



City of Keller

Parks & Recreation Board

Meeting Minutes

Keller Town Hall
1100 Bear Creek Parkway
Keller, TX 76248
817-743-4000
www.cityofkeller.com

Thursday, October 14, 2021

PRE-MEETING BRIEFING 6:00 P.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER - Chairperson Erin Pfarner

Chairperson Erin Pfarner called the Work Session to order at 6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:
Erin Pfarner, Chairperson
Felix Mira, Vice-Chairperson
Nicholas Anderson
Jay Blakey
Adam Dougherty
Jenilee Harwell
Thomas Hixson
Judy Sether
Bryan Weaver

Staff Members Present: Director of Community Services Cody Maberry and Administrative Secretary Debbie Park.

Guests: Suzann Benatar of Chase Oaks, Shane Jefferys of The Playground Shade and Surfacing Depot and the Pace Family.

B. WORK SESSION

1. [Discuss Chase Oaks Playground Improvements](#)

Suzann Benatar a Chase Oaks homeowner gave a presentation regarding the playground at Chase Oaks. She conducted a survey asking the residents of Chase Oaks, Willis Coves, and Carriage Gate what they want improved or added to the existing playground in the Chase Oaks subdivision that was installed in 2000. The most popular items asked for from the 77 responses received were adding more shade, installing rubber chips for playground surfacing, adding more lines to the basketball court, removing the sandbox, adding more swings and include toddler swings, include activities for the older children and adding more benches and picnic tables. Safety of getting to and from the park was also discussed and adding a speed bump on Chase Oaks in front of the park is a priority as well as adding crosswalks with crossing signals. These are items that staff can address with the Public Works department. The installation of dog waste stations was also mentioned and these can be provided through the Parks and Recreation Department and will not be part of the playground budget. Shane Jefferys with The Playground Shade and Surfacing Depot joined the discussion and provided insight on what can be placed in the existing playground and within budget. Due to the existing concrete borders around the playground the options may be limited and age limits for a new playground may need to be combined. Shane was asked by staff and board to create and design several options to

choose from that will be within the \$110,000 budget and he will present these options at a future meeting.

2. [Receive Update on Park Construction Projects](#)

Director of Community Services Cody Maberry gave an update on current construction projects. The Keller Senior Activities Center project is on schedule although the delivery of furniture for the facility is delayed, possibly until next March. Tours of the new facility have begun and the board can tour in mid November, the Senior Fund group will also be scheduled for a tour of the facility. The dredging of the Bear Creek Park pond has been completed with six bags of silt collected. The silt collected was tested for toxins and can now be mixed with mulch chips to be used in the park system. The parking lot project at the sports park baseball parking lot, the three way intersection and the maintenance shop in Bear Creek Park is completed. The work on the Shady Lane parking lot in Bear Creek Park is still in progress and should be completed by the end of October. Renovations for Overton Ridge Park still has no start date as a survey of the northern hill connection still needs to be completed. The Keller Sports Park Task Force met and toured the northeast park. The architect will present plans for the sports park to be discussed at the next meeting. All board members are invited to attend the Task Force meetings, the meetings are being recorded and can be viewed on the city website.

3. [Receive Update from Park Board Members](#)

Board Member Jay Blakey updated staff and board on Parkrun, the event on October 9th had 30 participants with runners joining from Ireland and the United Kingdom.

C. ADJOURN

Motion by Mira, seconded by Hixson to adjourn the Work Session.

Motion passed, all present voting aye.

Chairperson Erin Pfarner adjourned the Work Session at 7:02 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING 7:00 P.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Erin Pfarner

Chairperson Erin Pfarner called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

B. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

This is a time for the public to address the Board/Commission on any subject. However, the Texas Open Meetings Act prohibits the Board/Commission from discussing issues which the public has not been given seventy-two (72) hours' notice. Issues raised may be referred to City Staff for research and possible future action.

No public comments were made.

C. MINUTES

1. [Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of August 12, 2021](#)

Motion by Mira, seconded by Sether to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion passed, all present voting aye.

2. [Approval of Work Session Minutes of September 9, 2021](#)

Motion by Weaver, seconded by Hixson to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion passed, all present voting aye.

D. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

1. [Staff Announcements](#)

Director of Community Services Cody Maberry gave an update on Special Events. Haunted Camp Out is October 16th at Bear Creek Park. This event will feature costume and tent decorating contests, s'mores, a scavenger hunt, tent to tent trick or treating and a movie in the park. The annual fall Trash Bash was held in the morning on October 16 at Bear Creek Park. The I Heart BBQ event is on Saturday, November 6 at Bear Creek Park from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. with food trucks, vendors, a singer-songwriter competition and a silent auction. Applications for the boards and commissions are currently being accepted and 104 applications have already been submitted. Interviews for these positions will be conducted on November 6th and November 13th. Applications for the Senior Advisory Board are also being accepted and staff will begin to conduct informal interviews with the applicants on the next three Fridays.

Board Member Bryan Weaver mentioned vehicle break-ins have become a problem in the parks and staff agreed to install additional TAKE, LOCK AND HIDE signs in the parks, especially the Keller Smithfield Activity Node.

Chairperson Erin Pfarner asked staff about the recent news regarding a splash pad incident in the City of Arlington and Cody Maberry discussed how the Keller Pointe is dealing with that issue for the splash pad located in their swim area as it already has two modes of disinfection. The front fountain at Town Hall is also being fitted with a backflow device and is being chlorinated. Staff will regularly monitor the chlorination levels to insure the safety of the fountain water.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. [Receive KDC Matching Grant Proposal for Overton Ridge Park](#)

The Pace family gave a presentation on installing a playhouse and plaque at Overton Ridge Park in honor of their son Trent who was a special needs child. They learned of the proposed expansion of Overton Ridge Park and the inclusive playground being planned and thought the addition of the playhouse would help other families with special needs children be able to enjoy the park and playground. They are asking for a KDC matching grant to help with the cost of a playhouse which is currently \$5814.00, with the cost for the Pace family being \$2907.00. The family has been working with Shane Jefferys of The Playground Shade and Surfacing Depot for direction with the purchase and installation of the playhouse. Staff and Board agree that the installation of the playhouse would be a loving tribute for Trent and a wonderful addition to the

inclusive playground. Staff and Board recommend moving forward with the request from the Pace family and will be seeking approval from City Council for the KDC matching grant.

Motion by Blakey, seconded by Mira to approve proposal presented by the Pace Family for a playhouse to be placed in Overton Ridge Park and to pursue the KDC matching grant.

Motion passed, all present voting aye.

Motion by Blakey, seconded by Mira to approve the project presented by the Pace Family to honor their son Trent with a playhouse including a plaque in Overton Ridge Park, to pursue the KDC matching grant for the project, to lock in the cost for the Pace Family and recommend project to council for approval.

Motion passed, all present voting aye.

F. ADJOURN

Motion by Hixson, seconded by Dougherty to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

Motion passed, all present voting aye.

Chairperson Erin Pfarner adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Chairperson

Staff Liaison