Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

July 27, 2010



Parks and Recreation Board Regular Meeting July 27, 2010

Board Member Abell called the board meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Board members in Attendance: Board Members Hill Abell, Carol Lee, Jerry Perales and Jane Rivera.

Board members absent: Jeff Francell, Linda Guerrero and Sara Marler.

Staff in Attendance: Sara Hensley, Ricardo Soliz, Chris Yanez, Cora Wright, Kelly Snook, Kimberly McNeeley, Gilbert Hernandez and Tino Garcia.

1. Approval of Minutes –

The minutes for the regular meeting of 07/27/10 were approved on Board Member Lee's motion, seconded by Board Member Perales. Motion carried on a vote 4-0.

2. Briefs:

None

3. Director's Report

Director Hensley reported on the following items:

- In an effort to try to restore the Norwood House and to determine what improvements are needed to bring the house up to historic preservation standards, the department is going to hire an outside firm to evaluate the condition of the house.
- The City has contracted with the Harvey Cleary Builders to manage the construction of the Boathouse. Due to the Waller Creek Tunnel initiative, the current Boathouse will have to be torn down and then re-built. Two other bids will be evaluated by an independent evaluation team for the operation and management of the Boathouse.
- Director Hensley asked the Board to consider going fully paperless or possibly partially paperless in the future. No real plans were firmed up other than to discuss the item at a future Parks Board meeting.

- Director Hensley introduced the new PARD logo. The new logo was created after a year long process to redesign and update the design. The "A" in the logo represents Austin. Embedded in the "A" are "R" and "P" which represents Parks and Recreation. There is a blue wavy line which represents "water" and the "green leaf" represents our natural resources. The logo will go on uniforms, clothing and signage on a replacement basis.
- 4. New Business and Action Items

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

Lloyd Langsdorf still prefers a recreation center instead of the partnership. He expressed concern with a 20-year contract.

Hamilton Rial, Board of Directors and past Chair of the YMCA, urged the Board to approve the agreement with the YMCA.

Randy Teich, North Austin Civic Association, urged the Board to approve the agreement but to ensure that citizens remain fully involved.

Linda Moore, North Austin Civic Association, expressed concern that the community has not been involved with any of the design plans for the building. She requested that the community play a role regarding the design of the building.

Bob Digneo, Board of Directors, urged the Board to support the 20-year agreement between the City and the YMCA.

Eleanor Landsdorf, President, North Austin Civic Association, expressed concern with the lack of transparency of the process and that the partnership will not meet the needs of low-income residents.

Tony Reda urged the Board to approve the agreement.

The motion to recommend to the City Council approval regarding the construction and management of the future North Austin Recreation Center was made by Board Member Rivera, seconded by Board Member Perales. Motion carried 4-0.

Vote count: Members voting aye: Board Members Abell, Rivera, Lee and Perales.

Members voting nay: None

b. Make a recommendation to the Director regarding morning charging hours at Barton Springs Pool for fiscal year 2011.

Pam O'Conner, Chair, Aquatic Advisory Board, announced that the Aquatic Board is in support of charging fees anytime guards are on duty.

The motion to recommend to the Director approval of changing the morning charging hours at Barton Springs Pool for fiscal year 2011 was made by Board Member Perales, seconded by Board Member Rivera. Motion carried 4-0.

Vote count: Members voting aye: Board Members Abell, Rivera, Lee and Perales.

Members voting nay: None

c. Make a recommendation to the Director regarding 2105 Big Horn Boat Dock.

The motion to recommend to the Director regarding approval of the 2105 Big Horn Boat Dock with the restrictive covenant proposed by staff was made by Board Member Rivera, seconded by Board Member Perales. Motion did not carry on a vote of 3-1.

Vote count: Members voting aye: Board Members Hill, Rivera and Perales.

Members voting nay: Board Member Lee.

d. Make a recommendation to the Director regarding 2901 Westlake Cove.

Board Member Lee moved to recommend to the Director the following: 1) approval of exceeding 20% of the shoreline width; 2) approval of a structure constructed within 10 feet of side lot line; 3) review and comment of a shoreline modification (cut in Lake Austin on condition this development occurs during lake draw down) but not approval of the fill, seconded by Board Member Perales. Motion carried 4-0.

Vote count: Members voting aye: Board Members Abell, Rivera, Perales and Lee.

Members voting nay: None

5. Future Items form Board Members

Board Member Lee announced that the Navigation Committee needs some advice on Lake Austin wave abatement strategies. She recommended a multi-jurisdictional team made up of parks, police, legal and the scientific committee be formed to recommend options. Director Hensley suggested that a letter be sent to the City Council via the City Manager's office informing them of the issue. Director Hensley will contact Victoria Li, Director, Watershed Protection Department, informing her that the Parks Board would like a discussion regarding the overall wave abatement situation around Lake Austin and other lake areas.

Note: Memo was sent to Director Li by Director Hensley on Wednesday, July 28th regarding the wave abatement strategies.

Board Member Lee also requested updates on the Bull Creek Park, especially the E-Coli counts and an update on the restoration of the park. Additionally she requested a status report on the Off Leash Areas Dog Parks.

Board Member Rivera requested an update of the Master Plan at Festival Beach (Holly Shores).

Board Member Abell requested an update on the planning process regarding disc golf at the Roy G. Guerrero Colorado River Park.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.