



City of Garden Ridge

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

MINUTES WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, JULY 15, 2019, 6:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present:

Chair Cynthia Shanahan-Segovia
Vice-Chair David Krawczynski
Commissioner Ken Kneupper
Commissioner Jeremiah McKinney
Commissioner Paul Sullivan

Commissioners Absent:

Commissioner Troy Bippert (Voluntary Announced Absence)
Councilmember Lisa Swint, Ex-officio
Vacant Position

City Staff, City Councilmembers, or Other Commissioners Present:

Nancy Cain, City Administrator
Marisa Spencer, City Secretary
Kat Balbi, Assistant City Secretary
Mayor Pro-Tem McCaw
Councilmember Bower

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 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 15, 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 Commission has worked with professionals in order to make informed recommendations to City Council, including partnering with the National Wildlife Federation as a Monarch City. She also stated the City accomplished being in the leadership circle during the first year of becoming a Monarch City, thanking the Comal Master Gardeners for their efforts in helping the City become a Monarch City.

5. Citizen Comment Period – limited to 30 minutes total

Dawn Hatch, 8377 Twisted Oaks, spoke regarding wildlife, budgeting, educational sessions and projects, and the Wildlife Management Plan for the City of Garden Ridge.

Martha Stipp, 21007 Cedar Branch, spoke regarding deer management and Capture Myopathy.

6. Business Items

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

a) Education/Training Session – “Conducting Deer Surveys Garden Ridge, TX 2019” by Craig Hensley, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Biologist (limited to 30 minutes total).

Craig Hensley reviewed the presentation “Conducting Deer Surveys” specifically created for the City of Garden Ridge. Mr. Hensley answered and addressed questions from Commissioners. The Commission discussed setting dates for conducting three deer counts between mid-August and mid-September.

b) Approvals

i. Minutes for June 17, 2019, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Sullivan, seconded by Commissioner Kneupper, to approve the minutes for June 17, 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

The Commission reviewed the wildlife report from the Police Department.

2. Animal Services

The Commission reviewed the wildlife report from Animal Services. Commissioner McKinney spoke regarding an upcoming training on CWD testing.

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 the updated Wildlife Management Plan. He discussed the additional information as well as information still needed in the Wildlife Management Plan, including adding direct links for citizens to easily access information referred to in the plan. The Commission discussed possible platforms for public outreach and education efforts where citizens can view upcoming education/training sessions as well as previous presentations.

ii. Commissioner’s Projects

1. Wildlife Mailer from New Braunfels (Sullivan).

Commissioner Sullivan stated he spoke with Mr. Hensley to obtain contact information for the individual that put together the New Braunfels wildlife mailer.

2. September 28th, 2019, Ribbon Cutting Event and Celebration (Segovia).

Chair Segovia stated she invited Mr. Hensley to attend Ribbon Cutting Event and Celebration for the new garden outside the Garden Ridge Library. The Commission discussed attending and putting together informational material to handout.

3. Health of wildlife in Garden Ridge.

The Commission discussed how the weather and rain has benefitted wildlife this year.

4. Future education/training sessions and Grapevine articles.

The Commission discussed the schedule for future education/training sessions: August – Commissioner Bippert (TBD), September – Commissioner McKinney (bats: the language of bats). October – Commissioner Kneupper (San Marcos Beekeepers Association: honeybees). November – Chair Segovia (TBD/possibly Humane Society). The Commission discussed Commissioner McKinney doing a presentation about a variety of snakes at the Commission’s August meeting if Commissioner Bippert has not prepared a presentation.

iii. Meeting Updates/Reports

1. July 2, 2019, City Council Regular Meeting.

Chair Segovia updated the Commission on the monthly activity report she provided at the July 2, 2019, City Council Regular Meeting.

2. Parks Committee Monthly Meetings.

Chair Segovia stated the Commission and the Parks Committee have been discussing a seeding area for wildlife in Paul Davis Park and the Commission would be responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the area. Chair Segovia stated she is also discussing additional deer resistant trees and shrubs that attract more birds with the Parks Committee. The Commission also agreed on using the name of Butterfly Meadow as opposed to using the word pollinator.

iv. 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.

The Commission discussed Commissioner terms expiring September 30, 2019. Chair Segovia stated the Commission will discuss and take action on recommending reappointments of Commissioners to City Council during the Commission's August 19, 2019, regular meeting.

e) Future Agenda Items.

i. Commissioner input.

None at this time.

ii. Announcement of next Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting (Monday, August 19, 2019, at 6 p.m. at City Hall).

Chair Segovia announced the next Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, August 19, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

7. Citizen Comment Period - limited to 20 minutes total

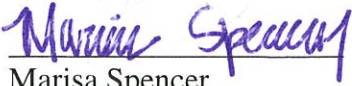
Martha Stipp, 21007 Cedar Branch, spoke regarding dates for conducting deer counts and deer management.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Monday, July 15, 2019, Wildlife Management Advisory Commission Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m. by Chair Segovia.


Cynthia Shanahan-Segovia, Chair

ATTEST:


Marisa Spencer
City Secretary