

1 The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, March 5, 2020 at Seabrook Public Works
2 and Animal Control Complex Training Room, 1100 Red Bluff Road, Seabrook, Texas to discuss
3 and if appropriate, take action on the agenda items listed below.

4
5 **THOSE PRESENT WERE:**

6 Helen Burton	Chair
7 Sally Antrobus	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 Pat Patel	Administrative Assistant

15
16 Chair Helen Burton called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

17 **1. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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 - Vice Chair Antrobus was donated some mats that are an alternative to herbicide which
20 will help kill the grass and will allow the committee to plant a native prairie.
 - Thanks were given to City Staff on their help to submit the Keep Texas Beautiful grant
21 application.
22

23
24 **2. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

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26 **2.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements from Committee**
27 **members, and park reports from Committee Park Checks. (Committee)**

28 Vice Chair Antrobus raised the question if Committee Members need to mark a trail at
29 Carothers so City Staff can mow the marked area?

30 Deputy City Manager, Sean Landis, gave an update on Carothers. Any activity at Carothers
31 will be none besides general maintenance until Task Force II starts. City Staff gets direction
32 from the City Manager and the City Manager gets direction from City Council.

33 Staff and Committee members made the following comments:

- 34
 - There is frustration in having to wait to do anything at Carothers.
 - 35 • What are Councils remarks on using Carothers the same way as the Community
36 House?
 - 37 • Information has been pushed out to get residents to apply and join the Task Force II.

- 38 • The findings from the original Task Force are still in play. Staff came across some
39 issues when clearing out vegetation that Council directed Staff to clear. An enclosure
40 was put around the dumpsters. Signage is still moving forward.
- 41 • Better communication needs to happen to notify Open Space on any items pertaining
42 to open space so they can attend the council meetings.
- 43 • There are members on Council who do not know how big Carothers actually is.
- 44 • Having a Council liaison could eliminate the communication issues since the Open
45 Space and Trails Committee is an advisory committee.

46 *Motion made by Vice Chair Antrobus and seconded by Committee Member Popken*

47 *To begin developing mowed markings for hikers to begin using Carothers with the newly*
48 *opened entrances, test different methods of establishing preliminary native plantings which*
49 *might include the mats that were donated, and begin planting for perennial color of native*
50 *trees such as red buds and shrubs like esperanza*

51 *MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT*

52 **2.2 City Staff update.**

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54 Mr. Landis stated that Trash Bash is approaching on March 28, 2020. Due to vandalism at
55 Baybrook Park, the tennis court nets have been taken down. A camera and lights will be
56 going up at Baybrook Park.

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58 **2.3 Discussion and approval of the Action Item Checklist. (Committee)**

- 59 • Volunteers: The Committee Members gave their volunteer hours to Chair Burton
60 during the meeting to keep records current. Chair Burton gave a tour to a Daisy Scout
61 Leader.

62 City Staff is working on correcting the oversight of missed communication between
63 volunteers. There is a decrease in volunteers. Chair Burton does a great job nurturing
64 volunteers who come forward.

- 65 • Birding Event: The birding seminar is taking place on Thursday, March 5, 2020. The
66 bird count event is looking to expand. Birding seminars should not be scheduled on
67 the same day as the Open Space and Trails Committee.
- 68 • Mile Maker Trail Map: Member Coggeshall took the advice from the Consultant on
69 how to lay out items on a map trail to better assist a member of the public walking the
70 trails.
- 71 • Woodlands Regeneration: No updated information at the time.
- 72 • Irrigation System at Pine Gully: No updated information at the time.

- 73 • Carothers Coastal Gardens Task Force: Discussed under item 2.1.
- 74 • Update on Parks Master Plan: A draft Parks Master Plan should be presented soon.
- 75 • Making Baybrook Park More Inviting: Deer have done some damage at Baybrook
- 76 Park. An arbor will go up around spring after the Lucky Trails marathon.
- 77 • Outside funding Projects: No updated information at the time.
- 78 • Trash Bash: The 2020 Trash Bash event is on March 28, 2020. Registration begins at
- 79 8am.
- 80 • Chimney Swift Tower: Members Coggeshall is almost done with one of the chimney
- 81 swift tower. One tower will go by the Todville Bridge and the other tower will go in
- 82 Wildlife Park. Member Coggeshall will work on an interpretive sign.
- 83 • Library Community Garden & Trail Connector: Their meeting was cancelled. Planter
- 84 boxes are being put in soon.
- 85 • Lucky Trails Marathon: The marathon will be March 13- 15, 2020. City Staff has
- 86 done a great job in fixing the trail by the cemetery.
- 87 • Making Seabrook a Bird City: City Staff thinks it is worthwhile because they offer
- 88 grants. Bird City offers native plants.
- 89 • Seabrook Purchasing Policy: The City does not pay taxes and is asking all
- 90 Committee members to get with the Public Works Director or the Parks
- 91 Superintendent if they wish to purchase something for a park. When committee
- 92 members buy an item, taxes get charged. The Finance Department has a hard time
- 93 getting the tax reimbursed from stores.
- 94 • Robinson Park Erosion Control: A storm caused some damage to the mat but City
- 95 Staff quickly fixed the damage.
- 96 • Interpretive sign covering project: Committee members are waiting for any scouts to
- 97 come forward to assist in this project.
- 98 • Keep Texas Beautiful: A grant application has been submitted. The Staff and
- 99 Committee awaits the results.
- 100 • TxDOT SRTS Sidewalk Grant: Seabrook did not win anything in the first round of
- 101 awards. City Staff is hoping to hear something back for the second round.
- 102 • TPWD Trail Connector Grant: The grant application has been submitted. The
- 103 Committee should get results in May.

104
105 **2.4 Approve the minutes of the January 9, 2020 Open Space and Trails Committee**
106 **meeting.**
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108 *Motion made by Committee Member Harper and seconded by Vice Chair Antrobus*

109 *To approve the minutes of the January 9, 2020 Open Space and Trails Committee meeting*

110 *MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT*

111
112 **2.5 Approve the minutes of the February 4, 2020 Special Joint meeting between the Open**
113 **Space and Trails Committee and City Council.**

114
115 *Motion made by Committee Member Harper and seconded by Vice Chair Antrobus*

116 *To approve the minutes of the February 4, 2020 Special Joint meeting between the Open*
117 *Space and Trails Committee and City Council*

118 *MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT*

119
120 **2.6 Approve the minutes of the February 6, 2020 Open Space and Trails Committee**
121 **meeting.**

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123 Committee Member stated that line 35 should read “Member Harper stated she planted
124 another tree that was vandalized at Baybrook Park”

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126 *Motion made by Committee Member Harper and seconded by Vice Chair Antrobus*

127 *To approve the minutes of the February 6, 2020 Open Space and Trails Committee meeting*

128 *MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT*

129
130 **2.7 Establish future meeting dates and agenda items.**

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132 The next meeting will be held on April 2, 2020 and add developing mowed markings for
133 hikers to begin using Carothers, test different methods of establishing preliminary native
134 plantings, and begin planting for perennial color of native trees to the comment section under
135 the item Carothers Coast Gardens Task Force.

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137 Upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

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Helen Burton,
Chair

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Stephanie Martinez,

Executive Administrative Assistant