

## **Media Contact**

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## **Galveston Park Board Update: January 19, 2017**

The Galveston Park Board of Trustees held its regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 17 at Park Board Plaza. Below is an update of news from the boardroom.

### **Park Board Approves Contract with Architectural Firm for Stewart Beach Pavilion**

At its meeting Tuesday, the Park Board approved a contract with Houston-based architectural firm Rogers Partners for services relating to planning a new pavilion at Stewart Beach. The firm will review the existing structure, conduct space assessments and provide drawings and renderings for a new structure. In addition, the firm will facilitate and foster public engagement to best determine the community's needs and vision for the pavilion. The project is expected to take approximately six months. Funds for the \$130,000 contract come from a settlement from the 2011 Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

### **Park Board Approves Contract with Babe Schwartz**

On Tuesday, the board approved a contract renewal for \$25,000 with former Texas senator and Galveston representative A.R. "Babe" Schwartz. He will serve as a legislative consultant and liaison for the Galveston Park Board. Schwartz has extensive experience in legislation protecting the environment and management of coastal resources and has therefore been tasked with providing guidance for the organization's 2017 state legislative agenda. He will be responsible for monitoring all legislative issues and proposed legislation pertaining to Park Board interests, including items considered in any special session of the Texas Legislature.

### **Park Board Approves 2017 Federal Legislative Agenda, Contract for Legislative Services**

At its meeting Tuesday, the Park Board approved its 2017 federal legislative agenda. Key focus areas of the agenda include federal engagement in beach management, coastal restoration, tourism promotion and the national flood insurance program and the establishment of the Lone Star Coastal National Recreation Area. Agenda items provide the basis for visits to federal legislators undertaken by Park Board trustees and staff throughout the year. Washington-based Van Scoyoc Associates prepared the agenda. The Park Board also approved a \$60,000 contract renewal with Van Scoyoc Associates for their services in the fields of government and public affairs. This marks the fourth year the Park Board has contracted with the firm to assist the Park Board in achieving the objectives laid out in the agenda.

### **Park Board Business Plans Approved**

At its meeting Tuesday, the Park Board approved annual business plans for its departments. The plans include project descriptions, completion dates, funding sources and identify those responsible for completing the projects. The business plans can be viewed on line at [www.galvestonparkboard.org](http://www.galvestonparkboard.org).

### **Park Board Receives Parks and Natural Areas Award**

On Tuesday, Park Board Executive Director Kelly de Schaun announced that the Park Board received a Parks and Natural Areas Policy Tools Award from the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC). The HGAC awarded the Park Board's sand management strategies as it relates to the Gulf of Mexico shoreline.

### **Greg Pappas Appointed to Beach Maintenance Advisory Committee**

On Tuesday, Park Board chairwoman Joyce Calver McLean appointed Greg Pappas to the Beach Maintenance Advisory Committee. Pappas is a partner in a Houston-based commercial real-estate firm and is also among the owners of the Galveston Yacht Basin.

### **Park Board Awards Contracts to Vendors**

At its meeting Tuesday, the Park Board voted to enter into agreements with the following vendors:

- Adam Musick, for umbrella and chair rentals at Pocket Parks 1 and 2 and Dellanera RV Park
- Bennett Beach Services, for chair and umbrella rentals along the seawall between 70<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> streets
- Brown Food Service, for special event parking at Park Board Plaza
- Corporate Aircraft Solutions, for bicycle rentals at Stewart Beach
- Gulf Coast Vending Services, for food and drink vending at Park Board Plaza and Dellanera RV Park
- Puro Gusto, for fresh fruit sales at Pocket Park 1 and East End Lagoon

### **About the Park Board of Trustees**

The Park Board of Trustees oversees beach maintenance and tourism development on Galveston Island, including operations for beach cleaning, the Galveston Island Beach Patrol and the Galveston Island Convention & Visitors Bureau. For more information on the Park Board of Trustees, please visit [www.galvestonparkboard.org](http://www.galvestonparkboard.org).

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