

**MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD OF THE  
CITY OF NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TEXAS  
HELD IN THE CITY HALL 4301 CITY POINT DRIVE  
AUGUST 1, 2022**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair Lewis called the meeting to order August 1, 2022 at 6:01 p.m.

**Present:**

Tracye Lewis, Vice-Chair, Place 1  
Kate Beck, Board Member, Place 2  
Russell Mitchell, Board Member, Place 3  
Casey Daniel, Board Member, Place 5  
Brad Evans, Board Member, Place 6  
Russell Murdock, Board Member, Place 7  
Sammy Robison, Board Alternate

**Absent:**

Vanessa Copeland, Chair, Place 4

**Staff Members:**

Adrien Pekurney, Director  
Antonio Evangelista, Recreation Operations Manager  
Gary Bechthold, Park Superintendent  
Michael Wilson, Park Planning Manager  
Stephanie Hee-Johnston, NRH2O Assistant General Manager  
Cindy Dobbs, Secretary

**A.1 INTRODUCTION OF NEW PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEMBER -  
SAMMY ROBISON**

Ms. Adrien Pekurney introduced Sammy Robison as the newest member of the Parks and Recreation Board. He will serve as the Board Alternate.

**A.2 CITIZEN PRESENTATION**

There were no requests to speak from the public.

**A.3 PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no requests to speak from the public.

**B. ACTION ITEMS**

**B.1 APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 6, 2022 PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING**

**APPROVED**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BOARD MEMBER MITCHELL, SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER BECK TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 6, 2022 PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING.

MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 7-0.

**B.2 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY VICE-CHAIR LEWIS, SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER BECK TO NOMINATE VANESSA COPELAND TO REMAIN IN THE POSITION OF CHAIR.

MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 7-0

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BOARD MEMBER DANIELS, SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER EVANS TO NOMINATE TRACYE LEWIS TO REMAIN IN THE POSITION OF VICE-CHAIR.

MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 7-0

**C. PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**C.1 PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PROPOSED FY2023 OPERATING BUDGET**

Ms. Adrien Pekurney presented the Revised FY2021/22 and Proposed FY2022/23 Park and Recreation Facilities Development Corporation (PRFDC) Operating Budget.

**C.2 PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PROPOSED FY2023 CAPITAL BUDGET**

Ms. Adrien Pekurney presented the proposed FY 2022/23 Park and Recreation Facilities Development Corporation (PRFDC) Capital Budget.

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New Projects include:

- Annual Tree Planting
- Cross Timbers Bleacher Shade Replacement
- Dr. Pillow Playground Replacement
- Green Valley Fence & Drainage
- Park Infrastructure Maintenance 2023
- NRH Centre Equipment Replacement
- Weather Stations Alert System

## **D. DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

### **D.1 NRH2O FAMILY WATER PARK UPDATE**

Ms. Stephanie Hee-Johnston provided an update on activities at NRH2O Family Water Park.

-NRH2O Family Water Park continues its 28th season with excellent overall revenues as well as setting a few new records. One of these milestones is that the month of May shattered the best overall monthly attendance record as well as best season pass sales in the history of the park.

-NRH2O was pleased to host radio station KSCS 96.3 and Hawkeye in the Morning on June 23. This event coincided with the annual World's Largest Swim Lesson. The mission of this event is to help teach the importance of learning to swim worldwide. NRH2O is only one of a handful of water parks that have participated in every World's Largest Swim Lesson since the beginning of the program.

-Doggie Beach Bash is scheduled for Sunday, September 25, 2022. This annual event is always popular with the public.

### **D.2 PARKS CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE**

Ms. Pekurney introduced Michael Wilson back to the Parks and Recreation Department as the Park Planning Manager. He had previously worked in the department as a Park Planner.

Mr. Michael Wilson, Park Planning Manager, provided an update on capital projects.

-NRH Active Transportation Projects for Trail / On-Road is close to wrapping up. There were a few setbacks along the way but those are being resolved.

-Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons have been installed on the John Barfield Trail crossing at Rumfield Road and Kirk Lane.

-Richfield Tennis / Pickleball court renovation is on schedule which includes new fencing and court resurfacing. There will be one tennis court and four pickleball courts once

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completed. Resurfacing at Green Valley Park will also be taking place in the coming weeks.

- Irrigation has been installed at Adventure World Playground. A pavilion will be installed in an upper pod. Delivery on this structure is estimated to be about six months out. This will be added to our rentable spaces.

- Cross Timbers Park playground replacement with shade is an upcoming project. There is currently no shade at this playground.

- City Point Trail Development in Oncor Easement will provide for the design and construction of a 10' wide multi-use trail just west of the City Point development and connect to other trails in the area.

### **D.3 PARKS MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS UPDATE**

Mr. Gary Bechthold, Parks Superintendent, provided an update on parks maintenance and operations activities.

- The extended high temperatures have been challenging with watering schedules. However, the city is staying within the watering guidelines. Park staff is trying to maintain and care for the plants and botanicals by adding nutrients as needed.

- Warmer temps can affect the fish in our ponds. Lower oxygen levels can cause some fish to expire. This has not been an issue thus far but staff keeps a close eye on this situation to ensure that this is not an issue.

- Staff is taking extra precautions to avoid heat exhaustion in the current conditions. Shifts have been adjusted so that they can be off in the heat of the day.

- Dry conditions have reduced the number of mowing cycles for parks and city facilities.

- Several playground pieces were replaced at Clyde Zeller Park and Kay Granger Park.

- Playground fall zone material was recently added to several city playgrounds.

- A new turf irrigation system was installed at Adventure World.

### **D.4 NRH CENTRE, GRAND HALL, ATHLETICS, SENIOR CENTER, RICHLAND TENNIS CENTER, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES UPDATE**

Mr. Antonio Evangelista, Recreation Operations Manager, provided an update on activities at the NRH Centre, Grand Hall, Senior Center, Richland Tennis Center as well as Programs and Services.

- Membership numbers at the NRH Centre continue to increase.

- Programming in youth and aquatic divisions are seeing record enrollments and revenues. Swim lessons continue to sell out. Youth programs have increased over 50% from last year.

- The pool and spa at the NRH Centre will be undergoing repairs and will be closed Monday, August 8 through Wednesday, August 17. Routine maintenance will be done during this time as well.

- Grand Hall is close to pre-pandemic numbers and they are on track to finish their second highest year on record.
- NRH Athletics welcomes back Average Joes Basketball league to the NRH Centre.
- Athletic field rentals continue to have a strong fiscal year. Walker's Creek Park and Northfield Park have both seen increased usage.
- 'Round the Town with Oscar will take place on Tuesday, August 2 at Northfield Park.
- Master Gardner, Teddi Zonker spoke to a group at the Senior Center during their first quarterly Seed Central education seminar.
- Mr. Evangelista acknowledged the Senior Center's Community Partners. They play a huge role in funding the events that take place for our seniors.
- Richland Tennis Center is having a great summer. They are on pace to have their second best year they have ever had.
- The Art of Music Free Guitar Concert and Art Exhibition will be held on Thursday, September 29 in the Grand Hall.
- Artwork by NRH residents are currently being featured on local electronic billboards. Four different artists are rotated on various billboard. These are featured at no charge to the City of North Richland Hills.

**E. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**E.1 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS  
COMMUNITY SERVICE MONTHLY REPORTS (MAY & JUNE)  
PARK AND RECREATION BOARD UPDATES (JUNE & JULY)**

There are no other informational items.

**F. ADJOURNMENT**

Co-Chair Lewis adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

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Tracye Lewis, Co-Chair

**ATTEST:**

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Cindy Dobbs, Secretary