

Media Contact

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Galveston Park Board Update: January 9, 2013

The Galveston Park Board of Trustees held its regularly scheduled meeting at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 8 at Park Board Plaza. Below is an update of news from the board room.

NEWS

New Downtown Wayfinding Signage

The Park Board of Trustees on Tuesday approved to move forward with a project to develop new pedestrian wayfinding signage in downtown Galveston. The signs – which will be funded by downtown parking meter revenue – will include updated attraction information, maps, and links to an updated downtown website and mobile site. Design work for the project was awarded to Trey Click of Parrot Media LLC while the construction and installation work will go through a bid process. The Park Board is working with the City of Galveston Downtown Oversight Committee on the project, which is expected to be complete by the end of the spring.

Creation of Lone Star National Recreation Area

The Park Board of Trustees on Tuesday unanimously voted to support a resolution endorsing the creation of a Lone Star National Recreation Area. The proposed national recreation area would consist of portions of coastal Matagorda, Brazoria, Chambers and Galveston counties, and is aiming to achieve national park status. The Park Board of Trustees is one of the first private government entities to endorse the initiative.

Galveston Island CVB Achieves Destination Marketing Accreditation

The Galveston Island Convention & Visitors Bureau announced Monday that it has been awarded accreditation from the Destination Marketing Accreditation Program (DMAP). DMAP is an international accreditation program developed by Destination Marketing Association International (DMAI) based in Washington, DC. In earning the DMAP accreditation, the Galveston Island Convention & Visitors Bureau has been recognized within the destination marketing community for providing outstanding services in accordance with international standards and benchmarks in the field. It becomes one of just 153 destination marketing organizations in the world to receive the DMAP accreditation.

New Concessionaire at East Beach

Tuesday, the Galveston Park Board of Trustees unanimously approved an agreement with a new beach vendor. Beach Buddies LLC will open a portable trailer at Apffel Park during the next beach park season, offering beach supplies for visitors. The Park Board of Trustees is actively seeking additional concessionaires for Apffel Park to improve the beach visitor experience.

Purchase of Barber Surf Rake

The Park Board of Trustees on Tuesday unanimously voted to purchase a Barber Surf Rake, a new type of beach maintenance equipment. The board chose to add the machine to its fleet as a cost-effective, sand-friendly alternative to its currently used front-end loaders. The Barber Surf Rake is designed to remove seaweed without disrupting the sand. Executive Director Kelly de

Schaun said the new equipment will aid in the maintenance of Galveston's beaches, while simultaneously preventing beach erosion. She said the Surf Rake will also reduce the amount of manual labor and time needed to keep the beaches clean, as it also has trash collection capabilities. The decision to purchase the \$52,000 Surf Rake stems from the Park Board's effort to develop new methods for environmentally friendly beach maintenance.

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.

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