



**CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS  
RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
January 18, 2018**

**MINUTES**

Thursday, January 18, 2018, at 4:00 p.m. in the Braunfels Room at City Hall

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

**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, Real Estate Manager, Matt Eckman and Management Assistant, Linda Mendoza.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman David Davenport called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**2. APPROVE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 16, 2017 MEETING**

Mr. Matthew Hoyt moved to approve the minutes for November 16, 2017. Ms. Sarah Shea seconded the motion. The approval of the minutes passed unanimously.

**3. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION**

None.

**4. BOND ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Mr. Hillyer announced that he went to a Bond Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting. He asked the River Advisory Committee (RAC) the best way to send their recommendations to the BAC; specifically, the Comal River Improvement Project. Ms. Aday stated that the projects would be whittled down by community priorities and costs would be determined later. She recommended the RAC send an email stating they would like the BAC to review in detail the Comal River Improvement Project. More information would be forthcoming. Mr. Hillyer requested Ms. Acevedo review the RAC's input.

**5. DISCUSS RIVER MARKER PROPOSAL**

Ms. Niles is currently working with Mr. Eckman on placement of the signs and with the planning department to make sure the signs are up to code and do not impact the flood plain. The City will create and install the signs at no charge to citizens. Property owners would be required to sign an agreement and maintain the lawn around the sign.

Ms. Niles asked how best to gain participation into the program. Ms. Aday let the RAC know that this program to combine two ideas and establish no trespassing zones for private property along with the river markers was Ms. Niles idea. No trespassing zone along with the river marker will help police locate concerns from citizens and give residents a uniform way to advertise no trespassing. There was discussion on how best to obtain participation in the program.



Mr. Hillyer suggested making the sign purple and Mr. Hill suggested labeling the markers. Mr. Eckman along with Mr. Davenport believed the markers should be bigger than the example provided. There was discussion on the color and size of the signs, in which the committee agreed that the signs should be purple. Ms. Niles stated that there is a code maximum of four square feet and that officers prefer brighter colors. Mr. Divin suggested the signs have a sequential numbering system where odd numbers would be on one side of the river and even on the other side. Ms. Niles stated that the signs will have numbers and will be in our GIS system.

Mr. Eckman stated that the first step would be working with the planning department to get every potential property owner listed and get a numbering system in place. The second step would be working with the legal department to get a simple one to two-page licensing agreement stating we have the right to come on their property to install the sign; we have the right to come onto their property with appropriate notice if the sign needs maintenance; and the homeowner is responsible for landscape. A list will need to be made and a mass mailing sent out explaining benefits to them and the city. The language of the agreements will be simple as this is a volunteer program.

Mr. Hoyt asked about those who may want you to trespass on their property and asked if there was an alternative sign with a number or a code. There was discussion about the possibility of a second or third sign with trespassing and no trespassing on them and offering it to businesses.

There were discussions about where the signs would be placed, what kind(s) of signs and some talk about placing them starting at Linda Falls and Last Exit. Ms. Aday stated that the intent of these signs was to help tubers identify the location of where they are. Ms. Harrison suggested placing the non-emergency and emergency numbers on the signs. Chief Wibert stated it is common knowledge to call 911 and Ms. Niles added that Dispatch will direct them to look at the signs to notify them of their location.

## **6. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER PAID PARKING AT ELIZABETH STREET PARKING LOT**

Ms. Aday stated that the direction of the Council to charge for parking at Elizabeth Street is because of the approval of the change to the fee for parking at Prince Solms and that change brought this consideration up. She stated that a meeting with the Circle of Arts needs to take place before a proposal is sent to council. She will update the numbers, research the timing of delivery of the kiosks, talk to the Circle of Arts and then come back to the RAC.

Ms. Harrison asked if the number of spots for the Rec Center needed to be reevaluated and Ms. Aday stated they would be looked at. There was discussion who parked at the Landa Park side and who parked on the River side and if there was a way to reduce the 43 spots of staff parking spots. Ms. Harrison suggested moving the staff parking spaces elsewhere and not in the prime parking location. It was stated that the staff would then have to be shuttled if their parking was moved.

Mr. Davenport asked if Park Rangers could monitor the use of the parking lot. After continuing discussion this topic was left open to discuss later and Ms. Aday stated that research needed to be done to determine the number and kind of parking kiosks that will be needed.



Mr. Davenport wants to organize a meeting with the Parks board. There was discussion about having a workshop with the Parks board and Mr. Hoyt recommended having the RAC and Parks Board go to City Council separately. Mr. Davenport requested to meet with the Parks Board at their next meeting or have a workshop with them. It was agreed to meet with the Parks Board as soon as possible.

#### **7. DISCUSS RESIDENT RIVER PASS LANYARD PROPOSAL**

There was discussion on the lanyard proposal and dislike for it. Ms. Aday stated that staff prefers to continue with the wristbands as staff has been trained to look for wristbands and it is a quick, easy cue for Police, Rangers and Staff. There was a safety concern with the lanyards. The Staff recommendation is to keep using the wristbands. There was discussion on the use of a card instead of a lanyard and the different locations the wristbands could be purchased. The Existing system will remain in place until another method is feasible and recommended. This item is not formally tabled but can be discussed later.

#### **8. DISCUSS POTENTIAL FEBRUARY RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING DATE CHANGE**

Ms. Niles has a conflict with the February meeting. Mr. Davenport wants to have the Parks Board at a meeting. Ms. Harrison wants to move the meeting to February 22nd tentatively unless the RAC can hold a joint meeting with the Parks Board meeting. It was proposed that a joint meeting with the Parks Board would be set for February 20th at 6:30 pm if there was to be a joint meeting.

#### **9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

- Adopt a Spot Program

#### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 pm.

Approved on May 17, 2018 by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Davenport", is written over a horizontal line.

David Davenport, Chair