

1 The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, January 4, 2024, 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.
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5 **THOSE PRESENT WERE:**

6	Monica Comeaux	Excused Absence	Chair, Position 5
7	David Popken		Vice-Chair, Position 6
8	Sally Antrobus		Position 1
9	John Coggeshall		Position 3
10	Debra Harper		Position 2
11	Nehemiah Jackson		Position 4
12	Jesse Jones		Position 7
13	Sean Landis	Excused Absence	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
17			

18 Chair Monica Comeaux called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

19 **1. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUCEMENTS**

20 None

21 **2. CONSENT AGENDA**

22 **2.1** Approve the minutes of the December 7, 2023, Open Space and Trails Committee
23 meeting.

24 *Natalie Stephens, Public Works Admin Coordinator*

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

26 *MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT*

27 **3. NEW BUSINESS**

28 **3.1** Discuss recently viewed Keep Texas Beautiful webinars. *Committee*

- 29 • Dark Sky Communities – David Popken
30 Interesting webinar discussing reflective glare of light as light pollution. It would be nice to
31 have Seabrook City Council and the community aware and considerate of light pollution.

32 **3.2** Discuss and take all appropriate action regarding Tallow Tree Removal program.

33 *Member Jones*

34 Member Jones recommended the City of Seabrook to be conscious of the Tallow Trees as a
35 Texas invasive species. He recommends city staff to remove any tallow trees when they
36 come across them while working.

37 *Motion for Tallow trees to be removed by staff and or volunteers when feasible, with native*
38 *planting used for shade tree recruitment in the same vicinity when possible.*

39 *Motion made by Member Antrobus and seconded by Member Jones.*

40 **MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT**

41 **3.3** Discuss and take all appropriate action regarding Governor's Community Achievement
42 Award (GCAA). *Committee*

43 Member Jackson will work on the GCAA. Member Jones and Member Antrobus will assist
44 with the grant writing and collecting supporting documentation. The committee requested a
45 GCAA status to be on the next agenda.

46 **3.4** Update and report on various Seabrook Park items, including needed repairs, signage,
47 plants, flowers, and vegetation, and park use matters. *Committee*

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- 49 • Would like the OST committee to be involved in the designing discussion for the green
50 space where the current Waste Water Treatment Plant is located. *Member Jones*
 - 51 • Would like the OST committee to be involved in the designing discussion with the Green
52 Ribbon study. *Member Jones*
 - 53 • A Bat Box was installed by Member Popken near Hester Butterfly Garden. *Member*
Popken

54 **3.5** City Staff update and report on various Seabrook Park items including community
55 events, grant administration, repairs, Council approvals and determinations and emergency
56 events. *City Staff*

57 Kevin Padgett, Public Works Director:

- 58
- 59 • GCAA grant is now open. Staff appreciates OST writing for this grant. Please send info
60 to Member Jackson so that sections can be sent over to staff as they are drafted for staff
61 to start uploading into the Keep Texas Beautiful site.
 - 62 • Tree Lighting event on November 30th was canceled due to flood warning in the area.
 - 63 • Breakfast with Santa on December 9th was a huge success with the help of Rotary, Rotary
64 Interact, Scouts, and James Hernandez and Kevin Padgett as the Christmas Bear and
Frosty.

- 65 • Christmas Tree Recycling program will be promoted until January 9th, when the trees will
66 be mulched for use by OST and the community.
- 67 • The Pelican Bay Pool slide will be demolished. The City Council is discussing repairs
68 and improvements.
- 69 • The City of Seabrook is working with Harris County to increase their contribution for the
70 rebuilding of the Pine Gully Pier since the quote was more than anticipated. The city
71 continues to look for additional funding.

72 **4. OLD BUSINESS**

73 **4.1** Discuss and take all appropriate action to determine project ideas for volunteers.
74 *Committee*

75 *ATTACHMENT: OST VOLUNTEER TASK LIST (attachment A)*

76 Tallow Tree Removal.

77 **4.2** Update on Tree Planting Day of Awesomeness on January 6, 2024. *Member Coggeshall*

78 Apache donated trees will be distributed to several Seabrook parks with OST members acting
79 as the lead for that location. An Apache recognition sign will be provided for the registration
80 area. Houston Wilderness will donate approximately 50 additional trees in the near future.

- 81 • Pine Gully Park, 15 trees – Member Jackson
82 • Baybrook Park, 25 trees – Member Harper
83 • Friendship Park, 15 trees – Member Coggeshall
84 • Meador Park, 40 trees – Member Popken
85 • Wildlife refuge, 5 trees to fill bare areas.

86 **4.3** Discuss and take all appropriate action regarding Solar lighting at Meador Park. *Member*
87 *Jones*

88 Clear Lake Park has solar LED lights on the walking trail. Member Jones proposed that
89 similar solar lights be installed around Meador Park’s half mile trail. Member Jones will
90 present a budget for this project at next OST meeting for further discussion and motion to
91 add solar lights to action work sheet recommending City Council to review and or take
92 action.

93 **5. ROUTINE BUSINESS**

94 **5.1** Report from City Staff on the status of a list of actions taken by the Open Space and
95 Trails Committee and forwarded to City Council for its action or review. *City Staff*
96 *ATTACHMENT(S): OST RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL (attachment B)*

97 None added.

98 **5.2** Update on volunteer hours. *Committee*

99 Members submitted last month's volunteer hours.

100 **5.3** Establish future meeting dates and agenda items. *Committee*

101 Next OST meeting will be held on:

102 February 1, 2024, at 5 PM at the Public Works & Animal Control training room.

103 Agenda items:

- 104 • GCAA grant update.
- 105 • Tree Planting Day of Awesomeness wrap up report.
- 106 • Solar lighting at Meador Park.

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Natalie Stephens,
Public Works Administrative Coordinator

Monica Comeaux,
Chair