



**CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS  
RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
JUNE 21, 2018**

**MINUTES**

Thursday, June 21, 2018, at 4:00p.m. in the Braunfels Room at City Hall.

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

**City staff members present:** Assistant City Manager, Kristi Aday; River Operations Manager, Amy Niles; Assistant Parks and Recreation Director, Ken Wilson; Chief of Police, Tom Wibert; River Activities Coordinator, Casey Rice.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman David Davenport called the meeting to order at 4:05p.m.

**2. APPROVE MINUTES FROM May 17, 2018**

Mr. Darren Hill moved to approve the meeting minutes for May 17, 2018. Mr. Dick Hillyer seconded the motion. The approval of the meeting minutes was motioned to be approved unanimously.

**3. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION**

None

**4. BOND ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Ms. Kristi Aday stated that at Monday's City Council meeting the City Council discussed changes to the proposed Bond. Ms. Aday continued by saying the timing and demand for more roads made it likely that the Comal River Improvement project could come off the Bond. Ms. Aday mentioned there are additional funding options like 4B and HOT funding. The City Council will decide at the next City Council meeting which projects will go to the preliminary planning stage.

Mr. Dick Hillyer asked if the Comal River Improvement Project does come off the list

**5. MONTHLY RIVER ACTIVITEIS REPORT**

Ms. Amy Niles discussed a flier for the Comal River Improvement Project come and go Public Input Meeting July 10<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 p.m.. Ms. Niles added that the meeting will be lead by he Freese and Nichols project team.

Ms. Niles continued with the River Management Fee report for May that showed comparisons between what we collect from outfitter users, and what is collected from park users, which includes the Tube Chute and river booths fees combined. For the month of May there is over a \$10,000 increase in River Management Fee collections compared to last year's total fees in May. Ms. Niles added on the bottom of the report it showed the number of residents vs. non-residents that showed up to the river for the month of May on days that the River Management Fee is charged. Mr. Dick Hillyer suggested having a budget update on the next report for July's meeting.



Ms. Niles discussed the parking fee revenue stating that the Elizabeth Avenue parking lot collected \$10,550 for the month of May. Ms. Niles then discussed the significant increase in Prince Solms parking fee collection compared to last year, which came because of the parking price increase from \$10 to \$20 as well as starting the pay to park on May 1<sup>st</sup> instead of Memorial Day weekend. With these changes it brought May's total collected revenue for the Prince Solms Park parking lot to \$128,720 collected. Ms. Niles wanted the committee to keep in mind that these totals are high also as a reflection on the good weather from that month/ season.

Ms. Niles moved on to the litter collection numbers on the report. In May 2018 the collection was 3,148.87lbs which Ms. Niles mentioned was still a lot, but still significantly down from past years. Ms. Niles said that the litter total was the main number to look at, since the trash total was all from what was collected in the trash cans, and she was less concerned knowing that meant people are depositing their trash properly.

Mr. Scott Roots asked what kind of litter they were collecting, and if it was mostly cans or bottles? Ms. Niles answered saying it varies from cans, to golf balls, shoes, etc.

Ms. Niles went on to the last part of the reports for river related citations. Chief of Police Mr. Tom Wibert then proceeded to go over that area of the report.

Chief Wibert stated that most citations are the same as last year. The paid parking is now pushing people to illegally park, and most the tickets being received are people parking in the Faust St. neighborhood. Chief Wibert continued saying under the Faust St. Bridge area is a concern because of the crowds and pop-up tents. Chief Wibert added Police could not limit much there since the disposable container ban ends at the Mill Dam before the bridge.

Mr. Roots asked if that area can be included in the ban?

Ms. Aday responded saying they have been talking about that internally and have engaged with the City Attorney to do some analysis on how that might be done.

Chief Wibert ended with tactics the police force uses to enforce ordinances on the rivers. One of the tactics has been putting a police boat in the Guadalupe River where the can usage has been an issue. Another tactic Chief Wibert stated that the officers were doing was enforced compliance at the entrance gate at Prince Solms to the Comal River, and having officers at Stinky Falls as a checkpoint.

## **6. DISCUSSION OF PAID PARKING POLICIES AT ELIZABETH AVE. AND PRINCE SOLMS**

Ms. Niles presented the committee with a memo about the paid parking policies, and how she has had over twenty customer comments about the parking at Elizabeth Avenue. Mr. Dick Hillyer asked if this was relative for residents or non-residents? Ms. Niles said most all the customer comments are coming from residents that do park at Elizabeth Avenue during the week and in the mornings, most of them athletes. Mr. Ken Wilson added that L.P.A.C. fills up fast which just leaves Elizabeth Avenue open.

Mr. Davenport did mention that having a pass for the residents that use the river frequently would be ideal.

Ms. Harrison added that we will keep discussing this matter.

Ms. Aday mentioned it would be tough to change in the middle of the season. The Committee would like to keep this item on the agenda to discuss, and any recommendations would be focused on the 2019 season.

Ms. Kreschendalyn Backus was present as a citizen who floats the Comal River frequently during the week asked the committee to consider a reduced resident parking pass. Ms. Backus added she wouldn't mind paying one hundred dollars for seasonal resident river parking pass considering twenty dollars a week for parking adds up fast.



**7. APPOINT A RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER TO THE SAN ANTONIO ST. BRIDGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Ms. Harrison motioned to nominate Mr. Hillyer. Mr. Roots seconded the nomination. The approval of the nomination of Mr. Hillyer to represent that River Advisory Committee on the San Antonio St. Bridge Advisory Committee was approved unanimously.

**8. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

Bond update  
Monthly River Report  
Paid Parking Discussion  
Life jacket study update  
Discuss 2018 Schedule

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'S' followed by a horizontal line that ends in a small hook.

