

ELGIN PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

March 15, 2021

Elgin Memorial Park Pavilion

I. **Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM.

Members Present:

Elizabeth Marzec (Program Manager)

Katherine Salmon (Chair)

Brad Kilgore (Vice Chair)

Nicholas Arthur

Carlos Gandia

Members Absent:

Sonya Rangel - unexcused

Tiffany Finley - excused

Jessica Hunziker - excused

II. **Approval of Minutes – January 2021**

Motion to approve by Brad Kilgore, seconded by Carlos. All members approved.

III. **Citizen Communication**

No comments

IV. **Review**

A. status of Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Parks board reviewed the Master Plan and have a to-do list for volunteers for sections 4-7 of referenced material. This ask was to be completed by the next Parks meeting, April 1st.

- **Katherine Salmon** will contact Elgin ISD locations to verify public access to EISD amenities and facilities. Confirm what times what amenities are available and what we can do to make this evident to the public. PARD can purchase signs if necessary to communicate this with the public.
- **Katherine Salmon** will create a rough draft of “Programming Needs” including a comparison (with citations) with programs, events and classes that other Parks and Recreation Departments offer, as well as what we are lacking as a department as identified by the Survey and Community Feedback.
- **Carlos Gandia** will create a rough draft of “Updated Technology” discussing how technology and Parks & Recreation are symbiotic. Include introduction that leads in to the request for a Parks and Recreation Mobile App, Wifi in the Parks, and a Mobile Recreation Van. Currently using technology in our parks with QR Codes in the Edible Arbor Walk to show when harvesting should occur for the different trees.
- **Nicholas Arthur** will create a rough draft of “Certificate Programs” including reference to other local cities that already have certificates, which we can apply for, the benefits, etc.
- **Brad Kilgore** will create a rough draft of “Leadership and Volunteer Projects” for volunteer organizations to pick from if they want to contribute. These are bonus projects on top of what is included in the Master Plan. (e.g. Thomas Xeriscape or Sensory Garden, Bat Houses/Swift Houses in all the parks, etc.)

V. **New Business – Discussion and Possible Action**

A. No events. Summer Series in park is coming soon. The Parks Board would like to see the new downtown plan to move the concerts to downtown. Possible sight and visualization for the public this summer w/ fundraising efforts to include VIP sections, games, voting for the playground train name, a petting zoo and pony rides. The Parks Board is unanimously in favor of this. Mindfulness events will also begin in the summer time.

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B. Park Inventory and Standards –

Parks discussed available resources to the park, accessibility, and hours of operation for resources available to the public. Elizabeth has the updated inventory and standards on file to Table 10 of Parks Level of Service as discussed and amended as necessary in the meeting.

C. Specific Needs for the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan

Dream parks were supplied in meetings packet. Board is being asked to give final assessment for what the dream park is for each park.

D. Community Input plan for phased implementation of Master Plan

The Parks Board needs the Master Plan completed by April 15.

E. Park Improvement and expansion projects for the 2012 CO Bond - Amy Miller presented to the Parks Board:

Amy supplied materials for the old plan and how to incorporate into a new plan. The city would like to use the sustainable places project for use for the public. The plan from the city is to give the downtown promenade to the parks department to be a park project. The budget is currently at \$1.6 mil as proposed. The city is discussing a bond issuance grant in pieces/phases as another possible action to fund the downtown plan. Overall improvements are also going to be covered in this plan of the sustainable places project such as Elgin Memorial bathrooms, improvements at Thomas, Veterans Park as part of the downtown project, and others. Amy advised the Parks Board that we discuss what we need to do and what improvements are needed in meetings w/ supporting evidence to help push the need for the improvements.

VI. Report from Parks Director and Staff

- A. Rec Center and Park Ops Updates – Reservations Only at this time, No barriers of entry at parks.
- B. Weekend Concession stands at Thomas Memorial and Elgin Memorial Parks

VII. Announcements

None

Next meeting date: April 1, 2020 at 6pm @ @ Veteran’s Memorial Park (by the canon)

VIII. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn made by Brad, seconded by Carlos; all approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Attest

Katherine Salmon, Chair
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Tiffany Finley, Vice Chair
Parks and Recreation Advisory
Board