On this the 25th day of February 2016, the Parks and Recreation Board of the City of Rosenberg, Fort Bend County, Texas, met in a Regular Session at Rosenberg Civic Center located at 3825 Hwy. 36 South, Rosenberg, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT
Teresa Bailey Parks and Recreation Board Chairman
Rudy Guerrero Parks and Recreation Board Secretary
Bertha Nell Kelm Parks and Recreation Board Member
Stanley Kucherka Parks and Recreation Board Member
Ray Kueck Parks and Recreation Board Member
Julia Worley Parks and Recreation Board Member
Amanda Barta Council Liaison

MEMBERS ABSENT
Eric Ramirez Parks and Recreation Board Member
Lila Villagomez Parks and Recreation Board Member

STAFF PRESENT
Travis Tanner Executive Director of Community Development
Lydia Acosta Recreation Programs Coordinator
Kat Poppleton Parks and Recreation Secretary

GUESTS PRESENT
Zafar Tahir General Secretary of Pakistan American Council of Texas
Sheikh Ali Media Coordinator of Pakistan American Council of Texas
Cade Meaux BSA Troop 1656
Andrew Spencer BSA Troop 1000

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER
Teresa Bailey, Parks and Recreation Board Chairman, declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 25, 2016 PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING.

Key Discussion: Kat Poppleton, Parks and Recreation Secretary, asked the Board to review the minutes of the January meeting as presented and take action as necessary.

ACTION: Bertha Nell Kelm made a motion, seconded by Ray Kueck, that the minutes be accepted as presented. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of those present.

2. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON PROPOSED KITE FESTIVAL IN SEABOURNE CREEK NATURE PARK ON SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2016.

Key Discussion: Lydia Acosta, Recreation Programs Coordinator, introduced Zafar Tahir, the General Secretary of Pakistan American Council of Texas (PACT). Mr. Tahir began by noting the immigrant population
surrounding Rosenberg and how large it has grown over the last 35 years. Families upholding rich heritage from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and other South Asian countries, celebrate by coming together through Basant. Originated in Pakistan, the annual spring festival of peace is a free event for all to fly kites, socialize, feast, and dance. Food does not cost, but donations are accepted and there will be games for the younger participants as well. The purpose of the festival is to attract families and also elected officials. He noted that Seabourne Creek Nature Park (SCNP) was recommended by Commissioner Morrison for its large open spaces and convenient location. Mr. Tahir displayed a few flyers from their 2015 festival held at George Bush Park to show how grand the involvement is. He introduced the coordinator, Sheikh Ali, who will make sure that TAFT complies with all regulations in hopes to hold the event annually at the Nature Park. He noted that the event will bring a lot of exposure to Rosenberg as many who celebrate Basant will be coming in from various outside locations, such as Beaumont and Sealy. Lydia recalled Holy Festival of Colors event, which unfortunately housed 10,000 people. She reassured the members that this festival anticipates around 1,000 visitors. Mr. Tahir added that the kites are a lot smaller than normally seen, square, and all materials are from Pakistan. Ray Kueck questioned the limit of people the park can hold and Lydia responded with up to 7,000. Lydia also mentioned that in the future if the event ever grew past the point of allowable participants, then TAFT knows they may need to look for a bigger location. Amanda Barta questioned if the Police Department was needed for security. Lydia mentioned that the group estimates about 500 for parking and that there would be no need for security at this time. However, as the event grows in the future, then the group would comply with the necessary permit requirements. Amanda asked if the event was open to the public and Mr. Tahir responded that he encourages all to join the fun. Rudy Guerrero questioned how the group will be advertising. Mr. Ali is a journalist, the main contact for the event, and will utilize social media.

**ACTION:** Rudy Guerrero made a motion, seconded by Stanley Kucherka, for Pakistan American Council of Texas to hold, Basant, a Kite Flying Festival, in Seabourne Creek Nature Park on Sunday, April 10, 2016. Should the weather cause a delay, the group is permitted to hold Basant the following weekend. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of those present.

### 3. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON PROPOSED EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT BY CADE MEAUX OF TROOP 1656 TO INSTALL A BIRD BLIND IN SEABOURNE CREEK NATURE PARK.

**Key Discussion:** Lydia Acosta, Recreation Programs Coordinator, introduced Cade Meaux of Troop 1656. Cade proposed to construct a bird blind in Seabourne Creek Nature Park. The purpose of the bird blind is to provide a quiet, secluded area for bird watchers, photographers, and the Coastal Prairie Chapter Texas Master Naturalists (CPCTMN). Cade has worked with Mr. Rick Adams and the Master Naturalists to perfect the design to scale. Cade passed around a model of his design. The three (3) front panels will be four (4) feet wide and eight (8) feet tall. The total span in length from side to side will be a quarter over ten (10) feet. The two (2) side panels provide a wind breaker and will be two (2) feet wide and eight (8) feet long. The depth of structure will be about five (5) feet. The roof Cade will install is ply wood and the Master Naturalists will be adding cedar shingling for a more rustic and natural look once the project is completed. The Master Naturalists have also agreed to purchase the two (2) large cedar posts needed to secure the bird blind. The posts will be concreted into the ground. Cade will prefabricate most of the materials off site due to the necessary tools needed to cut wood and for safety purposes. Bringing in the prefabricated structure by trailer will help minimize the installation onsite. No city funds will be needed, because Cade was able to receive some funding that was leftover from previous Boy Scout projects. Since the Master Naturalists are providing the cedar posts, Cade estimates only about $285.00 to complete the project, which will be donated from family, friends, and his Scout Master. Rudy Guerrero asked if the bird blind will be built in the existing sanctuary. Cade responded with the location being across the path from the original but not detectible from the path. Julia Worley asked if there will be a bench in the blind and Cade noted that most birders normally carry their own chair as they sit for hours watching and know their own comfort level. He feels a bench may cause mobility issues within the space allotted. Rudy questioned if a sign would be posted of what is allowed and what is not. Cade responded that the Master Naturalist may have something to add, but most watchers who will utilize the structure are of the older generation and know what to do.

**ACTION:** Amanda Barta made a motion, seconded by Julia Worley, for the recommendation of approval by City Council for the installation of a bird blind in Seabourne Creek Nature Park. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of those present.
4. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON PROPOSED EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT BY ANDREW SPENCER OF TROOP 1000 TO CONSTRUCT A RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEM IN BRAZOS PARK.

Key Discussion: Lydia Acosta, Recreation Programs Coordinator, introduced Andrew Spencer of Troop 1000 to propose construction of a rainwater harvesting system in Brazos Park. Andrew mentioned that Mr. Rick Adams will be supervising the overall construction as he was the inspiration for the project. Andrew chose this project for the location, to educate the public, and assist with the newly constructed Edible Arbor Trail by fellow Eagle Scout Matthew Banse of Troop 1656 that is in need of watering. Another benefit to having a rainwater harvesting system at the Brazos pavilion will stop erosion caused by uncontrolled rainwater runoff. Upon completion of the project, Andrew will install an instructional sign to help educate others and encourage construction of their own rainwater harvesting system. Since one (1) inch of rainwater on the surface areas of the whole pavilion is about 1500 gallons of water, it is only necessary to cover the North and East sides. Gutters will be placed on the North and East sides of the pavilion, allowing the rain water to collect into a cistern that will be located on the northeast corner. Before installation of the gutters, braces will be installed for support. The sides of the roof will be covered with open-topped gutter piping, including leaf protectors to avoid clogs. The overall project is estimated to cost $1,059.44. Andrew will raise money with his troop, but also plans to approach the Rosenberg Development Corporation (RDC) to help with funding. Rudy Guerrero questioned how the water will be transferred. Andrew noted that the cistern will have a faucet installed on top for water to be transferred to a bucket and then carried wherever needed. A hose will be able to hook up to the faucet as well. Julia Worley questioned the access to the water and Andrew commented that he was planning to add locks to the system for safety and security purposes.

ACTION: Bertha Nell Kelm made a motion, seconded by Stanley Kucherka, for the recommendation of approval by City Council for the construction of a rainwater harvesting system in Brazos Park. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of those present.


Key Discussion: Lydia Acosta, Recreation Programs Coordinator, pointed out the new development in Zone 8, Stonecreek Estates, which has already brought in $31,454 in revenue. These funds will be useful at a later date as the deadline is not designated yet. The balance of $5,291 from the 2013 Park Improvements was utilized as the Rosenberg Development Corporation (RDC) and Council have voted to purchase a new 20x40 foot event tent for the City. The Macario Garcia Park restroom project is well underway. Darren McCarthy and Paul Rodgers visited Wallis Concrete to check on the progress and are happy to report that the new restrooms are coming along nicely. Portable restroom units are currently available for use in the park.

Lydia presented the Board Members with the following Rental Summary Report:
- Pavilion rentals for the month of January totaled $180.00
- Field rentals for the month of January totaled $487.50
- Gazebo rentals for the month of January totaled $0.00

ACTION: Teresa Bailey, Parks and Recreation Board Chairman, asked to continue on if there were no other questions or comments.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Key Discussion: Lydia Acosta, Recreation Programs Coordinator, introduced Travis Tanner, Executive Director of Community Development, to the Parks Board Members as he will be taking over Jeff Trinker’s responsibilities in assisting the Parks and Recreation Department. Jeff resigned his position as of last Monday and will be missed, but staff is happy to welcome Travis to the team! Fish-tastic was fantastic! The weather was great, 119 children fished, about 300 people were present, and 77 fish were pulled out of the water! This amount has never happened before. The Texas Park and Wildlife did stock the lake with trout that staff did not have to
pay for and the Coastal Prairie Chapter Texas Master Naturalists (CPCTMN) did bring in catfish, bass, and bluegill perch to the lake in late November, early December. Kat Poppleton announced her unexpected resignation due the United States Navy requesting her husband to relocate and serve sea time on a submarine. Kat will be present until last May and hopefully train a relief. Lydia also announced her unexpected resignation to be closer to her family who needs her assistance. This is Lydia’s last Parks Board Meeting. Julia Worley asked if the vandalism has ceased in the parks and Lydia responded that it has gone down, but Darren McCarthy made the call to not restore electricity to the pavilions at Travis Park for liability and cost issues. Teresa Bailey asked if the cameras were functional and Kat announced they are working now. Kat notified members to help get the word out to report any and all suspicious activity immediately.

**ACTION:** Teresa Bailey, Parks and Recreation Board Chairman, asked to continue on if there were no other questions or comments.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

**ACTION:** There being no further business of the Parks and Recreation Board, Amanda Barta made a motion, seconded by Stanley Kucherka, to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

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Kat L. Poppleton  
Parks and Recreation Department  
Secretary