

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HUNTSVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION  
ADVISORY BOARD, HELD AT MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMUNITY CENTER,  
HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS ON THE 24<sup>th</sup> OF MARCH, AT 12:00 P.M.**

Members present: Nelson Amaya, Nate Grigsby, Chris Mahlen, Guadalupe Ortiz, Jennifer Harrison, Nessa Irving, Paul Park, Donald Kopnick, and Bradley Sherman

Members not present: Rodney Southern and Derrick Birdsall

Staff present: Joe Shepherd, Josh Simpson, Joseph Wiggs, Micaela Moreno, Kristy Wheeler, and Penny Joiner

Citizens present: None

**1. Call to Order**

*Nate Grigsby called the meeting to order [12:01 P.M.].*

**2. Public Comments**

Chairman, Nate Grigsby introduced new board members, Donald Kopnick and Bradley Sherman

**3. Discussion and/or Actions Items**

**A. Presentation, discussion, and/or possible action on the minutes from January 13, 2025.**

*Chris Mahlen made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Paul Park seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.*

**B. Presentation, discussion, and/or possible action on Parks and Recreation Master Plan.**

Parks and Leisure Director, Penny Joiner provided an update on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Town Hall Meeting. Penny discussed the difference between community parks and pocket parks and Emma Ethridge Park, a pocket park, if it should be added to the Master Plan. Penny requests the input from the board. She also confirmed the Huntsville Police Department Firing Range, that relocation is not feasible, so the site will not be included in the updated Master Plan.

**C. Presentation, discussion, and/or possible action on the updates from the Parks and Leisure Department.**

- (1) Parks Division: Parks Manager, Joe Shepherd provided an update of the Frisbee Golf Course. He also stated an aerial photograph will be taken upon project completion. Director Penny Joiner stated there is \$250,000 allocated in the CIP Funds and these funds will support various park improvement projects, including

the restroom facility at Emancipation Park and the soccer concession stand replacement.

- (2) Aquatic Center: Aquatics Manager Joseph Wiggs stated the roof has been replaced on the pump room, restroom, and main building at the Aquatic Center. He also stated the pre-qualification for lifeguards has begun.
- (3) Recreation Services: Recreation Coordinator Kristy Wheeler stated the Pitch Hit and Run program was a success. Kisty also mentioned that several upcoming recreational programs are generating significant interest on social media platforms, leading to high turnout expectations.

#### **4. Adjournment**

*Paul Park made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:02 PM. Jennifer Harrison seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.*