

PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD

December 08, 2022

The Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Board met in regular session at the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Conference Room, 1611 North Stonebridge Drive, McKinney, Texas on Thursday, December 8, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

Board members Present: Chair LuAnne Malnory, Vice Chair Boyd Pelley, Kelvin Thomas, Leslie Warren, Samuel Franklin, Windy Gallagher, Kelvin Thomas, Bruce Mead, Alternate Monica Escamilla, and Alternate Ric Anderson.

Liaisons Present: Patrick Cloutier, City Council, Deidre Woodard, Visit McKinney liaison.

Liaisons Absent: Mary Barnes-Tilley, MCDC liaison.

Staff Present: Michael Kowski, Director of Parks & Recreation; Ryan Mullins, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation; Jenny Baker, Parks Planning & Development Manager and Kara Dickson, Parks & Recreation Administrative Specialist.

22-1109 Board members unanimously approved the motion by Kelvin Thomas, seconded by Vice Chair Boyd Pelley to approve the Minutes of the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Board Meeting of November 10, 2022.

REPORTS

22-1110 Director Kowski then provided an update on various projects and events happening across the parks system. Highlights included an update on the indoor tennis project is about 90-95% complete. Staff is planning for a grand opening in early 2023. 120 volunteers took part in a tree planting at Gray Branch Park this past weekend. The trees were donated through a grant received. Staff attended a demonstration featuring battery powered robotic lawn mowers/striping equipment. The mowers can mow up to 20 acres a day and complete athletic field striping utilizing GPS. Additional equipment was shown, including golf course upkeep and golf

ball collection. Currently, the downtown area is maintained by battery operated equipment. The department will be closed on January 4-5 for staff development.

22-1111 Director Kowski discussed the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan. Bruce Mead asked about the process to approve the plan. Director Kowski explained it would go to Council in January. Bruce Mead also suggested additional clarifications on Restore, Enhance and Reimagine section. Director Kowski provided additional clarification and examples of Restore, Enhance and Reimagine. Director Kowski also explained how staff utilizes the Master Plan. Conservation efforts were also discussed with the need to include it with more detail throughout the Master Plan. The subject of wayfinding was also explained by Assistant Director Ryan Mullins. Staff will be focusing on way finding improvements. Board members unanimously approved the motion by Board Member Samuel Franklin, seconded by Windy Gallagher.

22-1112 Director Kowski discussed the Hike and Bike Trails Plan and gave updates on the various areas to consider connecting existing trails. Downtown Connection, McKinney Greens, Rowlett Creek Extension, Erwin Park Connection, Cottonwood Creek Connection and Auburn Hills; these six-catalyst projects would create 15-16 miles of connected trails. Another concern to address is wayfinding signs as the trails expand. Board Members unanimously approved the motion by Board Member Kelvin Thomas, seconded by Bruce Mead.

Chairperson LuAnne Malnory called for citizen comments. Ric Anderson asked for more consideration to increase conservation efforts within the Parks. Ric also suggested utilizing social media to inform the public of the parks available all throughout McKinney.

Comments from Board Members: None

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Board Liaison Comments: Deidre Woodard mentioned the December 16 NCAA FanFest at Tupps, December 17 at noon is the Division II game at MISD stadium. Also Visit McKinney is currently undergoing renovations and will reopen in Mid-February.

Patrick Cloutier commented on the newly appoint Police Chief and the upcoming Parade of Lights.

Staff comments:

Mike Kowski thanked Kelvin Thomas for the tour of the Melissa Zplex.

Board members unanimously approved the motion by Board member Leslie Warren, seconded by Board member Windy Gallagher to adjourn at 6:04p.m.

An audio recording of this meeting is available through the City of McKinney meeting archive.

These minutes approved by the PROS Board members on: _____

LuAnne Malnory
Chair

MICHAEL KOWSKI
Director of Parks & Recreation