



**PARK BOARD MEETING**  
**RICK HEROLD ADMINISTRATION BLDG. - HALL OF FAME CONF.**  
**RM., 400 COLLEGE ST.**  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 2021 AT 6:30 PM**

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## **AGENDA**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

*Citizens may speak during Citizen Comments for up to five minutes on any item not on the agenda by completing and submitting a speaker card.*

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

- 1. Approval of February 24, 2021 Minutes, Presented by B.J. Nichols**
- 2. Award Presentation, Presented by Duane Strawn & B.J. Nichols**  
October Exemplary Employee of the Month - Jeremy Thomas, The Epic  
December Exemplary Employee of the Month - Gabby Gonzalez, The Epic  
December Teamwork Award - The Epic Aquatics Staff, The Epic
- 3. Bond Election Presentation, Presented by Greg Giessner**
- 4. Tree Report, Presented by Duane Strawn**
- 5. Park Board Reports, Presented by Park Board Members**  
Special Events - Malcom Chakery  
Recreation - Mal Earl  
The Summit - John Stewart & Emita Garcia  
Uptown/Market Square - Bryan Parra & Jerry Partain  
Playgrounds - Mal Earl  
Ruthe Jackson Center - Bryan Parra  
Golf - Greg Mullen  
The Epic - John Stewart & Malcom Chakery  
Playgrand Adventures - Emita Garcia  
Cricket/Rugby - B.J. Nichols  
Lake Parks - VanDella Meniffee & Jerry Partain  
Memorial Gardens - VanDella Meniffee  
Alliance Skate Park - B.J. Nichols  
Pickleball - Greg Mullen  
Sports Association - VanDella Meniffee
- 6. Chairman Updates, Presented by B.J. Nichols**  
District 2 Run Off Election - The Summit held early voting in the ballrooms from March 10 - March 23. If you live in this district and haven't voted yet, please do on Saturday, March 27th.

- 7. Director Presentation, Presented by Duane Strawn**  
COVID-19 Governor's Order  
Mi Familia Master Plan Schedule

## **ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting location is wheelchair accessible. If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements, please call 972-237-8107 at least 24 hours in advance. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.

### *Certification*

*In accordance with Chapter 551, Subchapter C of the Government Code, V.T.C.A, the Park Board agenda was prepared and posted March 19, 2021.*



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*Krista Marrs, Administrative Supervisor*



**PARK BOARD MEETING**  
**RICK HEROLD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING - HALL OF FAME**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM, 400 COLLEGE ST.**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021 AT 6:30 PM**

## MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

The City of Grand Prairie Park Board Meeting convened at 6:30 PM on February 24, 2021.

#### Park Board Members Present

B.J. Nichols	John Stewart	Emita Garcia	Jerry Partain	Greg Mullen
Malcom Chakery	Mal Earl	Jerry Partain	Bryan Partain	

#### Park Board Members Absent

VanDella Meniffee

#### City Staff Present

Duane Strawn	Gary Yakesch	Erin Hart
Chris Ginapp	Steve Plumer	Krista Marrs

### CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizen comments

### AGENDA ITEMS

#### **Approval of January 27, 2021 Minutes, Presented by B.J. Nichols**

Greg Mullen made a motion for approval of the January 27, 2021 minutes and Bryan Parra seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Award Presentation, Presented by Duane Strawn and B.J. Nichols**

##### a. October Partnership Award - Falkenburg Construction

Falkenburg Construction did an aquatics relocation project at The Summit. While it was a small project it made a big impact. They jumped through hoops to make everything work in the face of the pandemic and they have been an ideal partner.

##### b. October Exemplary Employee of the Month - Jeremy Thomas, The Epic

Jeremy Thomas was not able to attend this meeting. He has been invited to the next meeting.

##### c. November Exemplary Employee of the Month - Jason Williams, Lake Parks

Jason Williams is master of all trades. An individual like Jason is hard to come by and the department is lucky to have him. He's constantly doing amazing work and always has a great attitude regardless of what is asked of him.

##### d. November Teamwork - Dan Matthews & Jordyn Whitney, Special Events

Dan and Jordyn's role have changed dramatically over the course of the last year. They have both been flexible in moving around different departments due to COVID, but that doesn't stop their smiles. They are truly team players.

#### **Report of the Tree Board Report, Presented by Duane Strawn**

The following is a list of tree related activities for Parks Maintenance, Lake Parks, Golf Courses, and Cemetery Divisions reported for the month of January 2021.

Parks Maintenance: (North, South, Municipal & Gateway Crews)

- 1,680 Man hours – Winter Pruning, maintenance, removal, hauling brush.

Lake Parks: (Lynn Creek Park / Loyd Park)

- 300 Man hours – Pruning, maintenance, removal, stump grinding, and storm clean up

Golf Courses: (Prairie Lakes / Tangle Ridge)

- 140 Man hours – Pruning, maintenance and storm clean up

Cemetery:

- 5 Man Hours – Pruning and maintenance

Totals for Tree Related Activities:

- 2125 - Man hours

Horticulture Updates:

- Grand Prairie Fire Station #1
  - On January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 we replace a tree that had died during the spring of 2020 in front of the Fire Station along Main St.
  - 1 - 3” Cedar Elm at the cost of \$770.00
- Park & Ride (located along I30, east of Beltline rd.)
  - On January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 we completed Phase 1 tree replacements.
    - 7 Cedar Elm Tree’s and 4 Natchez Crape Myrtles at a cost of \$4,980.00
- Mike Lewis Park Erosion Improvement (located along the Trinity River)
  - On January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 we completed Phase 1 Streambank Stabilization. This was funded by the Grand Prairie Utility Services Department at the cost of \$8,930.00. This planting spans 170’ along the Trinity River with 72 native trees and grasses.
    - 2 Texas Red Oak, 2 Blackjack Oak, 2 Cedar Elm, 2 Texas Red Bud, 20 Creeping Vitex, 9 Possum Holly, 35 White Honeysuckle.
- Tree City USA
  - Application has been approved by Tree City USA! We will receive the official certificate for our 37<sup>th</sup> year in the coming days.

**Mi Familia Park Presentation, Presented by Steve Plumer**

Steve Plumer presented to the Park Board more information about the department’s next step in the Master Plan for Mi Familia Park.

**Park Board Chairman Presentation, Presented by B.J. Nichols**

## a. The Summit Opening

March 13, 2020 The Summit was closed due to the Pandemic and on March 1, 2021 they will be opening at 6:00 am with modifications.

## b. PlayGrand Adventures Status

PlayGrand Adventures is also set to open on March 1, 2021. If/when cases spike again a decision will be made to close based on hospitalizations. Data from Trauma Service Area E will be used to finalize any decisions.

c. Early Voting Tuesday Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>

Reminder to vote in the Special Election district 2 this month if you live in this district. Early voting ended on Tuesday, Feb 23

**Director Updates, Presented by Duane Strawn**

## a. Winter Storm 2021 –

During the week of the winter storm the Ruthe Jackson Center opened its doors as a warming center for the community

As far as damage, most of it was minor with a few exceptions. Analysis is being done to figure out what can be done and how quickly.

Staff was able to cover the Golf Course, but we won't know what that damage looks like for a while.

b. Staff appreciation

We are grateful for the staff who came out to help when and where they could. This storm was not something we could control, but our staff did amazing work and we are proud of their work and dedication.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: There being no further business, the Park Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 P.M.



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*Krista Marrs, Administrative Supervisor*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Tree Board

**FROM:** Andrew Snyder, Operations Supervisor

**RE:** February 2021 Tree Related Activities

**DATE:** Friday, March 12, 2021

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The following is a list of tree related activities for Parks Maintenance, Lake Parks, Golf Courses, and Cemetery Divisions reported for the month of February 2021.

**Parks Maintenance:** (North, South, Municipal & Gateway Crews)

- 1,450 Man hours – Winter Pruning, maintenance, removal, hauling brush, and storm clean up.

**Lake Parks:** (Lynn Creek Park / Loyd Park)

- 300 Man hours – Pruning, maintenance, removal, stump grinding, and storm clean up.

**Golf Courses:** (Prairie Lakes / Tangle Ridge)

- 250 Man hours – Pruning, maintenance and storm clean up.

**Cemetery:**

- 10 Man Hours – Pruning and maintenance.

**Totals for Tree Related Activities:**

- 2010 - Man hours

**Horticulture Updates:**

- **Winter Storm 2021 Update:**
  - We are still assessing trees throughout our parks system for any loss due to the extreme cold weather experienced.
    - The biggest impact was seen on our Palm Trees at the Summit and Uptown Theater.