

Williamson Park Committee  
Meeting Minutes

The Williamson Park Committee met Tuesday, September 14, 2021, in person. Attending members include Mr. Ervin, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Galloway on conference call; County Recreation Director Mr. Andrews; Park Manager Mr. Danny Purvis; and city staff, Ms. Rock and Ms. Shafer.

Mr. Ervin called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

**Financial Report:** Ms. Rock said, as of August 31, the account balance is \$64,408.27.

**Park Manager's Report:** Mr. Purvis said that they are still maintaining the condition of the park trail to include limb and litter pickup and blowing off the boardwalks on a regular basis. They are in the process of trimming the total trail one last time for the summer season and plan to continue to trim areas as needed throughout the fall. Damaged or weakened deck boards are being replaced as they are found, and several have been replaced this month with a few more that need to be repaired. The trail is still in good walking condition but could be better. Unfortunately, mulch is hard to find, so they can only mulch so much given what supply they have. Mr. Purvis reported that they removed the gate at the picnic area of the park and replaced it with a chain as requested.

**Pig Pickin' in the Park:** Mr. Galloway said that Nick's BBQ confirmed having the **same sides and that the BBQ pig would be provided by the same individual as last time** for the event this year. Any leftover alcohol will need to be moved from the park after the event and returned on that following Monday. Mr. Galloway couldn't get in touch with the bartender from last time, so he found **a licensed bartender from Micky Finns** who agreed to do it for \$25 per hour. Mr. Galloway also said that the committee still needs to get a special event permit to serve alcohol, and that the application needs to be signed by two of the committee members. Mr. Ervin and Mr. Smith volunteered to be the two to sign the application. Ms. Rock reminded the committee that the application will need to be notarized. Mr. Ervin said that he can get that done at his office. The committee agreed to host the event from 6 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, October 23. Mr. Andrews said Recreation will provide 15 tables for the event and if they need more to let him know. Mr. Galloway said that **he would ask** Belk Funeral Home **to** donate the tents again this year. Ms. Rock asked who would be ordering the tickets for the event. Mr. **Ervin** said that Mr. Howle did it last year, **and Mr. Galloway** would get in contact with him and find out who did the tickets last year and use them again this year. Mr. Ervin suggested possibly having shirts to sell year-round as a fundraiser.

Mr. Ervin asked that the Committee meet again to have progress on the event on Oct. 12. Ms. Rock asked about advertising and promotion of the event. Mr. Ervin replied that the boat facility is where they normally have some promotion posted. Mr. Carroll said that he will be sending out Facebook event invites. Mr. Ervin asked the committee to think about doing shirts for the park to sell at this event in the future.

**New Business:** There are no seats vacant on the committee. All seats and alternate positions have been filled with the nomination of Dr. Andy Cohen at the September City Council meeting.

Ms. Rock brought up a grant opportunity to the Committee, and the letter of intent deadline is quickly approaching, Sept. 24. Mr. Galloway said that the grant would be good for **the boardwalk from the front of the park at the event area through the interior of the park to the back pathway. This was approved by the committee in 2018 when a grant submission was made but not received.** The estimate for that project had been quoted **in 2018 and** was between \$80,000 to \$90,000 and would **add 320** feet of boardwalk. Mr. **Galloway** said that Genesis and other businesses would probably agree to fund the match for a specific project like this. The grant requires a 1-to-1 match. The committee agreed to have Ms. Rock and Ms. Shafer prepare to apply for the grant, and they would find funds for the match if they were awarded the grant.

Ms. Rock brought to the Committees attention that it is about time to start updating the Williamson Park Strategic Plan. Mr. Ervin told the committee to look over the old plan and discuss at the next meeting.

**Old Business:** Mr. Andrews said that the Williamson Park Committee is officially registered with the Secretary of State.

The meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.