



PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
Tuesday, December 6, 2011 - 6:00 p.m.
Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center
600 River Street
Austin, Texas

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rivera called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance

Jane Rivera, Chair; Linda Guerrero, Carol Lee, Jerry Perales and Lynn Osgood

Staff Members in Attendance

Sara Hensley, Cora Wright, Kelly Snook, Kimberly McNeeley, April Thedford, Jean Drew, Gary Gregson, Tom Nelson, Chris Yanez, David Taylor, Brian Block, Ricardo Soliz, Marty Stump, D'Anne Williams, Sharon Knotts, Cheryl Bolin, Kim McKnight, Gilbert Hernandez and Elizabeth Richard

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. The minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board Meeting of October 25, 2011 were approved on a motion by Board Member Perales and seconded by Board Member Guerrero. The motion carried on a vote of 4-0-1, with Board Member Lee abstaining.
2. The minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board Special Called Meeting of November 8, 2011 were approved on a motion by Board Member Perales and seconded by Board Member Guerrero. The motion carried on a vote of 4-0-1, with Board Member Lee abstaining.

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Alan Roddy spoke to the Board regarding the Heart of Texas Wildflower Trail. He also mentioned the possibility of unauthorized private water lines running through Emma Long Park and drawing water from Lake Austin.

Scott Johnson spoke to the Board regarding adding a donation line to the City of Austin Utility Bill to allow citizens to donate money that would directly benefit parks.

Norman Kittredge spoke to the Board regarding his unhappiness with the Intercare Corporation managing the public cemeteries.

D. BRIEFINGS

3. Jean Drew, Watershed Protection Department, presented on the Colorado River Corridor Study.
4. Tom Nelson, Austin Parks and Recreation Department, and Brian Larson, Larson Burns and Smith, presented on the Barton Springs Pool General Ground Improvements Project.

D. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

5. Action Item Assignments to Parks Board subcommittees and working groups

Chair Rivera assigned the following committees and working groups:

Land and Facilities Committee

Jerry Perales
Lyn Osgood
Hill Abell

Navigation Committee

Linda Guerrero
Carol Lee
Jeff Francell

Joint Committee of Environmental Board and Parks & Recreation Board

Linda Guerrero
Hill Abell
Jerry Perales

Downtown Commission

Linda Guerrero

Off-Leash Advisory Committee

Jerry Perales

Cemeteries Workgroup

Carol Lee, Jane Rivera, Lynn Osgood

BCCP Citizens Advisory Committee

Carol Lee

Library Playscape Park/Urban Park Stakeholders Group

Lynn Osgood

Citizens Sharon Blythe and Zoila Vega-Marchena requested to be informed on the meeting locations and dates of the Cemeteries Working Group.

6. Action Item Establish formal procedures

Board Member Perales made a motion adopting the establishment of formal procedures. Board Member Guerrero seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

7. Action Item Make a recommendation to the Director regarding 1404 Rockcliff Rd.

Board Member Osgood made a motion to approve the shoreline modification; a variance to the minimum set-back requirements; and granted a variance to the maximum length of a boat dock. Board Member Perales seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

8. Action Item Make a recommendation to City Council regarding the relocation of a transmission pole at Shoal Beach.

Board Member Lee made a motion approving the relocation of a transmission pole at Shoal Beach. Board Member Guerrero seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

9. Action Item Make a recommendation to City Council regarding AISD Drainage Improvements at Perry Park.

Board Member Lee made a motion approving the AISD drainage improvements at Perry Park. Board Member Guerrero seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

10. Action Item Make a recommendation to the Director approving the Preferred Alternative from the Norwood Park Conditions Assessment and Feasibility Report as prepared by CasaBella Architects along with recommendation to enter into a Park Development Agreement with Norwood Park Foundation (Norwood Posse) toward the rehabilitation of the Norwood House.

Board Member Perales made a motion to amend and approve the recommendation to read, *“Recommend to the Director the approval of the Preferred Alternative from the Norwood Park Conditions Assessment and Feasibility Report as prepared by Casabella Architects along with a recommendation to enter into a Park Development Agreement with the Norwood Park Foundation (Norwood Posse) toward the rehabilitation of the Norwood House and for the Director to receive funding through the next bond package and general fund appropriation for maintenance and operation of Norwood Park.”* Board Member Guerrero seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

11. Action Item Make a recommendation to Council and the Director approving the Design of the Boardwalk Trail at Lady Bird Lake.

Board Member Osgood made a motion approving the design of the Boardwalk Trail at Lady Bird Lake. Board Member Perales seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

12. Action Item Make a recommendation to Council approving the amendment to the Smoking in Public Places Ordinance by prohibiting smoking in parks.

Board Member Guerrero made a motion approving the amendment to the Smoking in Public Places Ordinance by prohibiting smoking in parks. Board Member Osgood seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 4-1, with Board Member Lee voting against.

The following citizens spoke in favor of the motion:

Elizabeth Garden, Bryce Kyburz, Ruth Goldstein, Jennifer Conroy, Michael Custer, Ursula Foller, Richard Ward, Sarah Stayer, Cara Quinn, Ashley Hunter, Daniel Crowe and James Gray

13. Action Item Approve the 2012 Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Schedule

Board Member Lee made the motion to approve the 2012 Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Schedule, including moving the November meeting to November 20, 2012 and moving the December meeting to December 18, 2012. Board Member Osgood seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Cemeteries Master Plan Update – a memo was sent to Board on the project's current status.

Hancock Golf Course – PARD has been working with the Austin Water Utility Department (AWU) to provide gray water to golf course. AWU will construct and assume all costs associated to the project. PARD will reimburse AWU by subtracting the amount owed, from future mitigation funds on AWU projects on parkland.

Waller Creek Boathouse – negotiations are on-going and the Department hopes to have a contract for the Board to review soon.

Stand-Up Paddle Rentals at Joe's Crab Shack – the proprietors' of this business were operating illegally by not having a concession permit. They also damaged parkland. The Director and the Assistant City Manager will be meeting with this group to discuss re-mediation of the parkland.

G. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member Guerrero asked for a member of the Mayor's Council on Disability to join the Joint Committee of the Environmental Board and the Parks and Recreation Board.

Board Member Lee asked for an update and an action plan on the water quality report for Bull Creek.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Rivera adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.