

**MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD OF THE
CITY OF NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TEXAS
HELD IN THE CITY HALL 4301 CITY POINT DRIVE
DECEMBER 5, 2022**

REGULAR MEETING

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Copeland called the meeting to order December 5, 2022 at 6:03 p.m.

Present:

Vanessa Copeland, Chair, Place 4
Kate Beck, Board Member, Place 2
Russ Mitchell, Board Member, Place 3
Casey Daniel, Board Member, Place 5
Brad Evans, Board Member, Place 6
Sammy Robison, Board Alternate

Absent:

Tracye Lewis, Vice-Chair, Place 1
Russ Murdock, Board Member, Place 7

Staff Members:

Adrien Pekurney, Director
Antonio Evangelista, Assistant Director
Tanner Arwine, Assistant Director
Frank Perez, NRH2O General Manager
Michael Wilson, Park Planning Manager
Ron Newman, NRH Centre Member Services Supervisor
Jesse Pena, NRH2O Operations Coordinator
Cindy Dobbs, Office Coordinator

A.1 PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no requests to speak from the public.

B. ACTION ITEMS

B.1 APPROVE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 3, 2022 PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING.

APPROVED

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A MOTION WAS MADE BY BOARD MEMBER BECK, SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER MITCHELL TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 3, 2022 PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING.

MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 6-0.

B.2 REVIEW THE PARK AMENITY REQUEST POLICY AND CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY STAFF REGARDING THE PARK AMENITY REQUESTS FOR THE FY2023/24 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET.

APPROVED

Mr. Tanner Arwine provided a summary of the Park Amenity Request Policy and presented the eight park amenity requests that were received by the Parks and Recreation Department in 2022. The Parks and Recreation Board was asked to review and give direction to staff on considering these projects as part of the 2023/2024 CIP Budget. Mr. Arwine presented photos and detailed explanations of staff recommendations to the Board for each of these requests. The Parks and Recreation Board agreed with staff recommendation on all eight of the park amenity requests.

1-Gaga Ball Pit at Tommy and Sue Brown Park: Staff recommends consideration for further exploration.

2-Pull up Bar - Fitness Equipment at Founders Park: Staff recommends further exploration.

3-Public Restroom at Norich Park: Staff recommends not funding a public restroom at this location.

4-Playground Shade at Tommy and Sue Brown Park: Staff recommends funding for this project as part of a future total playground replacement.

5-Pickleball/Tennis Hitting Wall at Green Valley Park: Staff recommends consideration for further exploration.

6-Playground Shade at Liberty Park: Staff recommends not funding this project at this time.

7-Trail Lighting at Linda Spurlock Park: Staff recommends not funding this project.

8-Additional Grill at Linda Spurlock Park: Staff recommends funding this project.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BOARD MEMBER MITCHELL, SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER DANIEL TO PROCEED WITH STAFF RECOMMENDATION ON ALL AMENITY REQUESTS THAT WERE PRESENTED.

MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 6-0.

B.3 CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO READOPT THE NRH YOUTH PROGRAMS STANDARD OF CARE ORDINANCE.

APPROVED

Mr. Ron Newman presented the NRH Youth Programs Standards of Care Ordinance. Adopted standards are a Texas Department of Family and Protective Services requirement for an exempt status for day care licensing. The Parks and Recreation Board recommended to forward the Youth Programs Standard of Care Ordinance to City Council for their consideration for adoption.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BOARD MEMBER MITCHELL, SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER BECK TO FORWARD THE YOUTH PROGRAMS STANDARDS OF CARE ORDINANCE TO CITY COUNCIL FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION FOR ADOPTION.

MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 6-0.

C. PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Ms. Adrien Pekurney announced the upcoming retirement of Gary Bechthold, Park Superintendent. After 22 years of dedicated service to the City of North Richland Hills, Gary will officially retire on December 30, 2022.

D. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

D.1 NRH2O FAMILY WATER PARK UPDATE

Mr. Frank Perez, NRH2O General Manager, provided an update on activities at NRH2O Family Water Park.

- Mr. Perez introduced Jesse Pena, NRH2O's new Operations Coordinator. She has substantial experience in the water park industry.
- Off Season Activities have started at the water park, focusing on necessary repairs and upgrades to attractions and buildings throughout the facility.
- The Annual Polar Plunge is coming up on Saturday, February 4, 2023. This event benefits the Special Olympics of Texas - Greater Fort Worth area.
- Staff is working to get their new point-of-sale system up and running. They will kick it off

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with their holiday season pass sale which started on December 12, 2022.

D.2 PARKS CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

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

- The NRH Active Transportation Projects for Trails/On-Road project is substantially complete. There are a few minor issues to resolve.
- Green Valley Raceway Historical Area plans are complete and have been registered with TDLR. A request for Competitive Sealed Proposals will be advertised in the near future.
- The Cross Timbers Park Playground replacement with shade should begin in April/May 2023. This should take around a month-and-a-half to complete.
- Northfield Drive Sidewalk Connection from Davis Blvd to Northfield Park plans are nearly completed and will be out for bids soon.
- City Point Trail Development in Oncor Easement has a design contract under review at this time.
- Work on the Cross Timbers Bleacher Shade Replacement project is anticipated to start in January.
- Dr. Pillow Playground Replacement with Shade project will include replacement of the existing playground.
- Green Valley Park Safety Fence and Drainage Improvements is a dual project that includes fencing and drainage. Construction is estimated to start Summer 2023.
- Weather Stations and Inclement Weather Alert Systems would include three stations located at Iron Horse Golf Course, NRH2O Family Water Park and Green Valley Park. The six weather alert systems would be located at Northfield Park, Green Valley Park, Cross Timbers Park, Walker's Creek Park, Richland Tennis Center and Richfield Park. This project will use ARPA funding.
- NRH2O Green Extreme Replacement Project is in the planning process. Staff is hopeful that new construction can begin at the end of the 2023 season.

D.3 PARKS MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS UPDATE

Mr. Tanner Arwine, Assistant Director, provided an update on parks maintenance and operations activities.

- Staff recently completed the fall cattail removal at the Lakes at Hometown.
- City contractors and park staff completed the holiday light installation at City Hall and other city facilities.
- Staff continues to replace playground parts at various parks.
- New bench seats and backs were installed at Tipps Canine Hollow Dog Park. Benches at the Barfield Pavilion were also replaced.
- Adult and youth sports have finished their fall baseball, football, soccer and softball

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leagues. Staff will now begin preparation for the Spring 2023 season.

- The park operations organizational structure has been reorganized to increase efficiency. There are now four supervisors: Landscape, Infrastructure, Irrigation and Athletic Fields. No full time employees were added and there were no changes to the budget with this restructure.

- Staff went into detail on the location of irrigation zones within the city and the planned maintenance.

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

Mr. Antonio Evangelista, Assistant Director, presented an update on activities at the NRH Centre, Grand Hall, Athletics, Senior Center, Cultural Arts and the Richland Tennis Center.

- The NRH Centre sent out a New Year's membership special via direct mail.

- Holiday hours for recreation facilities was reviewed.

- The 2022 Run Run Rudolph was held on Saturday, December 3 at the NRH Centre. There was a great turn-out with 324 registered participants.

- Grand Hall had a great start to the fiscal year with approximately 25% of the annual revenue over the first couple of months. December is looking very busy with over twenty-five events scheduled consisting of corporate trainings, holiday parties and social events.

- Flooring replacement plans are in the works at the Grand Hall ballroom/lobby as well as the senior center and some of the rooms on the recreation center side.

- Average Joes Basketball League continues strong enrollment with another sold-out season.

- Adult softball leagues finished up the end of November with strong numbers. The winter break will allow for maintenance with Adult Leagues resuming in Spring 2023.

- NRH Senior Center Craft Fair was held on October 26 and 27 in the Grand Hall. It was one of their larger events with 47 vendors and over 850 guests attending. All items sold were hand-crafted by seniors.

- November luncheon participation was increased from their regular 125 members to 200 members due to funds raised during the September garage sale.

- Mr. Evangelista conveyed staff appreciation to all of their Community Partners who sponsor luncheons and other events at the Senior Center.

- Richland Tennis Center had a strong finish to the year with a busy fall tournament schedule. The 19th Annual Toys for Tennis Tournament is scheduled for December 17.

- The NRH Christmas Tree Lighting took place on Thursday, December 1 at Stormy Plaza Park which featured Santa and a Christmas-themed Drone and Laser Show by Sky Elements.

- Plans for an outdoor NRH Poetry Trail featuring NRH poets is currently in development. There will be four 9" x 12" poetry plaques to be installed in the spring of 2023 along the

Linda Spurlock Park central walking trail. This is part of the "Art Lives in Our City" initiative.

E. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

**E.1 COMMUNITY SERVICE MONTHLY REPORTS (SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER)
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD UPDATES (NOVEMBER)**

There are no other informational items.

F. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Copeland adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Vanessa Copeland, Chair

ATTEST:

Cindy Dobbs, Office Coordinator