

1 The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, February 3, 2022 at Seabrook Public
2 Works and Animal Control Complex Training Room, 1100 Red Bluff Road, Seabrook, Texas to
3 discuss and if appropriate, take action on the agenda items listed below.

4

5 THOSE PRESENT WERE:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| 6 Sally Antrobus | Chair |
| 7 David Popken | Vice-Chair |
| 8 Heather Cable | Member |
| 9 John Coggeshall | Member |
| 10 Monica Comeaux | Member |
| 11 Debra Harper | Member |
| 12 Nehemiah Jackson | Member |
| 13 Sean Landis | Deputy City Manager |
| 14 Kevin Padgett | Public Works Director |
| 15 Brian Craig | City Engineer/Asst. Public Works Director |
| 16 Natalie Stephens | Public Works Administrative Coordinator |

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18 Chair Sally Antrobus called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

19 **1. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

20 Mr. Al Austin introduced himself and his interest in getting more involved with the parks and
21 trails.

22 **2. CONSENT AGENDA**

23 Approve the minutes of the January 6, 2022 Open Space and Trails Committee meeting.

24 *Natalie Stephens, Public Works Admin Coordinator*

25 *Motion made by Member Harper and seconded by Member Jackson.*

26 *To approve the minutes of the January 6, 2021 Open Space and Trails Committee meeting.*

27 *MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT*

28 **3. DISCUSSION**

29 **3.1** Discuss, consider, and if necessary take all appropriate action regarding Hester Butterfly
30 Garden maintenance, signage, volunteer opportunities and volunteers for spring gardening.

31 *Member Harper*

32 Member Harper requested this agenda item be moved to a future meeting allowing for clear
33 planting needs after forecasted freeze.

34 **3.2** Discuss, consider, and if necessary take all appropriate action regarding directional trail
35 signs. *Member Harper*

36 Member Harper requested trail directional signs be added to parks, directing trail users to
37 parking lot, Robinson Park, and Pine Gully Bayou. Committee recommended unanimously
38 for Member Coggeshall to create wooden signs as he has for Hester Garden.

39 **3.3** Update and report on Tree Planting Day of Awesomeness on January 8, 2021. *Member*
40 *Coggeshall*

41 Member Coggeshall reported that 100 trees, donated by Houston Wilderness Society, were
42 planted on the weekend of January 8th at Friendship, Pine Gully, Rex Meador, Baybrook
43 Parks and near Carothers Coastal Gardens. Mr. Coggeshall anticipates a higher success rate
44 for these trees due to the planters using a soil amendment, which improves the properties of
45 soil. Boy Scout Troop 389 will be planting additional trees donated by Houston Wilderness
46 Society on February 5, 2022, in Friendship Park. Houston Wilderness Society is interested in
47 donating 300-500 more trees and bringing volunteers for a Spring planting. The Committee
48 agrees that Spring plantings in this area are not ideal. Future tree plantings may be focused at
49 Rex Meador and Baybrook parks as well as along any trail that may connect Lake Mija 3
50 development to Friendship Park.

51 Chair Antrobus requested Member Coggeshall to distribute his Tree Planting log to the
52 committee.

53 **3.4** Discuss, consider, and if necessary take all appropriate action regarding Keep Texas
54 Beautiful's Governor's Community Achievement Award application. *Chair Antrobus*

55 Chair Antrobus updated she is still receiving feedback on the application rough draft. Staff
56 will take the final draft and enter it into the GCAA online application for submission prior to
57 February 17th.

58 Member Harper requested the pictures that are proposed to be submitted allowing her to look
59 for additional photos

60 Deputy City Manager, Sean Landis, had a meeting with TXDOT, Ethan Beeson along with
61 Member Coggeshall in regards to the Green Ribbon program and planting along Hwy 146.
62 Ethan confirmed that he wouldn't mind speaking with everyone on the topic. Deputy City
63 Manager, Sean Landis suggested Member Coggeshall reach out to Ethan to further discuss
64 where trees can be planted along TXDOT ROW, while brainstorming projects with the
65 potential grant funding from this year's GCAA submission.

66 Member Coggeshall will work with Ethan with focus on the entrance to Seabrook near the
67 four corners at Hwy 146 and Red Bluff overpass.

68 Deputy City Manager, Sean Landis stated Ethan will have the plans as some of the areas of
69 focus will be detention ponds, where many plantings can potentially line the pond.

70 Member Harper suggested Houston Wilderness Society be involved with providing high
71 carbon absorption trees for the plantings near Hwy 146, along with bush plantings to help
72 protect the tree bark.

73 **3.5** Discuss, consider, and if necessary take all appropriate action regarding Carothers
74 Community Garden. *Chair Antrobus*

75 Chair Antrobus requested an update and clarification on any committee needs for the future
76 of the Carothers Community Garden.

77 Deputy City Manager, Sean Landis, clarified no action is needed by Open Space and Trails
78 in regards to the Carothers Community Garden. City Council has directed for the Carothers
79 Community Garden to be a separate project from the Carothers Coastal Gardens. By
80 Resolution 2021-14, City Council agreed the Carothers Community Garden be guided by
81 volunteers and a volunteer garden manager. Jesse Jones has been appointed the Carothers
82 Community Garden Volunteer Garden Manager and the Open Space and Trails Committee
83 will be part of the discussions for future CIP development of Carothers Coastal Gardens.

84 Jesse Jones provided an update on the Carothers Community Garden. There has been
85 significant work completed to be ready for a March 1, 2022 start date. 29 garden beds are
86 completed and volunteers have started seeding 160 plants to have ready. Urban Harvest
87 completed a sight inspection and offered future volunteers and possible youth classes. The
88 Carothers Community Garden project remains under budget with some additional purchases
89 needed for dirt, hoses, hose holders and completion of some drainage work. Jesse Jones is
90 working on sponsorships. The Nursery in Dickinson is offering a discount on plants and
91 landscaping. Santa Fa GROH donated some plants. Jesse and Nemo Jackson are searching
92 for possible sponsors and grant opportunities such as Port of Houston and Seabrook
93 Association for the murals for \$5,000, with walls prepped. Researching grant opportunities
94 such as American Dermatological Association to build shade structure and Native Plant
95 Society of Texas Pollinator Grant. The Carothers Community Garden will provide
96 volunteers for other planting projects and may teach adult and children garden classes.
97 Seabrook Intermediate has a garden bed for 20 students. Jesse Jones requested clarification
98 on how to handle check payments. Deputy City Manager, Sean Landis, will confirm payment
99 process with City Manager, Gayle Cook.

101 **3.6** Update and report on various Seabrook Park items, including needed repairs, signage,
102 plants, flowers and vegetation, and park use matters. *Committee*

103 Member Harper stated the Baybrook garbage cans are full.

104 Member Popken stated that he and George Kayme roughed out another trail between Hester
105 Gardens and Rex Meador Park with staff help with a footbridge.

106 Chair Antrobus stated the Seabrook trails are recognized by the community. She requested
107 that an agenda item be added to the next agenda for Gold Eco-Star leaves to be engraved in
108 honor of Drusilla Carothers and Mary Milby for spearheading the commencement of the trail
109 system.

110 Member Coggeshall requested the Pine Gully women's restroom lock be looked at to ensure
111 it is still working.

112 Member Popken requested a Pine Gully Pier and McHale platform repair assessment update
113 be added to the agenda.

114 **3.7** City Staff update and report on various Seabrook Park items including community
115 events, grant administration, repairs, Council approvals and determinations and emergency
116 events. *City Staff*

117 Kevin Padgett, Public Works Director, reported:

- 118 • Birding Trail signs are all installed except for the UTC number signs, which are not
119 reissued. The City has ordered material to create the UTC signs.
- 120 • Scouts 389 will be planting 40 trees in Friendship Park on February 5th.
- 121 • City Council had directed staff to confirm if the Friendship Park Soccer Field lights
122 are operational, check for manufacture recommended shielding and that neighboring
123 residents to the field be notified of the possible after hours use. Staff confirmed that a
124 couple lights are not working. The manufacturer does not recommend shielding the
125 halogen lights. Staff researched cost of LED fixtures, installation and wiring, and
126 reached out to residents providing a QR survey for feedback. Staff will bring all their
127 findings to City Council for further direction on the lighting pilot program.
- 128 • After revisions are received for the GCAA grant application, staff would like to enter
129 the data and submit the week of February 7th.
- 130 • Harris County is working at Hester Garden where there was possibly a failure with
131 the Harris County culvert causing the sink hole. Equipment will be staged at Hester's
132 parking lot and possibly a portion of the trail.
- 133 • A portion of the trail behind the Public Works building will be temporarily closed off
134 near the property line and the end of Park Street due to construction.

135 **4. ROUTINE BUSINESS**

136 **4.1** Update on volunteer hours. *Committee*

137 483 volunteer hours were reported for the month of January by Open Space and Trails,
138 Carothers Community Garden, Community Service and park volunteers.

139 **4.2** Establish future meeting dates and agenda items. *Committee*

140 The next Open Space & Trails meeting will be held tentatively on February 3, 2022 at 5 PM.

141 By Committee consensus, the following will be added to the February Agenda:

- 142 • Discuss, consider and take all appropriate action regarding Hester Butterfly Garden
143 volunteers for spring gardening. *Committee*
- 144 • Discuss, consider and take all appropriate action regarding Carothers Community
145 Garden. *Committee*
- 146 • Discuss, consider and take all appropriate action regarding Eco-Star leaves engraved
147 in honor of Drusilla Carothers and Mary Milby for spearheading the idea of a trail
148 system within the Seabrook parks. *Chair Antrobus*
- 149 • Update on Pine Gully Pier and McHale platform. *Staff*
- 150 • Discuss, consider and take all appropriate action regarding Capital Improvement
151 Projects (CIP). *Staff*
- 152 • Update and report on various Seabrook Park items, including needed repairs, signage,
153 pants, flowers, and vegetation, and park use matters. *Committee*
- 154 • City Staff update and report on various Seabrook Park items, including community
155 events, grant administration, repairs, Council approvals and determinations and
156 emergency events. *Staff*

157 Upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM

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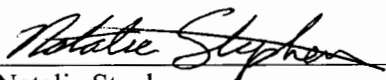
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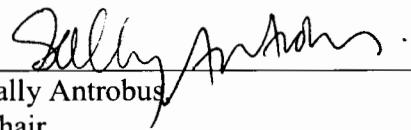
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Natalie Stephens,
Public Works Administrative Coordinator


Sally Antrobus
Chair