



Agenda Item: Presentation of Grants Program Update

Background:

The Park Board's Grants program is designed to provide support for programming and projects at City of Galveston and Park Board assets ranging from Visit Galveston to parks to Beach Patrol and Coastal Zone Management activities, among others. The Grants program seeks outside support for key initiatives by engaging public and private funders through traditional grant processes and non-traditional development activities. Additionally, the Grants program is responsible for ensuring the accurate and effective documentation, tracking, and reporting of grant funded activities with the goal of maximizing present and future support.

Since establishing the Park Board's formal Grants program, key employees have been working to establish procedures and infrastructure necessary to the successful administration and awarding of grants. This work has included development of a proprietary internal database and metrics tracking tools, working with staff to identify and build a pipeline of fundable projects, and identifying organizational priorities for grant seeking.

In pursuit of new revenue for Park Board projects, the Grants program has identified and applied for several grants in support of key Park Board projects. Two of those grants have been awarded, one application remains outstanding, and pursuit of several more grant opportunities is being planned. Additionally, several grants awarded to the Park Board for capital projects are currently under administration through collaboration between the Project Manager and the Grants Manager.

Calendar year-to-date, awarded grants include:

- Humanities Texas, Mini Grant, \$1,500 in support of the Juneteenth Town Hall.
- National Environmental Education Foundation, Driving Mobility and Accessibility on Public Lands, \$20,000 in support of accessibility upgrades at R.A. Apffel Park (East Beach)