

Park Board Meeting Minutes Regular Meeting of April 10, 2024

PLACE	NAME	P/A	PLACE	NAME	P/A
1	Angela Lewallen	P	6	*Blake Wyne	P
2	Elizabeth Flores	P	7	John Brooks	A
3	Chery Brennan	P	8	Jim Domer	P
4	Chris Crawford	P	9	Elaine Borchardt	P
5	Julia Sykes	P			

A. Call Meeting to Order and Announce Quorum is Present:

The April Park Board Meeting was called to order by Blake Wyne, Park Board Chair at 6:01 p.m.

B. Visitors: 8

C. Approval of Park Board Minutes:

Chery motioned to approve the Park Board Minutes of the March 20, 2024 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth and the vote was unanimous.

D. New business:

a. Non-Profit Partner Annual Updates – Stacie Anaya

KEEP LEWISVILLE BEAUTIFUL – Jennifer Southwell

- Blake – I would love to see the bags to benches program expand. My kids used to do it. I'd like to see more collection bins. It was at Montessori Episcopal school.
- Jennifer - A problem is those boxes fill up every 2 days. Great problem but when we have 2 people to manage this and everything else...it's too much. Would be great to have an advocate at the school to weigh and bring them to WinCo. I'll mention that to Amy.
- Stacie – Keep Lewisville Beautiful got so good at the program, they accumulated 500 lbs. of bags. So, we got so good at it that they had to change the program. They've now limited it to 2 benches per year and you can donate up to 1,000 lbs. Still great, and that's with the Keep Lewisville Beautiful umbrella. But if the school applied separately, they would qualify for 2 more.
- Jennifer- I can get you in touch with Amy about it.
- Blake – I don't care about the bench as much as the recycling. The bench is a byproduct.
- Jennifer - It just ends up being a lot of work for very few people. If we could get volunteers at different organizations and companies to help manage the program that would be fantastic
- Elizabeth – How are you advertising and recruiting volunteers?
- Jennifer – We have an email list, social media, and host booths at events.
- Elizabeth – Are you getting good results? Did you see a decrease of volunteers during COVID?
- Jennifer- Yes there was a decrease, but it's come back up. People were sad to miss the Spring Cleanup during that time. Once you're involved, you're involved. During COVID it was dicey, but people were still engaged and asking about it. So, we tried the drive through option. We have discussed some ways to collaborate outside of the Park Board

which I'm not going to discuss as they're new but please volunteer and please share our organization with others.

- Stacie – Yes, boosting to different areas of influence would help them (via social media pages)

CLEAR TEXAS LAKES – Don Gaston

- Visitor – Are there any partners, any other cities that do this? (lake cleanups via boat at Lewisville Lake)
- Don - No, this is where we started. We want to expand but to do that takes some help.
- Stacie – City partners? (meaning government entities)
- Don -No, just Lewisville.
- Stacie – We see value in this partnership. Debris has built up at the northern end of the lake near Eagle Point Marina and Copperas Branch because of the wind. The trash is not necessarily generated by Lewisville but it's our problem because of where we are on the lake. He's a good partner for us in keeping our shoreline clean. We geographically are getting other people's debris. We're trying to encourage other communities to do this (invest in the program) because if all nearby communities help with \$1,250 a year and no charge to enter boat ramps, that will get him halfway to what he needs.
- Chery- Where are the Styrofoam pieces from?
- Don - They're part of the original docks and came off in the 2015 storm. Those pieces got dispersed. Now it's a law that the docks must be encapsulated. The foam doesn't wear off them.
- Jose – How often do you clean up around Lewisville Lake?
- Don - Two times per week, weather dependent. It's hard to plan too far in advance. In the summer when it's really hot we'll get there early and stick to the weekdays. This time of year, it's more like 3-4 times per week.
- Blake – Boat is an acronym for Bust Out Another Thousand
- Jim – My boat's named Cha Ching
- Blake – You dump the debris at the landfill?
- Don - No, we have a Memo of Understanding with the Corps and they let us use their ramp and dumpsters, at west Lake Park they have big dumpsters.
- Visitor – Do you deal with invasive aquatic plants?
- Stacie – Just humans
- Don - And snakes
- Elizabeth – There are a few related groups in the area on Facebook: NT Fishing Addicts, 903 Fishing, Trinity Kayak Group, for example - and they have several thousand members. I'd join these groups and try to get volunteers from these responsible fishermen.

LEWISVILLE PARK ALLIANCE – Cindy Meridith

- Stacie – They really need our influence: if you know a company with an altruistic tone we can connect with, and have a contact that can give the introduction, let us know so we can pass that along and build the Miracle Field and give out more scholarships.

ELM FORK OF TEXAS MASTER NATURALISTS - Jan Deatherage

- Stacie - They've gotten over \$5 million in grants over the past 5 years. It's not the government's responsibility to get us there. They volunteer to do this, so we need to keep

them at the forefront of our minds when we talk about initiatives.

b. United Cricket Club Annual Update - Erika Tang/Ayaz Sheikh & Rizwan

- Ayaz – Our major challenge is a shortage of fields. Please check out our social media and links. Thank you to the Parks Board and the Parks and Recreation department. Thanks for giving us a home, letting us play.
- Rizwan - Let me put this request in context for you – The World Cup for Cricket starts June 1 in the US and Canada. We are now on the stage. It's a growth market. We will remain ambassadors for the City of Lewisville.
- Elizabeth- Question for Stacie: the park down south. If the bond gets approved, is Cricket part of that plan?
- Stacie – No, that park doesn't have the space for a Cricket field. We've been looking at going to East Hill Park near Pier 121. That will be a place for fields that can accommodate more practice time for Cricket and the like. Trying to figure out how to put it in our plans.
- Elizabeth – So, it's not part of the bond?
- Stacie – No, not yet. But Lake Park is - improving the roads out there, and shoreline restoration which will protect the field. There is a redesign that doesn't take away the Cricket field. They'll be impacted tangentially by the bond but there's capacity for us to do acquisition to expand Railroad Park so that's where we'd look at opportunities.
- Elizabeth – What would be the timeline for that acquisition?
- Stacie – There's \$60 million tagged for Parks, and we're sprinkled into other ones. They'll be sold in tranches, and we won't start designing them. Lake Park is next – contingent on the Corps approving the plan. We're trying to start getting property. The problem is properties are owned by multiple people. So, it's easier said than done.
- Elizabeth – So, demand is outpacing city plans. United Cricket Club – have you reached out to other cities? Sounds like we have a head start.
- Ayaz – We're facing the same challenge with the other cities (hosting the Club). Other cities are doing what they can, but our situation is not as fully understood. We'd have to up our game. The quality and number of fields. Inevitably the parents will show up wanting the fields.
- Elizabeth – And at Railroad Park it's more about scheduling?
- Ayaz – Yes, we were around when they were designing Railroad Park. It's not completely ideal but the idea was there and usage was there. We have members of the Club that must dedicate lots of time to organizing.
- Stacie - We as the City of Lewisville want to provide a base line entry point for the community. Commercial is what you hope will be the platform, the private sector is picking up the pay for play. We can use tax dollars to support those who need an entry point.
- Stacie – For Glory Park, May 18 is the new date for the Grand Opening. We'll talk to y'all about having cleanup the morning prior to opening, we'll send out emails and set something up. We'll figure out a way to address quorum.
- Angela – Reminder: 5/18 BBQ fundraiser friends of LLELA.
- Jose – Also, trail Run is this Saturday.
- Chris Crawford– When will we know about summer camp?
- Chris Chastain – Registration is open.
- Elizabeth – Thank you for organizing this agenda. It's really nice to hear from partners, with sports guys too, to hear about the needs of the community. Lewisville offers recycling

bins at all our parks, and I don't see that anywhere else. Thank you for offering that option. We just talked about the bags for benches program. Proud to see that recycling initiative. Info request: sports day 2-3 weeks ago – our field was closed (soccer understandable) baseball fields were closed but the others in the area were open. Hoping for info. Sounds like the process changed recently.

- Marcus – We make sure fields are playable/safe. We will close for safety. We want to keep the field integrity also. We get told that “all others are open while ours are closed!” – not true. Also, Lake Park fields are older, don't have drainage, use different materials.
- Elizabeth – I get it with soccer, but baseball is different since a few children are standing and not running. I could understand particular fields are flooded, maybe partially closed.
- Marcus – The grass isn't the big problem. It's the dirt infield.
- Elizabeth – I heard concerns that we weren't open, and others were. Sounds like normally the fields are walked at 7 and the call was made a few days ahead. People felt it wasn't fair.
- Marcus – I'm not sure of the timeline but our team does a great job and I trust they made the right judgments at the time.

E. Round Table:

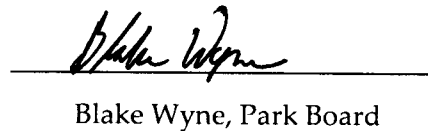
- Angela Lewallen –
- Elizabeth Flores –
- Chery Brennan –
- Chris Crawford –
- Julia Sykes –
- Blake Wyne –
- John Brooks -
- Jim Domer –
- Elaine Borchardt –

H. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Chery to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m., was seconded by Elizabeth and the vote was unanimous.



Stacie Anaya, Director



Blake Wyne, Park Board