

Parks and Beautification Liaison Report

Steve Oelfke

Meeting Date: 1/7/2026 10am

The meeting started with Chad Minor introducing Herb Raybourn followed by Stacey swearing Herb into the Chairman position for the P&B committee. The Dog Park was next on the agenda and began with Major Judy Titsworth providing a history of the dog park. She described its origination and what has been done to help it recover from the effects of Hurricane Helen and the subsequent loss of irrigation due to the debris site. She explained that the Hagan foundation paid for fencing and to move the pavilion to the new dog park area.

Herb then led with the current upgrade plans that had not been started yet. An arial view poster was provided on a tripod to help display the proposed improvements and allow for proposed changes. The planned items he listed:

1. Plant more "Shady Lady" trees and 2 clusters of 3 cabbage palms
2. Install new metal roofs for the dug out's
3. New sod to added to the areas that need sod starting with the sandy side of the park
4. Paint dug out structures
5. Add a privacy fence along the fence area that is adjacent to the public storage area.

The meeting was then opened up to public comment. About six different dog park users came up to provide feedback and list areas of concern. Around 12 total individuals were in attendance to support the dog park. Items mentioned from the dog park users:

1. There is no power available in the small dog park area.
2. The small dark park area grass in now only weeds for the most part.
3. Metal roofs may cause more heat. Are there proper structural beams to support the new roof?
4. Are the fire hydrants going to be fixed or removed?
5. Request to keep the fans in the dug out.
6. New grass for the small dog park area was requested.
7. Benches need shade.
8. Can lights be added so that there is more time available due to it getting dark so early this time of year.
9. Can the new "shady lady" trees be larger than the previous ones that were planted?
10. They would like a couple more benches for the large dog park.
11. The wash area needs to be re-sloped due to water build up at the gate entrance.

12. Can sail shades be acquired so that there is more shade?
13. Is it ok to ask the other cities for funding support?
14. Can a paver path be added from the gate area through the sand area to the dug out and pavilion?
15. It was asked if a subcommittee could be created for the P&B committee specifically for the dog parks.

During this time the P&B committee asked questions about the proposed changes that Herb submitted and approved to move forward with three to four of the most pressing items.

Mayor Judy Titsworth indicated she really appreciated the input and told all the individuals that they can come and speak with her at any time if they have further ideas or concerns. The mayor indicated that they were currently looking to sod the small dog park in the spring if needed. She asked Trey to see if the city can get larger “shady lady” trees and to find the price. She discussed that we do not have the funding at this time for addition shade structures. She indicated that we had used as much of our contingency funding that she felt comfortable with and did not want to reduce it more.

The P&B meeting continued on the other agenda items:

Adopt a Spot reports

Veterans Park Community Garden

There was discussion about the ongoing efforts to obtain sponsors for the beach access improvement programs and the garden clubs involvement. 66<sup>th</sup> and 67<sup>th</sup> were identified as having current sponsors.