

ELGIN PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Thursday, June 17th, 2021 | 6:00PM CST
Elgin Recreation Center – Studio Room
361 N HWY 95, Elgin, TX 78621

I. **Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM on Thursday, June 17th by chair, Katherine Salmon.

Members Present:

Elizabeth Marzec (Program Manager)

Katherine Salmon (Chair)

Brad Kilgore (Secretary)

Carlos Gandia

Jessica Hunziker

Tiffany Finley

Members Absent:

Sonya Rangel – excused

Nicholas Arthur – unexcused (4th unexcused absence)

II. **Approval of Minutes – May 27th, 2021**

Motion to approve minutes w/ no changes made by Tiffany Finley and seconded by Carlos Gandia.

III. **Citizen Communication** - No comments

IV. **Review**

A. Status of Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan (PROSMP)

Plan is not currently ready to be voted on, but Elizabeth is waiting on feedback before going to council with a goal to have the document ready by July 1st to be reviewed by the public to where they can provide feedback as well. In August city council will vote to adopt the PROSMP. Changes have been made to the plan that are more likely to be completed or things were taken out that were not possible, like restrooms being removed from Shenandoah since that area is in a flood plain and not able to be constructed.

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

A. ~~Vote to Approve Final Draft Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan~~

PROSMP is not ready to be voted on at this time.

B. Adopt-A-Spot and Volunteering Plan

Documents were provided for review for the Board. Ways for volunteers to get involved:

Master list of volunteers, Community Gardens, Website for Sign-up (Bastrop Co Cares Volunteer Website). A local website or media will most likely be more beneficial.

The Board reviewed the volunteer application and had ideas which will amend the application to make volunteering more appealing and less daunting. There are suggestions for shirts and badges for volunteers to help incentivize help. Time of volunteer service can be started at the beginning of October. Badges @ 5 hours of service and shirts @ 25 hours of service. 50 hours of service in a year would get a pool party. 1-day pass per month is also available or a small pavilion rental w/ volunteering like pulling weeds. Concession cash is also an option from volunteer opportunities. Elizabeth had shared that some volunteers are

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thinking about a way to “cash in” volunteer time towards parks amenities. This method is viable if the Parks Board writes that language into an amendment for the PROSMP. Elizabeth will have the ideas written up for the next meeting to be ready to be voted on to be included in the Parks Master Plan.

C. “Art in Parks” Public Art Plan – The Parks Board is being asked to provide the “Art in Parks” Public Art Plan to define what the objectives and goals are to be around 20 pages with supporting details and examples. The board did a brainstorming session to get a high-level itinerary on what should be included in the document. The key points are: What can the art be? Where will it go? How long will it last? How will the art be maintained? The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) can be a good guide to help understand art in parks. How can art be incorporated into the parks? The Board will be split up to review how art can be used in our parks. Katherine has Thomas and Veterans. Jessica has Thomas and Memorial. Brad has Elgin Memorial and Shenandoah. Carlos has Goins and Veterans. Tiffany has Morris and Thomas.

VI. Report from Parks Director and Staff

- A. Recreation Center and Park Operations Updates – The Thomas Park concession stand has been broken into and raided 4 times and the concession stand needed to be shut down to prevent further damage and loss. A pack of kids have been vandalizing the park and a neighborhood watch is being started to help prevent future damage and unruliness. The recent actions, unfortunately, will make it more difficult to provide upgrades at Thomas unless there is positive change in the neighborhood. There are groups trying to deter mischievous behavior at Thomas, which has been helpful.
- B. Advisory Board Member Updates – The Board is looking to expand, and we are encouraged to help recruit new members.

VII. Announcements – Members to be changed out. Jessica will be retiring from the Board in August since her husband has a new work opportunity in another state.

Next meeting date: July 22nd, 2021 at 6pm @ Rec Center Studio Room

VIII. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn made by Carlos, seconded by Brad; all approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM by Chair.

Attest,

Katherine Salmon, Chair
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Elizabeth Marzec, Program Manager
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board