

**CITY OF ROCKPORT
MINUTES
SWIMMING POOL OPERATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
4:00 p.m., Monday, April 26, 2021
Parks Department Office
402 E. Laurel, Rockport, Texas**

On the 26th day of April 2021, the Swimming Pool Operations Advisory Committee convened at 4:00 p.m. at the Parks Office located at 402 E. Laurel, and notice of meeting, giving time, place, date, and subject, was posted in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Section 551.041.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

J.D. Villa-Chairperson
Rick Martinez, City of Rockport Director of Parks & Leisure Services
Wendy Laubach

OTHERS PRESENT:

Joe Riekers, Community Aquatics & Skate Park Manager
Charlene Drake, Friends of the Pool Treasurer
Brittany Elkins
George Bennett

1. Call Meeting to Order.

With a quorum of Committee Members present, the Meeting of the Swimming Pool Operations Advisory Committee was called to order at 4:00 pm by chair J.D. Villa on April 26, 2021, at the Parks Department Office, 402 E. Laurel, Rockport, Texas.

2. Citizens to be Heard.

At this time, comments will be taken from the audience on any subject matter that is not on the agenda. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, the Committee may not discuss or take action on any items that have not been posted on the agenda.

3. Deliberate and act on approval of Special Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2020.

MOTION: Committee Chairperson Villa introduced a motion to approve the special meeting minutes of the May 28, 2020 minutes as written. Committee Member Martinez seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

4. Hear and deliberate on 2020-2021 First and Second Quarterly Budget Report.

Mr. Martinez discussed how tough the year was and why the numbers were low because the pool was closed most of the year. Mr. Riekers stated the break down of the numbers will be in the managers report. He stated the budget is based on the predictions and net income but Covid, equipment failure, extra days closed, and staffing issues all influenced the numbers this year. Mr. Villa asked if the pool was still open with the block times. Mr. Riekers stated the pool has to

sanitize between the patrons use at certain times. Mr. Martinez replied stating the pool will start opening on Sundays again.

5. Hear and deliberate on status of the future of the Friends of the Pool.

Mr. Martinez introduced Charlene Drake to speak about the status of the Friends of The Pool. Mrs. Drake stated that the Friends of the Pool, current board and officers will be putting the fund raising and grant writing on pause for a while, and basically be inactive. The FOP has \$14,411.16 to donate to the pool from Grant funds, and is currently working with the city, to come up with an agreement, such as a grant request, that outlines, the specific uses for the grant. Mrs. Drake also stated that the grant would be, specifically for Aransas County residents swim lessons, lifeguard supplies and such. The FOP will remain up to date with taxes and if there is future interest in starting the organization back up, they will be able to start where they left off. Mr. Martinez stated he had a meeting with finance and the city manager to discuss the best possible way to have an easy transfer of money to the pool and they decided a grant application would be the best solution. Mrs. Laubach asked what the financials at the pool looked like and if the city can keep up. Mr. Martinez stated there are no talks about closing the pool for certain times or seasons. Mrs. Drake stated that would not be a good idea and the citizens would not like it either. Mr. Villa and Mr. Martinez stated the financial situation without the FOP would also depend on what the county and Town of Fulton donates. Mr. Martinez stated the Mr. Riekers went to the judge to talk about their donations. Mr. Martinez stated it is a great loss losing Friends of the Pool and stated his appreciation for all they have done for the pool over the years.

6. Hear and deliberate on status of the Aquatic Park and the impact of Covid-19.

Mr. Riekers stated this was discussed during the agenda item number four discussion.

7. Hear and deliberate on proposal to offer senior and military discounts.

Mr. Martinez stated he received an email from an individual to discuss a senior and military discount to be offered at the pool. Mr. Riekers checked the area pools and Port Aransas pool has these discounts available. He also stated the pool across the board offers no discounts as to not discriminate against any other groups. Mr. Riekers with approval from Mr. Martinez stated there are special circumstances on a case-by-case basis where some discounts may be applied. He stated the City Council or City Manager would have to develop a policy or ordinance so they will not get in trouble for discrimination. He mentioned there may be a way around this because the pool is governed by the Town of Fulton, the county, and the City. Mr. Martinez stated the individual is not present to present the case of why. Mr. Villa stated that the discount should not be offered, because city and county employees do not receive a discount and to continue to do it on a case-by-case basis and the FOP monies will help offset the discount applied. Mrs. Drake asked if this was an automatic question that is asked. Mrs. Laubach stated no blanket discount and to continue case by case. All members discussed the pool was in no position to offer discounts.

8. Hear and deliberate on Aquatics Manager Operations Report.

Mr. Riekers stated there are two main reasons why the pool schedule was modified. First being the sanitation protocol mandated and the changes of pool rules put in place on January 21st by the State Department of Health Services. He stated it was impossible to comply with a 20-year-old pool. Wednesday through Saturday there were blocks for open swim with sanitation between and the added pool rules checking the water and so on with this repeating throughout the day. The pool is closed Sunday, Monday the pool is closed for maintenance, Tuesday the pool is closed to the public but open for swim lessons. Mr. Riekers stated Sunday openings will be a pilot program to judge the interest of the public to justify being opened on Sundays. He stated the update on the facility is the filter is down on the Splash Pool side since the freeze. Motor was burned out. The concession stands sustained structural issues because of the freeze but the Parks crews are in the process of rebuilding. HVAC system has been replaced and has been successful in saving humidity problems with previous ceiling tiles. He stated the chemical feed system has been a saving and he has locked in the current rate for another two years. Updates with lifeguards is the American Red Cross student class ratio was causing problems in terms of trainings and there was not a guard class for months. With Summer coming, there are guards that will transfer from part time to full time seasonal, to allow more hours in the busy months to help cover the guard shortage. Mr. Villa stated to contact the base and for classes. Mr. Riekers replied that was a good idea as they serve all certifications there. Staffing update at the pool is at an adequate level for now but they are short 3-5 guards for full staffing in the Summer. Mrs. Laubach stated to increase rental fees again to cover the costs of the new sanitation rules and costs. Mr. Martinez stated Mr. Riekers will get his numbers together and call a special meeting to discuss rental increases.

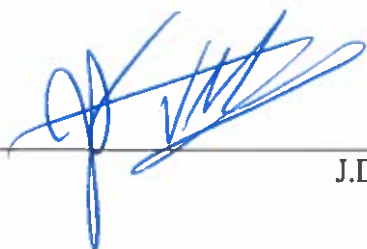
9. Hear and deliberate on items for inclusion on next agenda.

Rate increases and rebranding.

10. Adjournment.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 5:22pm.

**SWIMMING POOL OPERATIONS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

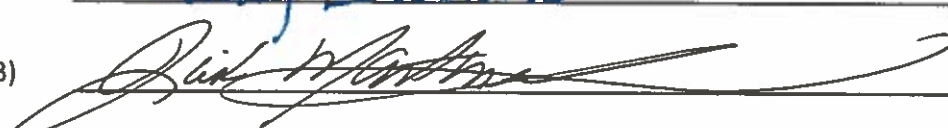


J.D. Villa, Chairman

Parks and Leisure Services
Meeting Attendance Record
Pool Committee Members

Date: APRIL / 24 / 2021

Pool Committee Members Attending this date:

- 1) JD. Villa
- 2) Wendy Laubach
- 3) 
- 4) _____
- 5) _____
- 6) _____
- 7) _____

Parks and Leisure Services

Pool Committee Meeting Attendance Chart

Visitors Attending

Date: APRIL / 20 / 2021

(PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME)

- 1) Charlene Drake - FOP - treasurer
- 2) GEORGE BENNETT
- 3) Brittany Ekins
- 4) JOE RIEKERS
- 5) _____
- 6) _____
- 7) _____
- 8) _____
- 9) _____
- 10) _____
- 11) _____
- 12) _____
- 13) _____
- 14) _____