

1 The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, January 3, 2019 at Seabrook City Hall, 1700 First  
2 Street, Seabrook, Texas to discuss and if appropriate, take action on the agenda items listed below.

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4 **THOSE PRESENT WERE:**

5 Helen Burton	Chair
6 Sally Antrobus (Absent)	Vice-Chair
7 John Coggeshall	Member
8 Monica Comeaux	Member
9 Debra Harper	Member
10 David Popken	Member
11 Heather Cable (Absent)	Member
12 Sean Landis	Deputy City Manager
13 Kevin Padgett	Director of Public Works
14 Robin Hicks	City Secretary

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16 Chair Helen Burton called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

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18 **1.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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20 There were no comments or announcements.

21 **2.0 COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

22 **2.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements from Committee members,**  
23 **and park reports from Committee Park Checks. (Committee)**

24 Member David Popken reported that the rest of the cane berm has been removed, with Parks Staff  
25 and Member Popken doing some of the work. It is a really nice view. There were some trees that  
26 were competing with each other, so some trees were removed. People in the park have given Mr.  
27 Popken positive comments about the new look. Going back towards Todville, a little more cane  
28 was taken out, and the drainage ditch was exposed, but it is probably a positive outcome because  
29 there is better flow with the cane out of the way. There are a few more trees that need to be taken  
30 down just to give the other trees a little more breathing room, and three pounds of native trail mix  
31 of mixed grasses and wild flowers will be sown at that location. It will be a nice asset.

32 Member Harper reported the recently constructed new trail looks great, and she planted new plants  
33 around the tennis court, which is draining ok and is beautiful.

34 Member Coggeshall stated that the trail in the woods behind the Public Works Complex was  
35 restored after flooding about a month ago, but when it flooded again recently, Parks staff built a  
36 bridge instead of restoring the trail.

37 **2.2 City Staff update.**

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39 No update at this time aside from the Action Items Checklist items.

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42 **2.3 Discussion and approval of the Action Items Checklist. (Committee)**

43 *Volunteers* – Ms. Burton passed around the sheet for accounting for the Committee members’  
44 volunteer hours for November and December.

45 *Birding Events* – Mr. Popken announced that the second bird count will be this upcoming Saturday,  
46 January 5 at Pine Gully Park. The Christmas bird count out of Armand Bayou Nature Center  
47 identified 151 species, which is about half the number that would normally be seen for this area.  
48 The team of 8 visited all of Seabrook’s parks on the east side of 146. The experienced birders in  
49 the group feel like Seabrook is a hidden gem and that it deserves more attention as a birding  
50 location. The next birding class will be January 31, with the bird count on February 1. The birding  
51 signs will be put up before the events. Member John Coggeshall reported that a bald eagle was  
52 spotted on the Osprey tower.

53 *Erosion at Pine Gully* – Kevin Padgett, Director of Public Works, reported that the material is in  
54 and staff will wait until spring to put plant/install, with the Committee’s assistance.

55 *Grants* – Mr. Coggeshall explained that he is working on the wording for the SH146 Connector  
56 Grant and would like feedback from the Committee and staff. This grant application is due  
57 February 1 and Member Coggeshall will track down Seabrook State Representative for a letter of  
58 support. Public Works is checking on costs, and the application can ask for up to \$200,000.00.  
59 The award will be decided in May.

60 *Mile Marker Trail Maps* – Mr. Coggeshall is working on this project.

61 *Report to City Council* – Ms. Burton went over the presentation she will make to Council on January  
62 15 and received Committee input.

63 *Seabrook Prairie* – Mr. Kayame has reported that the Prairie is doing great.

64 *Seed Library and Community Garden* – Ms. Burton announced that Member Heather Cable is  
65 continuing to collect seeds and that the library is really excited about this project.

66 *Trash cans, recycling, etc.* – This project is progressing.

67 *Tree Plantings* – 15 trees donated by the Arbor Day Foundation were planted in Pine Gully Park  
68 and 3 dozen Live Oaks were planted at Meador Park. Plans are still in progress for Gulf Winds to  
69 plant \$1000 worth of 15 gallon trees at Pine Gully sometime in January, and for Trees of Houston  
70 to plant in irrigation areas February 6-10.

71 *Woodlands Regeneration* – no update at this time, as Committee is waiting on Sean Landis to re-  
72 write the landscaping ordinance.

73 *Sidewalk Extension at Park Drive* – This project has been completed.

74 *Trail Extension at Pine Gully & Baybrook* – This project has been completed.

75 *Irrigation System at Pine Gully & Baybrook* – no update at this time.

76 *Seabrook Deforestation* – Sean Landis, Deputy City Manager, is re-writing the landscaping  
77 ordinance.

78 *Hester Parking* – this project is ongoing.

79 *Carothers* – The City Manager will give the Committee an update. The Committee briefly  
80 discussed sending a proposal to the City Manager for other uses for this property.

81 *Trail Lighting* – this project is ongoing.

82 *Expansion of parking at Robinson Park* – this project is ongoing and will be ahead of the trail  
83 lighting project in priority.

84 **2.4 Approve the minutes of the December 6, 2018 Open Space and Trails Committee meeting.**  
85 **(Hicks).**

86 Motion was made by Member Harper and seconded by Member Popken

87 To approve the minutes of the December 6, 2018 Open Space and Trails Committee meeting.

88 MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

89 **2.5 Establish future meeting dates and agenda items. (Committee)**

90 The next meeting will be February 7, 2019.

91 Items requested to be added to the Action Items Checklist are:

- 92 • Interpretive sign covering project
- 93 • Wood frames around Park signs

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95 Upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

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Helen Burton,  
Chair

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Stephanie Martinez,

Executive Administrative Assistant

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