

Parks and Recreation Board Regular Meeting March 2, 2010

Board Chair Guerrero called the board meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Board Chair Linda Guerrero, Vice-Chair Sara Marler, Hill Abell, Jeff Francell, Carol Lee Jerry Perales and Jane Rivera.

Staff in Attendance:

Sara Hensley, Ricardo Soliz, Cora Wright, Farhad Madani, Kevin Gomillion, Robert Brennes, Terry Jungman and Tino Garcia.

1. Approval of Minutes

Board Member Marler moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Board Member Rivera. Motion carried 6-0.

2. Citizen Communication: General

Virginia Hoffman, Austin Rowing Club – updated the Board on club activities and invited the Board to the Heart of Texas Regatta at Festival Beach on March 6th and 7th.

Mary Burger, Austin Resident – expressed concern regarding the plan for the Davis Gazebo at Auditorium Shores.

Pat Turner, Women in Construction – also expressed concern regarding the gazebo and requested allocation of funds for repairs. She also requested that the pond not be covered or the gazebo altered.

Charles Croft, Architect – expressed concern about the future of the gazebo on Lady Bird Lake.

Charles McCabe, Austin Parks Foundation- updated the Board on It's My Park Day.

Lori Hill, spouse of the architect who designed the gazebo - reported that she is concerned about the plans to refurbish the gazebo.

3. Briefs

a. Rosewood Recreation Center Advisory Board

The brief was presented by Mr. Marvin Douglas, President of the Rosewood Recreation Center Advisory Board.

b. Springspace at Palm Park.

Board Chair Guerrero moved the brief to coincide with the action item scheduled later in the agenda.

4. Director's Report

Director Hensley reported on the following:

- It's my Park Day
- Roof at the Pease Bathroom facility
- Central Park Conservancy Workshop, March 25 & 26
- Youth Sports staff continuing meetings with service organizations
- 82nd Annual Kite Day in Zilker Park
- Calendar at a glance for Boards
- Agenda and backup information will be provided prior to the 72 hour deadline
- Fees at Barton Springs Pool will be coming before the Board
- Week long maintenance at Recreation Center. Centers will be closed for stripping, waxing etc...
- Workplan for 2010, a guiding document for land acquisition and facilities
- The duration of the Joint Environmental and Parks Board
- Project updates
- Museum at the Suzanne Dickinson

5. New Business and Action Items

a. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the Waller Creek Tunnel Project on the Waterloo Tree Plan, Boathouse Docks and the General Construction in the park.

The presentation was made by Gary Jackson, Public Works Department.

The motion to recommend to the City Council regarding the Waller Creek Tunnel Project on the Waterloo Tree Plan, Boathouse and Boathouse Docks and the general construction of the park was made by Board Member Marler, seconded by Board Member Rivera. The motion carried 7-0.

Vote count: Members voting aye: Board Chair Guerrero, Vice-Chair Marler, Hill, Perales, Lee, Francell and Rivera.

Members voting nay: None

b. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding permanent use of parkland at the Morris Williams Golf Course to build and operate an electrical substation.

The presentation was made by Sonny Poole, Austin Energy.

Mary Arnold, Golf Advisory Board, requested Board support for the use of parkland for the building and operation of the electrical substation (with adequate mitigation funds starting at 2 million) at the Morris Williams Golf Course.

Delano Womack, Golf Advisory Board, in also in support of the use of parkland for the building and operation of the electrical substation.

The motion to recommend to the City Council the use of permanent parkland for the building and operating of an electrical substation at Morris Williams Golf Course was made by Board Member Rivera, seconded by Board Member Abell. Motion carried 7-0.

Vote count: Members voting aye: Board Chair Guerrero, Vice-Chair Marler, Hill, Perales, Lee, Francell and Rivera.

Members voting nay: None

c. Make a recommendation to the Director regarding the use of the parking lot on parkland at Lamar Beach at Lady Bird Lake, across form the Seaholm Power Plant.

The presentation was made by Ricardo Soliz, Division Manager, Planning, Design and Construction.

The motion to recommend to the Director regarding the use of the parking lot on parkland at Lamar Beach at Lady Bird Lake, across from the Seaholm Power Plant was made Board Member Francell, seconded by Board Member Rivera. Motion carried 5-0-2. Note: Mr. Soliz will reconfirm that the mitigation dollars are correct.

Vote count: Members voting aye: Vice Chair Marler, Hill, Perales, Francell and Rivera.

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: Board Chair Guerrero and Board Member Lee.

d. Make a recommendation to the Director regarding 4414 Rivercrest Drive Boat Dock.

Board Member Francell explained the circumstances regarding the requested variance by the applicant.

After some further discussion, the motion to recommend to the Director approving the request to exceed the 20% shoreline width to be constructed within 10 feet of a side lot line was made by Board Member Perales, seconded by Board Member Marler. Motion carried 5-1-1.

Vote count: Members voting aye: Vice Chair Marler, Hill, Perales and Francell.

Members voting nay: Board Member Lee

Members abstaining: Board Chair Guerrero

e. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the use of Palm Park for Springscape in April 11, 2011.

The presentation was made by Charlie McCabe, Austin Parks Foundation and John Riedie, Rampant Arts. They are requesting Parks Board support to use Palm Park from March 24 through May 1st in 2011. Activities throughout the month long period include: a community day, a family friendly circus, kids camps, free happy hours, plus music, theatre and dance.

The motion to recommend to the Director and to the City Council the use of Palm Park for Springscape in April 2011 was made by Board Member Francell, seconded by Board Member Perales. The motion carried 7-0 with the provision that the final proposed agreement by brought back to the Board for final approval.

Vote count: Members voting aye: Board Chair Guerrero, Board Vice-Chair Marler, and Board members Hill, Francell, Perales, Rivera and Lee.

Members voting nay: None

6. Future Items From the Board

The Board requested briefs/presentations on the following throughout the next few months.

- Update on the Resolution regarding TRAMS
- Update on the shoreline and bulkhead resolution
- Bull Creek Park restoration

- Off Leash Advisory Committee
- Turkey Creek update
- Update on the Community Gardens at Fiesta Gardens
- A presentation on "How Preservation and Parkland Intermingle"
- Status on Mayfield Park.
- Update on Parks Contracts including SOP's and outsourcing guidelines

Board Chair Guerrero informed all about the Austin Convention Overlay which extends from the convention center to the lake. In an effort to alleviate the lack of parking in the overlay area, Ms. Guerrero is contemplating use the MACC parking structure to increase parking in the area.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.