

STAFF: David Hall * City Manager

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Chairman Bell called the meeting to order at 7:22 p.m.

INVOCATION: Mr. Arnold Davis

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA

Item 1. Take Action to approve Parks and Recreation Board meeting minutes of the November 29, 2018 regular meeting.

The body approved Minutes from November 29, 2018. Vice Chair Bland-Xochihua made a motion to approve the October 25, 2018 meeting minutes. Bryan Cornish provided a second.

VOTE: 5-0 Ayes – Bell, Bland-Xochihua, Cornish, Davis & Leistner

Item 2. Discuss Park Board’s role in relation to the Park Board application process.

City Manager, David Hall, shared that Ordinance Article 1.20.001, bestows power to the City Council to interview and appoint the bodies that serve on the Boards and Commissions. He shared that it would take an amendment to the Ordinance to allow the Parks Board (and every other board within the City) to be a part of the selection process. They can recommend people to apply and they can come and speak to the Council when they are deliberating on a candidate to help influence the candidates that are selected to serve on
Item 3. Discuss and take action to gather citizen input to improve our Parks and to present an updated Parks Master Plan to Council for approval before August 1, 2019.

City Manager, David Hall, presented an overview of the directive from City Council to have the Parks Board develop a Parks Master plan and provide their input for Parks improvements by August 1, 2019.

The discussion began by recapping parks improvement recommendations that were shared in June 2018 which include: a newly Paved parking lot, updates to the current concession stand, adding additional gazebos, and improving the restrooms. These improvements were recommended and designed to fold into the larger effort in the City comprehensive plan.

Mrs. Bland-Xochihua would like to see the list of things above done first and foremost. Her additional suggestion is to add a water/splash pad to this wish list.

Mr. Hall suggested that features will follow the completion of a Parks Master Plan.

Chairman Bell asked questions about park space and shared that he has been referencing the current plan, which was developed in 2010 and now needs to go back and look at this plan.

Mrs. Bland-Xochihua asked about the recommendation and acceleration of the goal date of August 1.

Mr. Hall shared it was proposed by Councilman Tony Bradley and the accelerated process was approved so that their suggestions and the Parks Master Plan would be considered as the Council finalizes the 2019-2020 budget process.

It was determined that there are several steps within the planning process that will take additional time outside of the given timeframe to gather the data needed to present the most comprehensive plan.

Brian Cornish asked about the money budgeted for this process—“What’s the 50K for?” Answer—hire a consultant to assist with the process.

Chairman Bell asked about the context surrounding the Council decision. “Was there any deep discussions about this item?”

Mr. Hall answered this question to the best of his ability without speaking for the Council.

Mr. Arnold Davis asked about the status of the 2018 recommended suggestions. “None of the improvements listed have been bid out, correct?”

Mr. Hall shared that his plan to was to start these items during this Fiscal Year, but not necessarily complete all of them by September 30.

Mr. Hall described the process of how each plan would be bid out and purchased.

Chairman Bell stated that this board “need(s) to go back to Council and explain the seriousness of rushing as opposed to taking the time to do it right.”

The Board would like for the Council to reconsider this item.

Arnold Davis made a motion to recommend reconsidering this item, as the Parks Board does not think the August 1 deadline cannot be met. Belyne Bland-Xochihua provided a second.

VOTE: 5-0 Ayes – Bell, Bland-Xochihua, Cornish, Davis & Leistner

Item 4. Consider and approve any absences per Ordinances No. 770-04.

Mrs. Crawford-Thorns became ill and provided adequate notice of her absence.

Mr. Cartney Slaughter notified staff, Lauren Lewis, that he had a work conflict and would not attend the February 28 meeting. Lauren was not present at this meeting and no other attendant was aware of his notification, so his absence was not approved.
Jessica Cash did not provide notification that she would be absent. Arnold Davis made a motion to approve the excused absence of Kerston Crawford Thorns and disapprove Mrs. Cash and Mr. Slaughter. Belyne Bland-Xochihua provided a second. VOTE: 5-0 Ayes – Bell, Bland-Xochihua, Cornish, Davis & Leistner

Mr. Slaughter’s absence will be reviewed at the March meeting.

Item 8. Adjournment

Arnold Davis made a motion and Vice Chair Belyne Bland-Xochihua provided a second for adjournment. VOTE: 5-0 Ayes – Bell, Bland-Xochihua, Cornish, Davis & Leistner

MEETING DISMASSAL: 8:06 PM

Milton “Charles” Bell, Chairman

Attest:

Lauren Lewis, Parks Rec & Community Engagement Administrator

Passed and Approved 28 day of March, 2019.