

64.00 Friends of the Park Program

Purpose:

The City of Medina's Friends of the Park Program is a community effort organized to provide an ongoing opportunity to beautify, clean and maintain the City's parks and open spaces and the German Liberal Cemetery for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. It is also the conduit for Citizen Generated Project Requests.

Policy Statement:

From time to time the City is approached by citizens or citizen groups with well intentioned proposals for improvements to City property, often at no expense to the City. The City must ensure that such projects fit into long term plans for the City properties for which the projects are proposed and that they do not add unreasonably to City grounds and facilities maintenance responsibilities.

Process:

Community groups or individuals interested in improving local parks and open space or the German Liberal Cemetery will be asked to submit an application for an Approved Ongoing Program Activity or a Citizen Generated Project Request to the City for review. Once the project has been approved by the City, the Public Works Superintendent will meet with the participants to provide further direction.

Approved Ongoing Program Activities

- Clean up area of garbage and litter
- Plant flowers, shrubs and trees in locations approved by the City of Medina
- Remove noxious weeds by hand or cutting as designated
- Water and maintain plantings around park entrance signs
- Inspect and clean bird houses throughout parks system

Citizen Generated Project Requests

Individuals or community groups that are interested in volunteering for Approved Citizen Generated Projects must adhere to the following:

1. Submit projects that are generally listed on the Approved Project List, developed annually by the Park Commission and approved by the City Council.
2. Propose projects that are generally non-structural and based on preservation and ecology.
3. Create a detailed budget and identify funding sources.
4. Complete a City of Medina Project Worksheet and submit to City Staff for Park Commission review and approval by the City Council.

5. Be available to attend a Park Commission meeting and City Council meeting to present your project idea if requested.
6. Recognize that preference will be given to Medina residents.

City Responsibilities:

- Review and approve project
- Help participants establish a work plan and create goals
- Furnish materials as agreed

Participant Responsibilities:

- Commitment to completing Ongoing Program Activities and the goals created:
 - Furnish plants approved by the City of Medina
 - Keep plants properly watered, maintained and weeded
 - Furnish transportation for workers
 - Provide adult supervision for workers under 15 years of age
 - Observe every safety precaution to protect workers
 - Protect all monuments, signs and equipment
 - Return unused materials and supplies furnished by the City within one week
- Commitment to completing Approved Citizen Generated Projects and the goals created:
 - Furnish appropriate volunteer workers with adequate supervision
 - Adhere to appropriate safety standards
 - Seek input and advice from Park Commission and Public Works Department during project, if necessary
 - Secure all necessary funding prior to commencement of Project and provide proof of such to Park Commission

Program Approval: City Council approved on 5/4/2010; City Council amended on 1/18/2011