

**RECREATION AND PARKS BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at 12:00 PM

City Council Chambers | 202 N. Virginia Street, Port Lavaca TX 77979

**MINUTES**

STATE OF TEXAS §  
COUNTY OF CALHOUN §  
CITY OF PORT LAVACA §

On this the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2025, the Recreation and Parks Board of the City of Port Lavaca, Texas, convened in regular session at 12:00 p.m. at the regular meeting place in Council Chambers at City Hall, 202 North Virginia Street, Port Lavaca, Texas with the following members in attendance:

**ROLL CALL**

Mac Sistrunk	Chairman
Olga Szela	Vice Chairwoman
Gregory Falcon	Board Member
Mary Lou Tharling	Board Member
Kevin Kuntschik	Board Member

And with the following absent:

William "Bill" Reagan	Board Member
Dina Smith*	Board Member

Constituting a quorum for the transaction of business, at which time the following business was transacted:

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Mac Sistrunk called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. and presided.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** - *(Limited to 3 minutes per individual unless permission to speak longer is received in advance. You may make public comments as you would at a meeting by logging on with your computer and using "Join Zoom Meeting" information on first page of this agenda).*

**1. General discussion and hear statements from citizens.**

Chairman Mac Sistrunk announced that the next Recreation and Parks Board Meeting will be Wednesday, February 28, 2025.

**2. Approve minutes from the regular meeting held January 22, 2025.**

Motion made by Board Member Falcon,

THAT, the Recreation and Parks Board hereby approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 22, 2025.

Second by Vice Chairwoman Szela,

Voting Yea: Chairman Sistrunk, Vice Chairwoman Szela, Board Member Falcon, Board Member Tharling, and Board Member Kuntschick.

**3. Receive Parks & Recreation Operations and Maintenance report from Director of Public Works.**

Public Works Director Wayne Shaffer delivered an update on the ongoing activities and initiatives of the Parks Department. During the meeting, he distributed a detailed report that outlined recent projects, maintenance updates, and future plans for park improvements. Following the presentation, the board engaged in a thorough discussion, addressing key points and providing feedback on the strategies outlined in the report.

Motion made by Board Member Falcon,

THAT, the Recreation and Parks Board hereby approves Changing the frequency of the Operations and Maintenance report presented by the Public Works Director from monthly to quarterly.

Second by Board Member Kuntschick,

Voting Yea: Chairman Sistrunk, Vice Chairwoman Szela, Board Member Falcon, Board Member Tharling, and Board Member Kuntschick.

A second motion was made by Board Member Falcon;

Be it Further Resolved That; the Recreation and Parks Board hereby approves receiving the Operations and Maintenance Report from the Public Works Director.

Second by Vice Chairwoman Szela,

Voting Yea: Chairman Sistrunk, Vice Chairwoman Szela, Board Member Falcon, Board Member Tharling, and Board Member Kuntschick.

**4. Receive Monthly Inspections Report from Public Works Department.**

The board reviewed and discussed the playground inspection report.



No additional comments were made.

**5. Receive update on park assignments from park board members.**

Board Member Kevin Kuntschick provided an update on Claret Crossing. He stated that the parks are in good condition. However, he observed some cracking in the concrete. This issue was noted in the inspections report, and he is assured that it will be addressed accordingly.

Chairman Sistrunk reported that the Bayfront Park looked good overall. He mentioned that after the snowfall, there were a few incidents of people spinning out their cars in the park, but it didn't require police involvement.

Board Member Olga Szela is assigned to City Park. She observed that the park is generally in good condition. She mentioned that the bathroom door has been reattached. She also noted that some pipes in the park froze due to the recent cold weather.

Board Member Mary Lou Tharling oversees George Adams Park. She stated the park looked very good.

Board Member Greg Falcon was assigned to Faye Bauer Sterling Park. He mentioned that the park looks good.

**6. Receive financial status report on the Parks Recreation Department.**

The financial report was reviewed and discussed.

**7. Discuss Financial reports at Lighthouse Beach Campground.**

Interim City Manager Jody Weaver presented a report on the Lighthouse Beach camp spot program.

**8. Discuss rental rates and policies at Lighthouse Beach Campground.**

Interim City Manager Jody Weaver presented a report on the Monthly Occupancy Rates and Total Revenue for Lighthouse Beach Campground since the new rates were implemented in August 2024. The data indicates a significant revenue decline, with over \$41,000 less generated in the past five months compared to the same period in 2023.

Weaver mentioned that there are plans to improve the situation. She stated that they are preparing a competitive bid package for the automatic gate system. Tania French is creating a new advertisement for Texas Highways Magazine, which will highlight the campground in Port Lavaca. Additionally, she is designing a billboard to promote the campground during non-event periods and is gathering photos of the RV park at full capacity.

Although we are working to promote the campground, the current financial situation is unsustainable. Weaver proposed that the Parks Board recommend to the Council reinstating the six-month stay limit to see if it improves our finances.

Motion made by Board Member Kuntschick,

THAT, the Recreation and Parks Board hereby approves recommending to the City Council to reinstate the six-month cap instead of a three-month cap at Lighthouse Beach for a trial period to promote financial improvement at the park.

Second by Vice Chairwoman Szela,

Voting Yea: Chairman Sistrunk, Vice Chairwoman Szela, Board Member Falcon, Board Member Tharling, and Board Member Kuntschick.

**ADJOURN**

Motion made by Vice Chairwoman Szela

Second by Board Member Falcon

Voting Yea: Chairman Sistrunk, Vice Chairwoman Szela, Board Member Falcon, Board Member Tharling, and Board Member Kuntschick.

Meeting adjourned at 12:49 P.M.

These minutes were approved on February 26, 2025

  
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Mac Sistrunk, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
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Lorena Perez-Diaz, Assistant City Secretary

Discuss Kick off meeting with LJA Architects on the Parks Master Plan