



PARKS & RECREATION

**City of San Antonio
Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes**

Monday, January 22, 2024

5:30 PM

City Tower Concourse

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Member Name	Council District/Agency Represented
Erik Sanden	District 1
Philip Ryan Garza	District 3
Agapita Jaramillo	District 5
Bert Pickell	District 6
Laura S. Luna	District 7
Charles Saxer	District 8
Allison Cohen	District 10
Jeanette Honermann	Mayoral
Mary Jane Verette	San Antonio Parks Foundation
Patricia Seidenberger	San Antonio Conservation Society

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Member Name	Council District/Agency Represented
Erik Sanden	District 1
Jennifer Ramage	District 2
Mary Kathryn Luna	District 4
Collen Waguespack	District 9
Allison Cohen	District 10

STAFF PRESENT

- Homer Garcia III, Director, Parks and Recreation
- Nikki Ramos, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation
- Melinda Cerda, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation
- Reena Gonzalez, Executive Assistant, Parks and Recreation
- Sara Sharp, Manager, Parks and Recreation
- Brenda Burton, Assistant Manager, Parks and Recreation
- Steve Whitworth, City Attorney, City Attorney’s Office
- Cynthia Uribe, Executive Secretary, Parks and Recreation

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Jeanette Honermann called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES**1. Approval of Minutes from the November 27, 2023, Parks and Recreation Board Meeting.**

Motion: Laura S. Luna, District 7

Second: Charles Saxer, District 8

Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION****2. Briefing on City of San Antonio Youth Master Plan – John Gibbs, Nancy O’Neill, and Brian Trusty****The following information was provided and highlighted:**

- The team for this plan are: WRT (prime consultant), Pros Consulting, and Able.City (subconsultant team).
- WRT & Pros Citywide Park Plans - Broad National Experience – in the last decade, WRT and PROS have partnered to complete over 15 park systems plans nationwide.

Youth Services Master Plan Goals:

- Develop a comprehensive Master Plan to guide programming and investments in Youth Services.
- Involve the community and staff in planning and decision-making through pop-up events, interviews, focus groups, surveys, and open house-style meetings.
- Provide a comprehensive strategy where programming meets and ecosystem of youth services and infrastructure and relies on data for equitable practices.
- Ensure a coordinated vision and common framework for future youth programs, services, synergies with other departments and partners, and investments as San Antonio population continues to grow.

What’s included in the plan:

- Community/Youth needs assessment.
- Community Center & Service are mapping.
- Understanding of Local and National trends.
- Master Plan Recommendation.

Timeline has 5 different phases:

- Project Scoping + Kickoff.
- Current Youth Program Understanding.
- Engagement Strategy, online Recreation & Program Survey.
- Local Trends & National Best Practices Summary Memo.
- Youth Services Master Plan Recommendations.

What’s Next:

- WRT will develop and conduct an in-person Workshop with Department Staff in Feb/March 2024.
- PROS Consulting will develop a community center assessment draft and will be shared with Parks and Recreation leadership.
- ABLE City will conduct subsequent engagement through Spring Pop-ups in San Antonio.
- Able City will host Focus Groups with targeted audience (e.g., teens, non-park users, Youth Commission, etc.).
- PROS Consulting will develop a local trends & best practices draft to be shared with Parks and Recreation leadership.
- Team for this plan will develop a draft Youth Services Master Plant to be reviewed by Parks and Recreation leaderships that will reflect the community engagement conducted, the needs and opportunities, and will contain comprehensive recommendations of youth programming.
- Parks and Recreation Board briefing on final recommendations and actions.

3. Briefing Regarding Adult and Senior Centers – Sara Sharp, Manager, Parks and Recreation.**The following information was provided and highlighted:**

- Adult and Senior Centers are for ages 18 and up. There are four centers known as the Adult & Senior Centers which are: Commander's House, Virginia Gill, Granados, and Lions Field. Hours of operations and days that centers are opened were provided.
- Sara went over services and programs that are provided at these centers which are:
 - Music, Art Cultural
 - Recreation, Education, Social
 - Fitness, Health, Wellness
 - Community Participations with Resource Fairs, Veterans Celebrations, Cowboy Breakfast, just to name a few.
 - Meal Service are provided Monday - Friday at Commander's House, and at Gill Community Center, Lions Field and Granados HEAL meals are projected to begin service Monday – Friday in March 2024.
 - Participation and Membership numbers were provided for the Fiscal Year 2023.
 - Golden Rollers bicycle program was highlighted with a video and participants talked about how much they enjoyed riding.

4. Parks and Recreation Director's Report – General Departmental Updates.

Mrs. Nikki Ramos Assistant Director, provided updates on the following items:

- Financial Disclosure Report – Deadline April 2, 2023.
- Habitat and Angler Access Program Grant in District 4.
- Cassiano Park Revitalization Project in District 5.
- TRAPS Conference – February 26th – March 1st, 2024 at Moody Gardens Hotel and Convention Center in Galveston.
 - Asher McNicol, Senior Management Coordinator will be presenting on Seeing the Forest and the Trees: Investing in a Data-Centric Future.
 - Meredith Tilley, Senior Management Analyst, and Michael Holinsky, City Forester will present on EquiTree: Tree Canopy Equity and Resources in the Neighborhoods You Serve
 - Dr. Michael Anne Lord Leadership Academy – Class of 2024 includes two our Parks and Recreation employees: Gabriel Monreal, Marketing Specialist and Reena Gonzalez, Executive Assistant.
- Spurs Youth League begins January 22, 2024 at selected community centers. Fee is \$10.00.
- Book Drive – library accepting donations through January drop off location Ron Darner Parks Headquarters.
- Open House at the Natatorium on January 27, 2024 from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm. Learn about indoor heated swimming pool and classes, programs, and events offered this year.
- Madden E-Sports Tournament for teens (ages 12 & up) held at Palm Heights Community Center on February 3, 2024 at 10:00 am
- Free Heart & Sole 5 & Fun Run Event being held at Lady Bird Johnson Park on February 10, 2024 from 8:00 am – 10:00 am.
- 14th Annual City Manager's 5K Walk & Run will be on March 9, 2024 at the San Antonio Zoo. This event is open to the public, free for City employees, \$5.00 for friends and family, \$10.00 for the public through February 25, 2024. Fee will go up for the public starting February 26 – March 7, 2024 to \$15.00.
- Public Input Meetings:
 - Al Forge Park, January 23, 2024 at Cortez Branch Library at 6:00 pm.
 - Tom Slick Park, January 30, 2024 at Memorial Branch Library at 6:00 pm.
 - District 3 Aquatics Facility, February 6, 2024 at Mission Branch Library at 7:00 pm.

- Public Meeting Notice:
 - Zarzamora Creek Trail Project, January 29, 2024 at Memorial Library at 6:00 pm.
- Community Workshop #2 Brackenridge Park Reconciled Plan held on January 30, 2024 at 5:30 pm at the Tri-Point event center. Survey will be open until January 26, 2024. Link was provided for this survey. This workshop is to inform the community on the Reconciled Plan and Project inventory for Brackenridge Park. This is a follow up workshop to the one hosted on January 8 where will finalize guiding principles and project evaluation criteria.

ADJOURNMENT

Board adjourned the Parks and Recreation Board meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison Cohen, Chair
Parks and Recreation Board

DRAFT