



City of Garden Ridge

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

MINUTES

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 20, 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

Commissioners Absent:

Vacant Position

City Staff Present:

Nancy Cain, City Administrator
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary

Other Appointed or Elected Officials in Attendance:

Councilmember Kay Bower
Councilmember Lisa Swint
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 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 20, 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 spoke regarding the work, actions, and pro-active approaches taken to support and enhance wildlife in the City of Garden Ridge. She stated the City of Garden Ridge is a Monarch City and accomplished being in the leadership circle during the first year of becoming a Monarch City. She also thanked the Comal Master Gardeners for their efforts in helping the City become a Monarch City.

5. Citizen Comment Period – limited to 30 minutes total

Martha Stipp, 21007 Cedar Branch, spoke regarding deer management, conducting deer counts and townhall meetings, and the voter turnout in the City of Garden Ridge General Election.

6. Business Items

The following items are for discussion and/or possible action, including recommendations:

- a) Education/Training Session – Vice-Chair Krawczynski: Dark Sky (limited to 30 minutes total)

Vice-Chair Krawczynski reviewed the presentation "Introduction to Outdoor Lighting and How it Affects Light Pollution" (see attached). He addressed questions and concerns from Commissioners. The Commission discussed working with the Planning and Zoning Commission on dark sky initiatives. The Commission agreed by consensus to add dark sky initiatives to the Wildlife Management Plan.

b) Approvals

i. Minutes for April 15, 2019, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Kneupper, seconded by Commissioner Sullivan, to approve the minutes for April 15, 2019, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting. The Commission voted five (5) 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.

d) Updates/Recommendations

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

1. Discuss working with the Parks Committee.

Commissioner Bippert spoke regarding contacting and working with the Parks Committee. The Commission discussed up to two (2) Commissioners attending the next Parks Committee meeting.

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

Commissioner McKinney reviewed the updated Wildlife Management Plan. He discussed the additional information as well as information still needed in the Wildlife Management Plan. Chair Segovia spoke regarding the iNaturalist application for mobile devices.

ii. Preparation of Proposed Budget for FY2020.

1. Discuss and make possible recommendation of the estimated number of deer to be removed for the 2019-2020 season based off Mr. Hensley's previous reduction of herd recommendation.

The Commission discussed the costs associated with deer management, training for Commissioners, projects with the Parks Committee and the Comal Master Gardeners, purchasing educational materials, and providing education/training sessions to citizens.

2. Discussion and make possible recommendation of a proposed budget for FY2020.

Motion: A motion was made by Vice-Chair Krawczynski, seconded by Commissioner Kneupper, to recommend to City Council the consideration of allocating \$50,000 to the Wildlife Management Advisory Commission line item for FY2020. The Commission voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

iii. Commissioner's Projects

1. Health of wildlife in Garden Ridge.

Chair Segovia spoke regarding information about white-nose syndrome (WNS) in bats from Bat Conservation International and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. She stated there is no evidence of WNS at Bracken Cave or in its resident bats.

2. Future education/training sessions and Grapevine articles.

The Commission discussed Commissioner McKinney providing an education/training session at the Commission's June meeting and Commissioner Bippert providing an education/training session at the Commission's August meeting. Chair Segovia stated Mr. Hensley and his supervisor will be at the Commission's July meeting to review procedures for conducting deer counts.

iv. City Council Update/Report

1. May 1, 2019, City Council Regular Meeting.

Chair Segovia updated the Commission on the monthly activity report she provided at the May 1, 2019, City Council Regular Meeting. Chair Segovia spoke regarding a conference call she had with the Deputy Director of the Humane Society where they assured her they have never managed deer herds for anyone nor have they offered this to Garden Ridge. She reported the Humane Society stated Garden Ridge is doing an excellent job with efforts to manage the deer herd while also creating a comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan, and the Humane Society would like to write an article about the City of Garden Ridge.

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 accept the resignation of Commissioner Hatch.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Kneupper, seconded by Commissioner McKinney, to accept the resignation of Commissioner Hatch from the Wildlife Management Advisory Commission. The Commission voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Discuss the interview process of candidates to fill vacancy.

Nancy Cain, City Administrator, stated there is currently one (1) applicant and the vacancy will continue to be advertised. The Commission discussed conducting interviews at the Commission's June meeting.

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

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

e) Future Agenda Items.

i. Commissioner input.

Commissioner Sullivan requested to review and discuss the wildlife mailer from New Braunfels.

Chair Segovia stated there will be a ribbon cutting event and dedication on Saturday, September 28th for the gardens that are located outside of the Garden Ridge Library and requested to add this as an agenda item for further discussion.

ii. Announcement of next Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting (Monday, June 17, 2019, at 6 p.m. at City Hall).

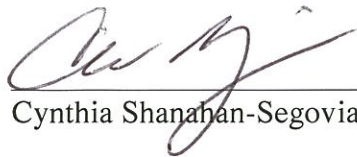
Chair Segovia announced the next Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, June 17, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

7. Citizen Comment Period - limited to 20 minutes total

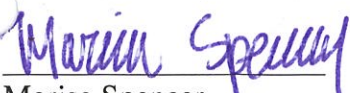
Dr. Jim Miller, 9910 Marie Meadow, spoke regarding conducting deer counts, the deer population summary, costs associated with deer management.

8. Adjournment

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Sullivan, seconded by Commissioner McKinney, to adjourn. The Commission voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. There being no further business, the Monday, May 20, 2019, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m. by Chair Segovia.


Cynthia Shanahan-Segovia, Chair

ATTEST:


Marisa Spencer
City Secretary