



**CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD/RIVER COMMITTEE JOINT MEETING
February 20, 2018**

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall

River Advisory Committee Members present were: David Davenport, Dick Hillyer, Matthew Hoyt, Heather Harrison and Scott Roots.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board present were: Bryan Feltner, Don Wehring, John Mathis, Cynthia Foster, and Jerry Millership.

City staff members present were: Assistant City Manager, Kristi Aday; River Operations Manager, Amy Niles; Police Chief, Tom Wibert; Urban Forester, Jess Divin; Park Ranger Superintendent, Marika Misangyi, Parks and Recreation Director, Stacey Dicke; Recreation Director, Ken Wilson; Park Development Manager, Ylda Capriccioso; Mark Enders, Watershed Program Manager and Management Assistant, Linda Mendoza.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Bryan Feltner called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m.

Chairman David Davenport called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m.

Mr. Davenport stated that City Council asked the River Advisory Committee (RAC) on December 11, 2017 to make recommendation to raise the fee from \$10-\$20 at Prince Solms. Council was resistant to raise the fee at the 1st presentation. After considerable data, it was decided to raise the fees. Their goal was to make the fund past revenue neutral and make no transfers.

It has been discussed between the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PARAB) about paid parking on Elizabeth Street Parking Lots in the past. Staff will talk about various options and Mr. Davenport suggested that the RAC make revenues suggestions and the Parks board make suggestions on parking.

Mr. Davenport suggested that the RAC and the PARAB make a joint recommendation to the Council.

2. Roll Call

3. Citizens' Communications

Circle of Arts requested that the City rewrite their contract to include making the parking area they utilize a tow away zone.

4. Discussion and Action

A. Elizabeth Street Parking Lots and Potential Paid Parking

Ms. Aday presented a PowerPoint in which she stated that in 2015 the Council visited paid parking on Elizabeth Street however they did not act. Elizabeth Street parking across from Circle of Arts Theater contains 198 parking spaces including twelve ADA accessible and reserved. These spots are used for Landa Park, River activities tubers, and pool goers. Circle of Arts patrons also utilize this parking lot as well as their staff.



It is recommended to use Lot 1, which has 43 spaces, for staff parking. Lot 2 would be used for paid parking which consists of 112 spaces from May 1 through Labor Day, seven days a week; this mirrors Prince Solms schedule.

A kiosk will need to be purchased which will cost about \$17,000 and a Park Ranger Patrol will also need to be added to the staff. The net of charging \$10 for 155 parking spots would be \$169,000. Revenue would mostly come from tubers, so it would make sense to place it in the River Fund and some portion of the revenue would go to the park. The revenue would pay for the kiosk so the general would not have to be relied upon. Another idea would be to divide the funds up between the River and General Funds; the Parks is part of the general fund. It was recommended to use the revenue to fund the repair of the parking lot. Ms. Dicke stated that the consequences of pushing River parking to the aquatics parking lot will impact free parking in Landa Park.

The Circle of Arts Theater has contractual use of lots for their events. They also use the lot between the theater and the Park maintenance building which has 34 spaces for their staff and volunteer program. They have Saturday shows and camps throughout the summer along with other events that can be accommodated if they have paid parking. 2 pm Sunday matinees are their primary concern. They suggested perhaps not charging on Sundays or cut off charging at noon, or perhaps using a parking pass for attendees of Sunday matinee users. Many senior citizens attend shows on Sundays and using a pass may create mobility issues for them as they would be required to walk up some stairs, place a pass on their cars and then walk back.

Mr. Hoyt asked if the Circle of Arts has had a day in which their patrons could not find parking and they said they have had that problem. It was stated that the Circle of Arts had no claim to the lot across the street but can close the parking lot next to them, which has 34 spaces. In the summer, staff takes those spots, except during the large summer programs. Circle of Arts stated that there are 140 seats in the theater and 30 staff.

The Rec Center Parking lot has 44 spaces and house New Braunfels staff; there is not enough spaces to allow others to park in it. It was reiterated that there are 34 spaces between the Parts Maintenance Building and Circle of Arts Building. Continued discussion on the number of spaces, who needs them and who are currently using them and the impact on charging for parking continued.

There was discussion on the impact of fees from parking. Paid parking would be charged from 9 am until 7 pm. It was said that there would be an impact to golfers and tubers. Mr. Mathis thought that if those who paid the parking fees saw what the funds were used for, it might be more easily tolerated. Mr. Davenport stated there are some additional details to consider on this matter.

Mr. Wehring asked what spaces the Circle of Arts required. The Circle of Arts stated that they needed a total of 80 spots for cast and patrons. It was suggested using the Rec Center parking and the parking in between the buildings. Mr. Mathis asked if they would have volunteers to man the gate and they replied they would work on it.

There was discussion about how quickly to resolve the parking issue. It was decided to resolve the issue by May 1 and implement any decision by June 1.

5. Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

None.



6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Approved on May 17, 2018 by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'D' followed by several horizontal strokes.

David Davenport, Chair