



City of Garden Ridge

"A way of life, not just a place to live"

MINUTES WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2019, 6:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present:

Chair Cynthia Shanahan-Segovia
Vice-Chair David Krawczynski
Commissioner Ken Kneupper
Commissioner Jeremiah McKinney
Commissioner Paul Sullivan
Commissioner Troy Bippert
Commissioner Dawn Hatch

Commissioners Absent:

Councilmember Robb Erickson, Ex officio member

City Staff Present:

Nancy Cain, City Administrator
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary

Other Appointed or Elected Officials in Attendance:

Mayor Pro-Tem John McCaw
Dr. Jim Miller, Chair, Planning and Zoning Commission

1. Call to Order

With a quorum of the Wildlife Management Advisory Commission members present, the regular meeting of the Garden Ridge Wildlife Management Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Segovia at 6:02 p.m. on Monday, March 18, 2019, in the City Council Chambers of the Garden Ridge City Hall, 9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge, Texas 78266.

2. Roll Call

See above.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Segovia led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Chair Statement

Chair Segovia stated the Commission is comprised of volunteers that chose to volunteer because of their love for wildlife. Chair Segovia spoke regarding the work, actions, and pro-active approaches taken to manage the deer population, adding the Commission is currently working on becoming a Monarch City and finalizing a comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan for the City.

5. Citizen Comment Period – limited to 30 minutes total

No one signed up to speak.

6. Business Items

The Commission may discuss, consider, and/or take possible action, including recommendations, on the following items:

a) Education/Training Session – Judit Green, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department: “Wildscaping” (limited to 30 minutes total)(Segovia)

Chair Segovia introduced Judit Green, Urban Wildlife Biologist for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and stated she would be providing an educational program followed by a Commission question and answer session.

Judit Green, Urban Wildlife Biologist for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, reviewed the presentation “Creating Habitat Along the Monarch Highway” (see attached). After the presentation, she answered and addressed questions, comments, and concerns from Commissioners.

The Commission thanked Judit Green for taking the time to attend the meeting and provide an educational program.

b) Approvals

i. Minutes for February 25, 2019, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Sullivan, seconded by Commissioner Kneupper, to approve the minutes for February 25, 2019, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting. The Commission voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

c) Discussions/Reports

i. Wildlife and wildlife incidents within the City of Garden Ridge.

1. Police Department

The Commission reviewed the wildlife report from the Police Department.

2. Animal Services

The Commission reviewed the wildlife report from Animal Services as well as the comparison numbers from previous years.

d) Updates/Recommendations

i. Development of comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan for Garden Ridge.

1. Discuss and make possible recommendations regarding topics and/or items in the Wildlife Management Plan for Garden Ridge.

Commissioner McKinney reviewed and discussed the March 2019 additions and updates to the City of Garden Ridge Wildlife Management Plan draft. Chair Segovia spoke regarding filling in the section “Mayor’s Monarch Pledge” under Primary Goals and Vice-Chair Krawczynski spoke regarding filling in the section “Dark Sky Community” under Primary Goals. The Commission discussed obtaining approximate aerial acreage of each primary habitat type within the City of Garden Ridge. The Commission discussed the Wildlife Management Plan draft, provided feedback, and input. The Commission also discussed submitting this document to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department once it is complete.

Commissioner McKinney spoke regarding brown-headed cowbirds, declining songbird populations, online cowbird certification training, and trapping brown-headed cowbirds to control songbird nest parasitism. The Commission discussed obtaining data, documents, and further information to explore this topic more in depth.

Chair Segovia thanked Commissioner McKinney for creating and continuing to update and expand this draft to assist the Commission in developing a comprehensive plan, adding this will be an ongoing agenda item.

ii. Update on Deer Management.

Nancy Cain, City Administrator, provide the Commission with an update on deer management, adding she will provide finalized information at the April Commission meeting. She answered and addressed questions, comments, and concerns from Commissioners. The Commission discussed the possibility of being able to go with Mr. Murphy and observe the process.

iii. Commissioner's Projects

1. Health of wildlife in Garden Ridge.

The Commission had nothing to discuss at this time.

2. Future education/training sessions and Grapevine articles.

Chair Segovia stated Mrs. Valdez, Comal County Master Gardeners and Master Naturalist, will be providing an education/training session on Monarchs at the Commission's April meeting. The Commission discussed the education/training sessions for May, June, and July:

- May – dark sky (Vice-Chair Krawczynski).
- June – bat conservation (Commissioner Hatch).
- July – Mr. Hensley, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (Commissioner McKinney).

iv. City Council Update/Report

1. March 6, 2019, City Council Regular Meeting.

Vice-Chair Krawczynski updated the Commission on the monthly activity report he provided at the March 6, 2019, City Council Regular Meeting.

v. Ordinance No. 210-022018 An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Garden Ridge adopting board and commission policy and procedures; providing that this Ordinance shall be cumulative of all Ordinances; providing a severability clause; providing a savings clause; and providing an effective date.

1. Discuss and make recommendations related to application of ordinance provisions to commission members, if needed.

Chair Segovia stated the Commission does not have anything to discuss at this time.

e) Future Agenda Items.

i. Commissioner input.

The Commission had nothing to add at this time.

ii. Announcement of next Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting (Monday, April 15, 2019, at 6 p.m. at City Hall).

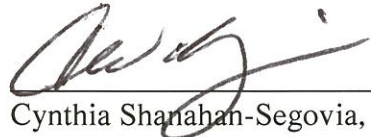
Chair Segovia announced the next Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, April 15, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

7. Citizen Comment Period - limited to 20 minutes total

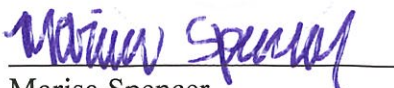
Dr. Jim Miller, 9910 Marie Meadow, spoke regarding the Mayors Monarch Pledge, dark sky, master naturalists and master gardeners, and Paul Davis Park.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Monday, March 18, 2019, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m. by Chair Segovia.


Cynthia Shanahan-Segovia, Chair

ATTEST:


Marisa Spencer
City Secretary