

**Sec. 23-16. - Established.**

- (a) There is hereby established the Laredo Parks and Recreation Board, appointed by city council, to consist of nine (9) members. Each of the council members and the mayor shall nominate one (1) member. A board member cannot be currently employed by the city.
- (b) Members of the parks and recreation board shall be qualified voters and resident citizens of the city.
- (c) The terms of office shall be concurrent with those of the council member making the nomination. Vacancies which occur during the members' terms shall be filled for the unexpired balance of the term in the same manner as initial appointments. If a replacement has not been appointed at the end of a member's term, the member shall continue to serve until replaced or reappointed.
- (d) Members shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for all actual and necessary expenses incurred as long as such expenses are approved by the board and by the city manager and included in the parks and recreation department approved budget.
- (e) Ex-officio members may be voted in by the board. Ex-officio members do not have voting rights.
- (f) Recognizing the responsibility of the parks and recreation department to serve the public as a whole, the city council will strive to ensure that the parks and recreation board is representative of a good cross-section of the occupations and interests within the city, giving particular attention to individuals who have indicated willingness to support parks and recreational activities by donating their time, talent or other resources.
- (g) A parks and recreation board member shall forfeit appointment if he or she shall:
  - (1) Fail to meet the residency requirements for appointment;
  - (2) Is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude; or
  - (3) Fails to attend three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the parks and recreation board without being excused by the board.

(Ord. No. 88-30, § 2, 4-4-88; Ord. No. 2007-O-089, § 3, 5-21-07)

**Sec. 23-17. - Organization.**

At its first meeting the parks and recreation board shall organize by electing a chairman, vice-chairman and secretary from its members and shall hold an annual election of officers thereafter. The director of the parks and recreation department shall provide such secretarial and other clerical assistance as the board may require in the performance of its official duties. When involved in official duties, members of the board shall be entitled to use the parks and recreation department meeting facilities, office supplies, telephone, and mailing and reproduction services.

(Ord. No. 88-30, § 2, 4-4-88)

**Sec. 23-18. - Duties.**

The parks and recreation board shall provide advice, assistance and recommendation to the director of the parks and recreation department, city manager and city council and shall serve as a liaison between the public and the city. In particular, the board shall:

- (1) Inform itself of laws and policies governing park and recreation operations and of the procedures and technologies employed in such operations.
- (2) Evaluate parks and recreation activities and ongoing services with special attention to economy, efficiency and value to the public.
- (3) Assist in the development of long-range plans for park and recreational activity expansion and improvement as appropriate to meet the requirements of population growth.
- (4) Review proposed capital improvement programs, programs of service, budget estimates, contracts and grant proposals before these documents are sent to the city manager.
- (5) Promote and encourage interdepartmental cooperative services.
- (6) Make such recommendations to the director of the parks and recreation department, city manager and city council as it finds appropriate.
- (7) Study, investigate, advise, develop and/or update annually and administer a written plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets, and in other public spaces. Such plan shall be presented to the city council and upon their acceptance and approval shall constitute the official city tree plan for the City of Laredo. The board, when requested by the city council, shall consider, investigate, make findings, report and recommend upon any special matter or question coming with[in] the scope of its work under this subsection.
- (8) Review landscaping plans when required for preliminary plat approval for compliance with section 24.83 [Trees and shrubs] of the Laredo Land Development Code. The board may request changes to the proposed landscaping plan. A letter from the parks and recreation board accepting the proposed landscaping plan must be received before the plan can be submitted for final approval.

(Ord. No. 88-30, § 2, 4-4-88; Ord. No. 2007-O-089, § 2, 5-21-07)