



City of Garden Ridge

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

MINUTES

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019, 6:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present:

Chair Cynthia Shanahan-Segovia
Vice-Chair David Krawczynski
Commissioner Paul Sullivan
Commissioner Jeremiah McKinney (Left at 6:45pm)
Commissioner Troy Bippert
Commissioner Shannon Drichta
Councilmember Lisa Swint, Ex-officio

Commissioners Absent:

Commissioner Ken Kneupper (Voluntary Announced Absence)

City Staff Present, City Councilmembers, and Other Commissioners:

Nancy Cain, City Administrator
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Kat Balbi, Assistant City Secretary
Kitty Owen, Planning and Zoning Commissioner

1. Call to Order

With a quorum of the Wildlife Management Advisory Commissioners present, the regular meeting of the Garden Ridge Wildlife Management Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Segovia at 6:01 p.m. on Monday, September 16, 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 she would like to move agenda item 6.d)i. to the beginning of the meeting to allow Craig Hensley adequate time to discuss and address questions.

6. Business Items

d) Updates/Recommendations

i. Review and discuss deer counts including Texas Parks and Wildlife population summary and recommendation.

Craig Hensley discussed the three (3) surveys conducted throughout August and September. Texas Parks and Wildlife generated a population estimate of 931 deer with 132 bucks, 543 does, and 256 fawn. He stated that there is an average of 2.98 acres per deer and Garden Ridge still has too many deer for a healthy habitat. He stated the City should continue to manage the deer herd. He answered questions from the Commission and thanked them for the opportunity.

5. Citizen Comment Period:

Martha Stipp, 21007 Cedar Branch, spoke regarding the deer counts and her participation in them.

6. Business Items

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

a) Education/Training Session – “Language of Bats in Garden Ridge” by Commissioner McKinney (limited to 30 minutes total).

Commissioner McKinney reviewed the presentation “Language of Bats in Garden Ridge” (see attached). He answered questions from the audience and Commission.

b) Approvals

i. Minutes for August 19, 2019, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Sullivan, seconded by Vice-Chair Krawczynski, to approve the minutes for August 19, 2019, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting. The Commission voted four (4) 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 and Animal Services

The Commission reviewed the wildlife report from the Police Department and Animal Services.

d) Updates/Recommendations

i. Review and discuss deer counts including Texas Parks and Wildlife population summary and recommendation.

See page one (1).

1. Discuss and make recommendations related to deer management, if needed.

Vice-Chair Krawczynski discussed the geographical changes which could have contributed to the difference from last year’s counts. Commissioner Drichta stated Mr. Hensley’s information reflected her own sightings on her street. The Commission discussed the budget for Wildlife Management and discussed the process of making recommendations of deer management to City Council due to the importance it has on the habitat.

Motion: A motion was made by Vice-Chair Krawczynski, seconded by Commissioner Sullivan, to recommend to City Council the removal of 200 deer with preference through a TTT permit. The Commission voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Sullivan, seconded by Commissioner Bippert, to request that City Staff proceed with obtaining the proper permits starting in October contingent on City Council approval. The Commission voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

ii. 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.

Chair Segovia reviewed the updated Wildlife Management Plan, such as the removal of Dark Sky. The Commission discussed the deer section within the Wildlife Management Plan. Nancy Cain, City Administrator, asked the Commission to review the document for grammatical errors and consistency.

iii. Commissioner’s Projects

1. Brochure/mailer from New Braunfels (Sullivan).

Chair Segovia stated the brochure was not provided to the Commission.

2. Dedication of the Gardens of Garden Ridge on September 28th, 2019, (Segovia).

The Commission discussed the September 28, 2019, Ribbon Cutting Event and Celebration for the Gardens of Garden Ridge outside the Library at 2pm.

3. Health of wildlife in Garden Ridge.

Chair Segovia spoke regarding monarchs beginning their journey south and where this information can be tracked through the website www.journeynorth.org. She also discussed that deer are more active and citizens should be more aware while driving.

4. Future education/training sessions and Grapevine articles.

The Commission discussed the schedule for future education/training sessions: October – Commissioner Kneupper (San Marcos Beekeepers Association: honeybees). November – Chair Segovia (TBD/possibly Humane Society to discuss habitat improvement).

iv. Meeting Updates/Reports

1. September 4, 2019, City Council Regular Meeting.

Chair Segovia stated the City Council approved the reappointments of herself, Commissioner Krawczynski, Commissioner Kneupper, and Commissioner Sullivan as well as the recommendation to appoint Shannon Drichta.

2. Parks Committee Monthly Meetings.

Chair Segovia stated the Parks Committee has marked off a section in Paul Davis Park for planting pollinators. Commissioner Drichta stated the volunteers for seeding could come from Boy Scouts and other teens.

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. Receive recommendations and consideration of appointment of Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Chair and Vice-Chair for a one-year term effective October 1, 2019.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Bippert, seconded by Commissioner Sullivan, to reappoint Cynthia Shanahan-Segovia as Chair and David Krawczynski as Vice-Chair for a one-year term effective October 1, 2019. The Commission voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Chair Segovia stated the Commission did not have any additional matters to discuss at this time.

e) Future Agenda Items.

i. Commissioner input.

Commissioner Drichta stated she would like an educational session on wild birds and will look into scheduling an educational session with the Humane Society.

ii. Announcement of next Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting (Monday, October 21, 2019, at 6 p.m. at City Hall).

Chair Segovia announced the next Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, October 21, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

7. Citizen Comment Period - limited to 20 minutes total

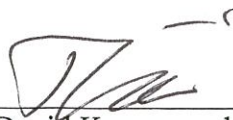
Martha Stipp, 21007 Cedar Branch, spoke regarding a separate deer count conducted by Advocates for Garden Ridge Wildlife.

Tony Frasco, 8802 Wild Wind Park, spoke regarding the deer count he participated in and the permitting process from Texas Parks and Wildlife.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Monday, September 16, 2019, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. by Chair Segovia.

ATTEST:


David Krawczynski, Vice-Chair


Kat Balbi
Assistant City Secretary

**SIGN IN TO SPEAK AT THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2019
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD**

Rules for Citizens' Participation:

The Commission welcomes citizen participation and comments at all Commission Meetings. The Commission offers citizens the opportunity to address them by signing up to speak prior to the meeting. If you speak, you should follow these guidelines:

- a) Respect and courtesy:
 - i. Direct your comments to the entire Commission, not to an individual member, nor to the audience.
 - ii. Show the Commission the same respect that you would like to be shown.
 - iii. End your speaking at the time allotted below.
- b) Speaking:
 - i. First citizen comment period
 1. You are required to sign up to speak.
 2. You are limited to one 3 minute period.
 - ii. Business item period
 1. You are required to sign up to speak.
 2. You are limited to one 3 minute period.
 - iii. Second citizen comment period
 1. You are not required to sign up.
 2. You are limited to one 2 minute period.
 - iv. State your name and address before your comments begin.
 - v. You are only allowed to speak once per topic, unless also speaking during a posted Public Hearing.

*NOTE: The Texas Open Meetings Act permits a member of the public or a member of the governmental body to raise a subject that has not been included in the notice for the meeting. However, any discussion of the subject **must be limited** to a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a future meeting and any response to a question posed to the Commission is limited to either a statement of specific factual information or a recitation of existing policy. TEX. GOV'T CODE § 551.042*

NAME

ADDRESS

SUBJECT

1. Marsha Stipp 21007 Cedar Branch Deer County 2019
2. _____
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5. _____
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9/16/19 Wildlife Management Advisory Commission
Regular Meeting - 2nd Citizen comment period

NAME

ADDRESS

SUBJECT

1. Martha Stipp
2. Tony Farris

21007 Cedar Brook

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