



Meeting Minutes

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

5:30 PM City Hall 1201 Leopard St. Basement Training Room.

A. Call To Order/Roll Call

Chair Lindsey called the meeting to order and a quorum was established.

Present: 9 - Linda Lindsey, Thomas Cronnon, Joe De La Paz, George Woods, Mark Borgeson, Ariana Jones, Jeremy Berry, James Lehnert, and Eric Jaramillo

Absent: 2 - Adam Rios, and Jay N. Gardner

B. Public Comment

Shirin Delsooz, District 5, spoke to a call to action for letters of support regarding a trail system at Bill Witt Park in which a grant application was submitted to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. She also mentioned that the "bike layer" option on web based maps is often incorrect and that, as an entity, the City can contribute GIS data information to help to improve this layer.

C. Approval of Absences: Adam Rios

A motion was made by Jeremy Berry to approve the absence listed above and it was seconded by Mike Lehnert. The motion passed.

D. Approval of Minutes

1. [26-0049](#) PRAC Meeting Minutes from the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2025

A motion was made by Thomas Cronnon to approve the minutes listed above and it was seconded by Ariana Jones. The motion passed.

E. Director's Report

Robert Dodd, Director of Parks & Recreation, updated the Committee on the following items:

- PARD Operations during the City Holiday Closure
- PRAC Volunteer Options for the 2026 TRAPS Conference
- Introduction of Faye Rencher, Grants & Contracts Coordinator

Ms. Rencher briefly discussed the Department's efforts to submit an application to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Recreational Trails Grant Program for trail connectivity improvements at Bill Witt Park. A motion was made by Mike Lehnert for the purpose of

drafting/submitting a letter of support, on behalf of PRAC, for this grant submission. The motion was seconded by Mark Borgeson. The motion passed

2. [26-0077](#) Ex-Officio Updates - Brook Kaufaman, President & CEO, Visit Corpus Christi

Ms. Kaufman gave updates regarding the Sports Facilities Advisory Feasibility Report. The Executive Summary Report recommends a facility program model of an indoor facility asset for the City. A large indoor athletic facility would need approximately 11.8 acres of space for the sports complex, costing anywhere from \$50 to \$60 million dollars. She briefly touched on the potential options of how this facility could be funded. She did mention that for Corpus Christi, there is more of a market for baseball fields. To keep this project at the forefront, Ms. Kaufman stated that advocacy efforts will be organized to gain support from City elected officials or other stakeholder involvement. No action was taken.

F. Unfinished Business for Discussion or Possible Action

3. [25-1571](#) Resolution for Expanding Operating Hours at Bill Witt Aquatic Center

Chair Lindsey prompted the Committee to discuss the official response from PARD regarding their proposed Resolution. As part of the Resolution process to make recommendations to City Council, PARD must provide a response to accompany the Committee's Resolution, with approval upon the Resolution's second reading.

Staff Response: The Parks & Recreation Department does not recommend opening the Bill Witt Aquatic Center for Winter operations due to staffing limitations and budgetary constraints. Winter operations would require an additional \$20,000 in staffing costs. Currently, the Department does not have any budgeted funds for these staffing costs. The hiring and on-boarding of five part-time employees would require additional time.

Mr. Dodd wanted to clarify that they are not opposed to PRAC's recommendations, but at this time their recommendations are not feasible due to budgetary constraints. He acknowledged that PARD is more than willing to fulfill specific recommendations at the direction of City leadership, considering future operating budget approvals for the fiscal year.

A motion was made by Mike Lehnert to approve the Resolution as submitted and it was seconded by Thomas Cronnon. The motion passed unanimously.

4. [25-1898](#) Discussion Regarding Holly Train Trestle to Tourism Trail

Sergio Gonzalez, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation, gave some updates on this project. He stated that per the grant requirements, construction will need to be initiated by August of this year. There have been discussion on the how overhead lighting will be achieved for the trail and bollard placement for traffic control. Currently, there are no expectations to seek additional funding to expand the scope of this project. Currently, the

design for the parking lot is being completed. He gave more information on the potential for future grant submittals to fund a kayak launching site but the this project must be substantially completed before doing so. No action was taken on this item.

G. New Business for Discussion or Possible Action

5. [25-1872](#) Approval of the 2025 PRAC Annual Report

A motion was made by Thomas Cronnon to approve the 2025 PRAC Annual Report, with revisions, and it was seconded by Jeremy Berry. The motion passed.

6. [26-0050](#) PRAC Recommendations for Bond 2026 & Budget Recommendations for FY 26-27

Chair Lindsey reminded the Committee that the process for recommendations is quickly approaching. The City process for planning the budget is happening much earlier as the City plans budget workshops. She emphasized to he Committee the importance of submitting recommendations to Staff so that they can bring them forth for consideration to the City Manager. No action was taken on this item.

H. Committee Liaison & Subcommittee Reports

I. Future Agenda Items

- Bond 2026
- Trestle Trail

J. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.