

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

4
5 **THOSE PRESENT WERE:**

6 Helen Burton	Chair
7 Sally Antrobus(Absent)	Vice-Chair
8 John Coggeshall	Member
9 Monica Comeaux	Member
10 Debra Harper	Member
11 David Popken	Member
12 Heather Cable	Member
13 Kevin Padgett	Public Works Director
14 Sean Landis	Deputy City Manager
15 Stephanie Martinez	Executive Administrative Assistant

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

18 **1. PRESENTATIONS**

19

20 **1.1 Presentation on a Seabrook Bike Route Proposal to connect SH146 to NASA Parkway.**
21 **(Cycle Clear Lake Team)**

22

23 Robin Elgart, with Cycle Clear Lake, stated that the cycle team is advocating for safe cycling
24 in the Houston's Bay Area and are proposing a bike route addition to connect SH146 shared-
25 used path to NASA Pkwy. The Cycle Clear Lake's vision includes: creating a safe
26 environment for the diverse cycling community and focus on bike trail improvements for
27 individuals riding on their own or in groups.

28

29 Cycle Clear Lake was briefed by TxDOT on SH146 improvements and the impacts it will
30 have on cyclists/pedestrians. A 14ft shared-use path (east side of bridge) is planned as part of
31 the improvements. The Cycle Clear Lake team proposes a marked connection for cyclists
32 wanting to visit Seabrook or use SH146 facilities, when coming North from Kemah or west
33 from NASA Parkway.

34

35 The implementation concept of the proposal would be to install 7 signs to mark city-
36 supported bike routes, add painted zebra crosswalk across Hardesty to allow safe pedestrian
37 crossing from shared-use path, add the bike route to official Seabrook parks/trails
38 information, and support adding the bike route to Harris County Parks and HAC routes
39 information.

40

41 Deputy City Manager, Sean Landis, and Public Works Director, Kevin Padgett, will take the
42 following information back to the City Manager, Gayle Cook.

43

44 **2. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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46 Jeff, 1502 Main Street, resident and bike shop owner of Slow Twitch Niche, on 1506 Main
47 Street, believes the designated bike signs will keep cyclists safe. Cyclists from all around the
48 Houston area come down to ride. Seabrook Waffle Company ranks #3 of Houston's top
49 attraction for cycling.

50

51 **3. OLD BUSINESS**

52

53 **3.1 Discuss and take all appropriate action pursuant to the motion made and approved at**
54 **the Joint City Council/Open Space and Trails Committee meeting on March 26, 2019 to**
55 **move forward with the creation of a Carothers Task Force of no more than seven (7)**
56 **people consisting of a real estate professional, a parks professional, a landscape/plants**
57 **professional, a member or members of the Open Space and Trails Committee, and a**
58 **member or members of the City Council or City staff to be tasked with**

- 59 • **Determining through a real estate professional the value of the property and the**
60 **process for selling only the building at Carothers Coastal Gardens**
- 61 • **Opening the property between Carothers and Pine Gully Park and making the**
62 **park section of Carothers accessible to the public**
- 63 • **Determining potential options for the use of Carothers Coastal Gardens, should**
64 **selling the building be found to be prohibitive**
- 65 • **Being mindful of the amount of staff time it would take to carry out any and/or**
66 **all options**

67 Open Space and Trails Committee Member David Popken, who is also the Chair for the
68 Carothers Task Force, stated that besides himself and Council Member Hammann the following
69 five (5) individuals have agreed to be on the Carothers Task Force and four (4) individuals have
70 agreed to be alternates:

- 71 • Mark Kramer, Stewardship Director, Armand Bayou Nature Center
- 72 • Jaime Gonzalez, Program Manager Houston Urban Conservation, The Nature
73 Conservancy in Texas
- 74 • George Kyame, Seabrook resident and native plants volunteer
- 75 • Nancy Edmonson, Seabrook resident and ex-mayor of Shoreacres
- 76 • John Jacob, Director of Community Watershed Partners, TAMU
- 77 • Andy Sipocz, Biologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife and longtime local resident (alternate)
- 78 • Wendy Reistle, Texas Environathon Coordinator for Environmental Institute of Houston
79 and longtime local resident (alternate)

- 80 • Rowena McDermid, Texas Master Naturalist with Environmental Institute of Houston
81 (alternate)
82 • Anamda Daly, Staffmember Houston Zoo and Coordinator of the Clear Lake Corridor
83 Pollinator Pathway Project (alternate)
84

85 4. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

86 87 4.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements from Committee 88 members, and park reports from Committee Park Checks.

- 89 • Wildflowers are popping up where the cane was removed in Hester Park.
90 • The plants at Baybrook Park are blooming.
91 • A memorial tree broke but is in the process of being replaced.
92

93 4.2 City Staff update.

- 94 • The Easter Egg Hunt at Meador Park was a success.
95 • City Staff is preparing for pool season.
96

97 4.3 Discussion and approval of the Action Item Checklist.

- 98 • Volunteers: The Committee Members gave their volunteer hours to Chair Burton
99 during the meeting to keep records current.
100 • Birding Event: The next birding seminar will be May 16, 2019 at the Public Works
101 facility. The seminar will be about birding migration over the Gulf of Mexico. The
102 next bird count will be May 4, 2019.
103 • Grants: The Committee is awaiting the results of grant applications.
104 • Mile Maker Trail Map: The trail maps are currently in process.
105 • Pollinator Pathway: No updated information at the time.
106 • Seabrook Prairie: Mr. Kyame stated everything is looking great at the prairie.
107 • Seed Library and Community Garden: Open Space and Trails Committee Member
108 Cable will meet with library staff on May 8th. The Library was given permission to
109 start a little garden behind the library. The fountain on the side of the library has been
110 vandalized.
111 • Woodlands Regeneration: The native seeds planted in the cane berm area are
112 sprouting.
113 • Irrigation System at Pine Gully: No updated information at the time.
114 • Interpretive Sign Covering Project: No scouts have come forward to accept this
115 project. Item will be removed and brought back in August.
116 • Specific Bird Feeder Removal: There will be two bird feeders removed. One is
117 located is at Robinson Park and the other at Hester Park.
118 • Recycling Flyer: No updated information at the time.

- 119 • Keep Texas Beautiful: The City and Open Space and Trails Committee member are
120 continuing their education with Keep Texas Beautiful.
- 121 • Texas Park and Wildlife: The Committee awaits the results of a grant application.
- 122 • TPWD 2019 Bird Conservation Grant: The Committee awaits the results of a grant
123 application.
- 124 • Trail lighting: This project is currently ongoing.
- 125 • Expansion of Parking at Robinson Park: This project is currently ongoing.
- 126

127 **4.4 Approve the minutes of the April 4, 2019 Open Space and Trails Committee meeting.**

128

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

130

131 To approve the minutes of the April 4, 2019 Open Space and Trails Committee meeting

132

133 MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

134

135 **4.5 Establish future meeting dates and agenda items.**

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137 The next meeting will be June 6, 2019.

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139 Item requested to be added to the Action Item Checklist is:

- 140 • Carothers Coast Gardens Task Force
- 141 • Bike Route SH146 to NASA Pkwy.
- 142

143 Upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

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146 _____
147 Helen Burton,
148 Chair

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150
151
152 Stephanie Martinez,
153 Executive Administrative Assistant