



Annual Internal Review

This report covers the time period of 1/1/2011 to 12/31/2011

Parks & Recreation Board

The Board/Commission mission statement is:

The purpose of the board is to advise the city council and the city manager regarding:

1. the acquisition, development, improvement, equipment and maintenance of city parks and public playgrounds;
2. the future development of city parks, playgrounds, and recreational facilities, and the purchase of additional land for those purposes; and
3. improvement in the maintenance, operation, and general welfare of the city's parks, playgrounds, and recreational facilities and their use by the public.

The board shall outline a general plan of development for new parks and playgrounds, including landscaping, roads, trails, buildings and equipment. The board shall submit the plan to the Planning Commission and the city manager for detail development, and the city manager shall then submit the plan to the city council for approval.

The board shall promote close cooperation between the City and all private citizens, institutions. And agencies interested in or conducting recreational activities, so that all recreational resources within the City may be coordinated to secure the greatest public welfare.

1. Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.

Navigation Committee

- A. Reviewed/made recommendations to the Board on 12 Site Plan cases & waiver requests including:
 - 1) More than 2 residential docks on a single lot [25-2-1173(D)]
 - 2) A dock extending beyond 30 feet from the shoreline [25-2-1176(B)(2)]
 - 3) A structure constructed within 10 feet of a side property line [25-2-1176(D)(1)]
 - 4) A structure greater than 20% of the shoreline width of the lot [25-2-1176(D)(2)]
 - 5) Shoreline modifications or dredging in or along the lake [25-7-63]
 - 6) A dock extending beyond 20% of the width of a navigable waterway [25-2-1176(B)(1); 25-7-63(D)]
 - 7) Fill placed in Lake Austin, Lady Bird Lake and Lake Walter E. Long

- B. Discussed draft resolution concerning Parks Department and Parks Board authority over development activity along the lakes
- C. Requested status of code enforcement regarding a yoga studio constructed on a dock over Lake Austin as was featured in the American Statesman
- D. Requested Law Department to advise Parks Board on establishing findings of fact for navigational issues
- E. Requested update on status of November 2010 Parks Board resolution
- F. Requested copy of maps and photos of APD's Lake Austin cleanup
- G. Requested briefing from Code Compliance on issues related to Lake Austin
- H. Requested review on determination from former COA attorney Tom Nuckols related to dock permitting on Lake Austin
- I. Requested policy on concessions on COA lakes to include number, type and method of disposal for waste and refuse
- J. Request that Law Department pursue ability to limit cases that return to Navigation Committee & Parks Board
- K. Requested PARD send map of buoy locations to APD Lake Patrol
- L. Requested update on conditions placed on approval of 2700 Edgewater
- M. Requested information regarding FY12 funding for buoys and associated deployment and maintenance
- N. Requested information on existing concession contracts on Lake Austin
- O. Requested Law Department advise on appropriate legal document for future approvals of encroachment into 10 foot side yard setback
- P. Requested Law Department advise on potential prohibition of floating habitable structures on the lakes

Land, Facilities and Programs Committee

- A. Approved Memoranda of Understanding (Requests from other City Departments and Entities) including:
 - Gillis Park Drainage Improvements - Watershed Protection
 - Holly Shores Drainage Improvement – Watershed Protection
 - Gillis Park Drainage Improvements - Watershed Protection
 - Shoal Creek Greenbelt Reconstruction Project – Public Works
 - Seaholm Transmission Relocation
 - Perry Park AISD Drainage Improvements
- B. Reviewed Master Plans
 - Roy G. Guerrero Colorado River Park Design Process
 - Holly Shores, Festival Beach Master Plan
 - Butler Park Planning and Financial Process
 - 28 ac. property at Roy G. Guerrero Colorado River Park
 - Austin Parks Foundation Invasive Species Management Plan
- C. Reviewed Project Briefings
 - 1) Programs
 - Off-leash Areas at Yett Creek Neighborhood Park & Mabel Davis District Park
 - Three Year Recognition Program Plan
 - 2) Construction
 - Zach Scott Theater Expansion – Resolution of parking situation
 - Emergency Repair on dam at 49th Street in Shoal Creek
 - Municipal Pool Improvements – Deep Eddy, Bartholomew and West Enfield
 - Seaholm Redevelopment Trail Closure Shoal Creek Trail (West 5th to West Avenue)
- D. Approved Naming of Facilities
 - 1) Renaming of the new Chestnut House at Rosewood Neighborhood Park
- E. Approved Code Change
 - 1) Naming Process for City Parks
- F. Heard Citizen Communication

- 1) Roy G. Guerrero Colorado River Park
- 2) Friends of the Parks of Austin
- 3) South River City Citizens – Blunn Creek Herbicide Issue

2. Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.

The Navigation and the Land, Facilities, and Programs Committees have supported the Parks and Recreation Board's purpose and duties by reviewing items brought before it and advising the Board regarding its findings.

3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.

- A. Create working groups of Board Members and join other groups tasked with determining possible solutions to issues that cross multiple City departments to facilitate acquisition, development, improvement, equipment and maintenance of city parks, including:
- 1) Downtown Commission
 - 2) BCCP Citizen's Advisory Committee
 - 3) BSMP Barton Springs and Zilker Park Master Plan joint working group of the Environmental and Parks Boards
 - 4) New: Parkland Dedication Fund work group, to include Parks and Legal
 - 5) New: Work group to discover natural play settings in a playground to set a standard of including same into every park playground
- B. Finalize work of the Cemetery Work Group of the Board tasked with:
- 1) Improving working relationships between Parks staff, citizens, the cemetery contractor
 - 2) Eliciting not only concerns but also alternative solutions to these concerns from citizens, staff and the contractor
 - 3) Providing an opportunity for all the stakeholders to identify any immediate improvements that could be made with limited effort and expenditure
- D. Nominate Board liaisons to working groups or projects as needed to enable the acquisition, development, improvement, equipment and maintenance of city parks and public playgrounds, including:
- 1) Off-Leash Dog Parks Task Group
 - 2) Austin Parks Foundation Ad Hoc Group on New Grants Procedures
 - 3) Recreation Advisory Group working group