



PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

Tuesday, October 25, 2011 - 6:00 p.m.

Boards and Commissions Room

City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street

Austin, Texas 78701

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Guerrero called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Linda Guerrero, Chair; Jane Rivera, Interim Vice Chair; Lynn Osgood, Carol Lee, Hill Abell, Jerry Perales, and Jeff Francell

Staff Members in Attendance:

Sara Hensley, Kimberly McNeeley, Kelly Snook, Cora Wright, April Thedford, Sharon Knotts, Gilbert Hernandez, Kevin Gomillion, Elizabeth Richard, Dr. Philip Huang, Tamara Kurtz, Joe Pantalione, Junie Plummer, Cheryl Bolin, Lonnie Lyman, Rey Hernandez and Gary Jackson

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting of September 27, 2011 were approved on a motion by Board Member Osgood and seconded by Board Member Abell. The motion carried 6-0-1, with Board Member Lee abstaining.

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Lisa Fuka – Spoke to the Board regarding the community garden at Patterson Park.

D. BRIEFINGS

2. Cemetery Contract Options – Gilbert Hernandez, Austin Parks and Recreation Department – presented the status of the cemetery operations and the restated agreement.

Sharon Bylthe – spoke regarding the history of the contract between the Parks and Recreation Department and Intercare Corporation.

Dale Flatt – spoke in favor of moving forward and completing the current restatement effort.

Norman Kittredge – spoke about the Parks and Recreation Department's lack of interest in operating and maintaining the cemeteries.

3. Smoke-Free Parks Ordinance – Elizabeth Richard, Austin Parks and Recreation Department – presented the draft resolution from Council instructing the Department to prepare an ordinance that prohibits smoking in city parks.

James Gray, Bryce Kyburz, Ana Almaguel, Gail Sneden and Jennifer Conroy – support a strong smoke-free parks ordinance.

4. Hancock Golf Course Update – Kevin Gomillion, Austin Parks and Recreation Department – presented on the future of the course and the associated community engagement process.
5. Annual Concession Presentation – Beverly Mendez, Austin Parks and Recreation Department – presented the FY 2010-2011 Annual Concession Report.

E. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No items.

F. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION ITEMS

6. Action Item: Make a recommendation to the Department regarding the scope of services outlined in Pharr Tennis Center contract. Board Member Francell made a motion to amend the staff recommendation by providing 2 out of 8 courts for lessons from 6-8pm and for the contract to be reviewed annually. Board Member Abell seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 7-0.

Robert Touchet, Jere Locke, Ernie Fortenberry, Ralph Porter, Harold Gumm, Roger Vallejo and Raymond Jackson – support retaining the current management at the Pharr Tennis Center. Also want to see more than 4 courts available for open play.

Karen Brooks, Rebecca Achariyakosol and Ben McConnell – support having 4 courts available for open play and 4 courts available for programming, i.e. lessons, clinics, etc.

9. Action Item: Make a recommendation to Council authorizing the Department to negotiate and execute an amendment to the Design-Build Agreement for Deep Eddy Municipal Pool. Board Member Francell made a motion to approve the recommendation to council. Board Member Perales seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 4-1-2, with Chair Guerrero and Board Member Lee of the dais.
8. Action Item: Make a recommendation to Council regarding fill to be added to Lady Bird Lake for the Waller Creek Tunnel Project. Board Member Francell made a motion to approve the recommendation to council and recommended shoreline relocation. Board Member Perales seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 7-0.

10. Action Item: Make a recommendation to Council authorizing the Department to negotiate a Temporary Licensing Agreement with Austin Pets Alive to occupy and operate the Town Lake Animal Center. Board Member Perales made a motion to approve the recommendation. Board Member Abell seconded. The motion passed on a vote of 7-0.

Board Member Lee made a motion to suspend the by-laws to allow the Board to continue to meet after 10:00 p.m. Board Member Francell seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 7-0.

7. Action Item: Make a recommendation to Council regarding the Invasive Species Management Plan. Board Member Osgood made a motion to recommend to Council the current form of the draft report of the Invasive Species Management Plan. Board Member Abell seconded the motion. The motion was passed on a vote of 6-0-1, with Board Member Lee abstaining.

11. Action Item: Letter of Support regarding the recommendation given to the Board by the Urban Park Stakeholders Working Group. Board Member Francell made a recommendation to send the letter of support to Council. Board Member Perales seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 4-0-3, with Chair Guerrero, Interim Vice Chair Rivera and Board Member Osgood abstaining.

12. Action Item: Election of Officers: Chair and Vice Chair. Board Member Perales made a motion to nominate Jane Rivera as Chair. Board Member Osgood seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 6-0-1, with Interim Vice Chair Rivera abstaining. Board Member Perales made a motion to nominate Jeff Francell as Vice Chair. Board Member Abell seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 6-0-1, with Board Member Francell abstaining.

G. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member Lee asked for an status update on the Walsh Boat Landing parking lot project.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 10:17 p.m.