

Village of Volente
Minutes for the Environmental Committee Meeting
Saturday, February 22, 2014 10:00am
Village of Volente City Hall
16100 Wharf Cove, Volente, TX

A. Items Opening Meeting

1. Call to Order

Mayor Frederick Graber called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

2. Roll Call

A quorum was established, with Frederick Graber, Andy Fogarasi, Anne Steichen and Curtis Ratica being present, and member Rolando Osorio being absent from the meeting.

B. General Business and Action Items

- 1.** *Mayor Graber welcomed the new members to the Environmental Committee introduced himself, and then each member introduced themselves.*
- 2.** *Members discussed and reviewed the scope of the Environmental Committee*
 - a.** *Barbara Wilson gave an explanation of the Texas Open Meetings Act and the role of the Committee in making recommendations to the City Council.*
 - b.** *Mayor Graber gave the history of the Comprehensive Plan and explained that in the Community Survey, there was a desire for Parks and Trails, but that the survey also showed that no one wanted their tax dollars being used for those improvements. He reviewed a trails system graphic he'd previously presented to the City Council and explained the process of first connecting the existing clusters of residential roads to allow an alternative to walking on the major roadways of Lime Creek Road and FM 2769. He stated that the second phase would be to then connect all of the residential areas with a Village-wide trail that would extend the length of Lime Creek Road and 2769. See attachments.*
 - c.** *The Mayor then asked each of the committee members to present their ideas or concepts that they would like to see in a parks and trail system.*
 - *Anne Steichen spoke to her concepts for trails and parks.*
 - *Curtis Ratica presented a graphic trails concept plan that incorporated a large loop that incorporated properties within the Volente Peak Subdivision and possibly even Balcones Canyonland Preserve lands. He also spoke to potential amenities for parks and/or along the trail system. See Attachments*
 - *Roland Osorio gave input on different cost ratios on different types of trails*
 - *Andy Fogarasi presented his concepts for trails and a process for starting a trail system then adding and improving it thru time.*
- 3.** *The Committee discussed as a whole that it would be a good idea to be watchful of various parks and trail systems to get an idea of what designs and design functions are available for consideration. Anne Steichen moved that the Committee have the next Committee meeting at Lake Creek Trail at 10 AM on March 22nd, 2014. Mayor Graber seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.*
- 4.** *Nomination were taken for the Vice Chair position. Mayor Graber nominated Andy Fogarasi .*

Anne Steichen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Frederick Graber stated that there was also the opportunity to connect the west end of Reed with the Debbie-Booth neighborhood streets.

8. Discussion of potential volunteer workdays was discussed but it was decided that the dates did not need to be determined until Council authorized the Environmental Committee to coordinate volunteers and funding on the projects. The Committee agreed to meet briefly on March 30th at 10am, so that action could be taken on specific recommendations to be presented to the City Council.
9. The Committee decided to look at the potential next section for the pathway along Lime Creek Road, in route to Lake Creek Park; and recessed to meet at the home of Andy Fogarasi. Susan and Leah Fogarasi (4), Mattie and Jessica Graber (11), Jennifer and Jaden Ratica (2) and Dorothy Wilhelm walked the potential trail corridor with the Committee, where they briefly met Bryan and Marilyn Nasky, who were also out walking. Curtis Ratica stated he'd like to see a more substantial surface treatment on the trail than mulch.
10. The Committee again recessed and met at Lake Creek Park to walk the 5-foot wide concrete bike/walking trail and study the wheelchair accessible picnic tables and signage signifying the various birds of the area. There was discussion that the 5-foot width was nice because you could easily walk side by side and pass others on the trail.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM with no action taken, and all stayed to enjoy a picnic together.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 30th Day of March, 2014.



Mayor Frederick Graber

ATTEST:



Barbara Wilson, City Administrator
Acting City Secretary in Joan Jackson City Secretary's Absence