



City of Wimberley

221 Stillwater, Wimberley, Texas 78676

REGULAR PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

WIMBERLEY CITY HALL – CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
221 STILLWATER, WIMBERLEY, TEXAS 78676

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026 - 4:30 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 PM on Wednesday, February 18, 2026.

2. CALL OF ROLL

Roll call was conducted with the following members present: Rachel Buchanan, Lee Ann Linam, Lin Weber, Leah Cuddeback, Anthony Deringer, Amy Crowell, and Lori Olson.

3. CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

No citizen communications were presented.

4. MINUTES

4.1 Consider approval of minutes from the January 14, 2026 Regular Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting.

The board reviewed the minutes from the January 14, 2026 meeting.

Motion by Amy Crowell to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Lee Ann Linam.

Motion passed unanimously (7-0).

5. CITY STAFF REPORT

5.1 Parks Director report

Parks Director Erica Flocke provided several updates:

- Swim registration opens March 1st for everyone
- Camp registration opened February 1st and is doing well, with spring break camp over half full and nature center camp and community center camp filling up
- Four staff members attended the TRAPS (Texas Recreation and Park Society) conference in Corpus Christi, with three attending on full scholarship (Erica, Rachel, and Izzy)
- Bryce competed in the state maintenance rodeo, placing 4th in the backpack blower competition

- Rachel and Erica presented an educational session about Facebook forums called "Facebook Roasted Us, Now What?" to over 100 people
- The trail signage project is ongoing, with staff working to complete areas where Golden cheeks nest before March 1st
- The recent freeze resulted in approximately \$900 in plumbing repairs, mainly at the pavilion restroom
- A drainage bib was added at the pavilion during repairs to help drain the system better, with plans to add these features to all restrooms in the park in the next budget cycle
- The department received a \$600 grant from the Native Plant Society of Texas for plantings in the decommissioned spray field focused on monarch butterfly habitat
- Maker's Market uses the booths at Oak Park once a month with live music
- A meeting with Texas State is scheduled for February 27th to discuss U Camp partnership and potential access for 78676 residents
- The LCRA grant application has been submitted for the Martha Knies playground project
- The nature center project has moved from schematic design to design development phase
- Interviews are ongoing for seasonal positions
- The department has secured \$19,000 in sponsorships so far this year, including recent contributions from Texas Regional Bank and Abode Realty
- LCRA Steps Forward Day has been approved for April 10th at the community center
- Native grass seed and plugs from Central Texas Plant Rescuers are being delivered and a workday is planned for March 4th

Board members discussed the potential Texas State U Camp partnership, with Anthony Deringer offering insights from a previous attempt that didn't move forward due to misaligned goals. The board agreed the primary goal would be to secure general access for community members rather than additional programming.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

6.1 Discuss, consider, and make a recommendation regarding the potential installation of a coin vortex fundraising feature in a City park, in partnership with the Wimberley Lions Club.

Parks Director Erica Flocke explained that the Wimberley Lions Club had proposed installing a coin vortex fundraising feature, suggesting Martha Knies Park. Staff recommend against that location due to existing features but were open to considering Oak Park or another location.

Board member Lori Olson expressed concerns about this proposal, noting that the parks department has its own fundraising needs. Rachel Buchanan, who had experience with a similar feature at their facility, shared that maintenance is significant, it requires someone to provide coins since most people don't carry them, and the return on investment would be slow (approximately \$50-175 per month). The cost for such a feature was estimated at \$4,500 plus an additional \$800 for the base, not including shipping.

The board discussed that this would set a precedent for other nonprofits to request similar arrangements and questioned whether the benefit justified giving up park space.

Leah Cuddeback moved to decline the installation, with a second from Lin Weber. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

6.2 Discuss, consider, and make a recommendation to City Council regarding the City of Wimberley Parks Department Aquatics Feasibility Study (RFP #2025-03).

The board reviewed the results of the scoring committee for the Aquatics Feasibility Study RFP. Three firms had submitted bids: Brandstetter Carroll (score 254), Hotel and Leisure Advisors (score 214), and Kimley Horn (score 261). The highest-scoring bid from Kimley Horn was \$58,000.

There was extensive discussion about whether spending this amount on a feasibility study was worthwhile given current drought conditions and the city's financial constraints. Board members expressed concerns about water availability, lack of funding mechanisms for both construction and ongoing maintenance, and whether the study would provide actionable information.

While acknowledging that a swimming pool was frequently mentioned in community surveys, board members questioned whether a traditional approach was appropriate for Wimberley. Several suggested that forming a community subcommittee to explore local partnerships with existing pool facilities might be more practical and cost-effective than conducting a formal study.

Leah Cuddeback moved to recommend to Council that they not move forward with any of the bids, recognizing that there were good applications for a standard feasibility study, but Wimberley faces challenges including water availability, extreme drought, and lack of funding due to not having property tax. Instead, the board recommended forming a subcommittee with local partners to explore alternative aquatic opportunities. Lee Ann Linam seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (7-0).

6.3 Discuss, consider, and make a recommendation to City Council regarding the City of Wimberley Parks Department Martha Knies Community Park - Playground Update (RFP #2025-04).

Parks Director Erica Flocke presented the scoring results for five bidders on the Martha Knies Community Park playground project. Bidder 4 (Kompan) received the highest score (366) with a design featuring a bird theme. Staff recommended proceeding with Bidder 4's Option 1 at a cost of \$250,000.

The board reviewed aspects of the proposal, noting that the design had received positive feedback in the public survey. The playground would include a pour-in-place surface, which is permeable and beneficial for tree roots. The design features a bird structure with climbing elements on the outside and a separate area for very young children.

The board acknowledged that Keep Wimberley Beautiful is donating \$50,000 toward the project.

Lori Olson moved to recommend proceeding with staff's recommendation for Bidder 4 (Kompan), Option 1. Lin Weber seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (7-0).

6.4 Receive an update and hold discussion related to the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan.

As a standing agenda item, the board briefly discussed potential updates related to the Comprehensive Master Plan. Board member Lori Olson shared information about a new

grant opportunity through the Water Development Board that could provide funding for land acquisition or conservation easements to protect watersheds and water quality. This was identified as a potential avenue to address land acquisition goals in the master plan. The grant application will be due in July.

The board also discussed the need to possibly form an aquatics committee to explore alternatives to a traditional pool, as discussed earlier in the meeting.

7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

7.1 Announcements

The board discussed the date for their next meeting, which is scheduled for March 11, 2026. Board members requested calendar holds be sent by staff to help with scheduling.

Tim shared a map from the comprehensive master plan showing proposed collector roads and city boundaries for the board's information.

7.2 Future agenda items

The board agreed to continue the standing item regarding the Comprehensive Master Plan to track progress on various initiatives.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lee Ann Linam to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rachel Buchanan. The motion carried unanimously (7-0). The meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.

RECORDED BY:

APPROVED BY:

PARB Secretary or Staff Liaison

PARB Chairperson

