



Parks and Recreation Board
Regular Meeting
March 23, 2010

Board Chair Guerrero called the board meeting to order at 6:16 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, Marty Stump, Chris Yanez and Tino Garcia.

1. Approval of Minutes – Amended

The minutes for the regular meeting of 03/23/10 were approved with the following amendment on Board Member Perales motion, seconded by Board Member Rivera. Motion carried on a vote of 7-0. The amendment was to edit page four, paragraph D. replacing a nay vote from Board Member Hill to Board Member Lee.

2. Citizen Communication – General

After Board Chair Guerrero announced that Item # 9 was being pulled: (a recommendation to the Director regarding the construction and management of the future North Austin Recreation Center), the following was read into the record:

“The North Austin Civic Association Members present are in opposition to the City of Austin partnering with the YMCA for the construction and management of the new North Austin Civic Center”. The members were: Martha Dempsey, Doris Williams, Jocelin Fontenot, Angela Barker, Robert Baker, Lloyd Langsdorf and Elenor Langsdorf.

Gavino Fernandez, East Town Lake Citizens, spoke about the lack of accessible programs at east side recreation centers.

Paul Hernandez, East Town Lake Citizens, expressed concern about the lack of accessible programs for low income kids at the Camacho Recreation Center.

Danny Perez, East Town Lake Citizens, expressed concern about the swimming schedule at Metz, Palm and Martin pools.

Charlie McCabe, Austin Parks Foundation, reported on It's My Park Day.

3. Briefs

a. Mayfield Park Community Project:

The brief was presented by Karen Cannatti, Chair of the Mayfield Park Community Project.

b. Turkey Creek Update

The brief was presented by Sheila Holbrook White.

c. Bull Creek Restoration

The brief was presented by Chris Herrington and Mike Kelly from Watershed Protection Department.

d. ZACH Scott New Theatre Project

The brief was presented by Arthur Andersson, Andersson Wise Architects.

e. Update on the Festival Beach Community Gardens

The brief was presented by Marty Stump, Planning, Design and Construction Division.

D. Director's Report

Director Hensley reported on the following:

- Assistant Director Farhad Madani announced his retirement after 27 years of service with the department. A farewell reception will be held on Wednesday, April 14th from 3-6 p.m. at Zilker Clubhouse. Rick Ramirez was announced as the new Acting Assistant Director.
- No bids were received on the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the upcoming Trail of Lights. Questions remain on how to proceed.
- The Board will be briefed on Private Gain on Public Properties at the next Parks Board meeting.
- The Board will soon receive memos regarding: 1) trees and pool fees at Barton Spring Pool and; 2) qualifications for lifeguards at SARC and Camacho Recreation Center.
- The Board, staff and citizens will be invited to attend a public meeting to meet the finalists and to provide input for the two vacant Assistant Director positions.

- The Central Park Conservancy Workshop will be held Thursday, March 25th at the Mexican American Cultural Center.

E. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION ITEMS

- a. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding land development code modifications for the Bull Creek PUD.

The motion to recommend to the City Council land development code modifications regarding the Bull Creek PUD was made by Board Member Francell. The motion stipulates that the swimming area footprint be approved upon submission of a site plan which details design and construction as well as an agreement by the applicant on the number of restrictions for future development of the shoreline of the property to include: 1) limiting the number of boat slips that are existing currently and; 2) agree not to use the boat slips for commercial purposes and; 3) for the Environmental Resource Management division of Watershed Protection Department to review and comment on shoreline strategies. **The request must come back to the Board for approval.** Seconded by Board Member Rivera. Motion carried 5-1-1.

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

Members voting nay: Board member Lee

Members abstaining: Board Chair Guerrero.

- b. Make a recommendation to the Director regarding future alcohol designation for the west end of Fiesta Gardens (a rental facility).

Gavino Fernandez, East Town Lake Citizens, requested that the Board support a ban on the sale of alcohol on the west end of Fiesta Gardens.

Paul Hernandez, East Town Lake Citizens, also requested that the Board support a ban on the sale of alcohol on the west end of Fiesta Gardens.

Marcos De Leon, President East Town Lake Citizens, also requested a ban on alcohol on the west end of Fiesta Gardens.

Danny Perez, East Town Lake Citizens, also requested a ban on alcohol on the west end of Fiesta Gardens.

The motion to recommend to the Director not to change the alcohol designation at the west end of Fiesta Gardens was made by Board member Francell, seconded by Board Member Lee. Motion carried 4-2.

Vote count: Members voting aye: Guerrero, Perales, Francell and Lee.

Members voting nay: Hill and Rivera.

Members abstaining: None.

c. Make a recommendation to the Director regarding the construction and management of the future North Austin Recreation Center.

This item was pulled by Board Chair Guerrero.

d. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the Parks and Recreation Department's current concessions in Town Lake Park.

The motion to recommend to the City Council the approval of the Parks and Recreation Department's concession report for current concessions in Town Lake Park was made by Board Member Francell, seconded by Board Member Perales. Motion carried 6-0.

Vote count: Members voting aye: Guerrero, Hill, Francell, Rivera, Lee and Perales.

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

F. Future Items From the Board

A template complete with guidelines for community gardens requests will be forthcoming. Board Member Perales requested revisiting the concessions contracts so fees can go to the department budget rather than the general fund. Board Chair Guerrero announced that she would be appointing a three member committee to draft a supporting resolution to the Mayor and Council.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.