

Linda Swedberg Notes:

Notes from Gathering of Trees and Parks Board at Augusta Park, 7/1/2025.

Members of the Board gathered as part of its plan to review all parks within Woodcreek and compare them with the most recent Woodcreek Parks Master Plan written by Ray Don Tilley. This was not a formal meeting of the Board. No decisions have been made. The goal of this Board in reviewing the Woodcreek parks in person is to start to identify recommended changes to the plan (probably not a rewrite) to address problems or improvements not identified earlier, and recommend changes for the good of the park and the community. The Board will meet informally at each Woodcreek park over the next month. (Correct?)

Advisors who have worked on Augusta Park include:

Becky Denton, Master Naturalist. (Becky has been instrumental in helping maintain Augusta Park, is moving from Woodcreek soon, and very much wants the Board to put in place volunteers or contract personnel to fix existing drainage problems and maintain the park on a regular basis.)*

Linda Land. Also a Master Naturalist.

Katherine Evans. Certified Landscape Architect (CLA). Katherine worked on the original park plan.

Ruth Ann Gilbert. Former Chair of Parks Board.

Claire Palmer. Master Naturalist.

Jonah (last name?). Permaculture. (I'd like more info on Jonah's role.)

**Side Note: A very small part of maintaining the park includes putting mosquito "dunks" in the water trough attached to the rainwater collection system on the 1st of each month. I have agreed to take over this onerous task.*

Judy Newton met with Katherine Evans to look at the park, its drainage issues, and other future needs. Katherine recommended making additions to the Parks Master Plan, not redoing it. Judy summarized their discussion and afterwards, the group did a walk-about of the park and reviewed the following:

- The drainage and overflow problem was discussed at length.
- Is a bigger culvert needed? This may be a bigger project than is needed, as the strip of road above the culvert on Augusta Drive would have to be taken up over the existing culvert to replace it. Cleaning out the culvert is needed no matter what other solutions are proposed.
- Remove invasive plants, e.g., King Ranch blue stem grass.
- Plant muhly grass to slow down water flow?

- Add turf grass?
- There is no longer a path between Augusta Lane and Augusta Drive. Should this be addressed?
- Develop a park maintenance plan, e.g., regular clean-up and watering. Not needed too frequently. Build up volunteer group and/or hire someone. Use current city resources (Kelly or Jonah)?
- If looking at contract work, write an RFP (Request for Proposal) to send to three potential applicants.*

**Side Note: All the parks need maintenance plans.*

Jeff gave an informal update on the budget work in progress (not to be discussed outside the group at present).

Chris Grummert is working on a tree-planting grant proposal to be submitted to Texas Parks & Recreation. The grant would be for \$10,000 and would require a \$10,000 cash match by the city. The Board's role in the grant process is to identify what trees will be planted and where (and included in maintenance plan(s)?).

The group continued the walk-about to discuss potential improvements to the park to address the drainage issues, make the park ADA-compliant, and generate ideas for improvements that will be used by the community.