

COMMITTEE ON OPEN SPACE, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
MEETING MINUTES
October 28, 2015

THE AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON OPEN SPACE, ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY CONVENED IN A REGULAR MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015 AT 2PM IN THE BOARDS & COMMISSIONS ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, ROOM 1101, CITY HALL 301 W. 2ND STREET.

Council Member Leslie Pool called the meeting to order at 2:09 PM. In attendance were Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo, Council Member Don Zimmerman, Environmental Commission Chair Mary Gay Maxwell, and William Moriarty, Chair of the Water and Wastewater Commission. Council Member Delia Garza and Parks & Recreation Board Chair Jane Rivera were absent.

Agenda Item #1: Approval of minutes.

The minutes of the September 23, 2015 meeting were approved on CM Zimmerman's motion and MPT Tovo's second. Vote 3-0-0-1. CM Garza was off the dais.

Agenda Item #2: General Citizen Communications

There were 4 speakers:

- Michael Fossum spoke on the City's coyote management policy.**
- Zoila Vega donated her time to Michael Fossum.**
- Paul Huddelston spoke about the Austin PRIDE Festival and Vic Mathias Shores.**
- Hayden Brooks spoke on the National League of Cities' Cities Connection Children to Nature initiative.**

Agenda Item #3: Updated National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ground-level ozone. (Cari Buetow, Environmental Program Coordinator, Austin Transportation Department; Andrew Hoekzema, Air Quality Program Manager, CAPCOG)

Cari Buetow briefly described the process of the new National Ambient Air Quality (NAAQ) standards. Andrew Hoekzema made a presentation to explain the NAAQ standards including primary and secondary standards, and how they affect ground level ozone formation. Hoekzema also reviewed the summary of the new ozone standards and explained that the EPA lowered the level of primary and secondary standards from 75 parts per billion to 70 parts per billion, and how this would affect the Central Texas Region.

Agenda Item #7: Parkland acquisition including ¼ and ½ mile park gaps and the progress made, as well as strategic plans for those gaps; utilizing city land for parks; Parks and Recreation Department method for seeking parkland in growth zones and transit nodes. (Lynn Osgood, Urban Parks Workgroup; Heather Way, Urban Parks Workgroup; Steven Zettner, Sustainable Neighborhoods of North Central Austin; Randy Scott, Park Development Coordinator, Parks & Recreation Department)

Lynn Osgood and Heather K. Way spoke on the importance of parks and how they positively affect the community. Ms. Osgood also shared the findings of the Urban Parks Workgroup Report indicating the need for accessible parks in certain areas of the city. Steven Zettner with Sustainable Neighborhoods of North Central Austin spoke on the proposed changes to urban parks acquisition policy and shared the organization's proposal on incorporating Village Centers in Austin, which is a model based historically for development in Victorian London. Randy Scott presented a history and overview of the City's urban infill park initiative implementation plan. No action taken.

Agenda Item #4: Appointments to the Joint Sustainability Committee per Resolution No. 20150604-048. (Lewis Leff, Office of Sustainability)

Lewis Leff quickly listed the current vacancies on the joint committee and noted which commissions have already made their appointments. No action taken.

Agenda Item #5: Process for waiving admission fees at Barton Springs Pool for Austin residents eighty years of age and older. (Kim McNeely, Assistant Director, Parks & Recreation Department;

Kim McNeely briefly presented the history and current process of the request for receiving a lifetime pass from the City Council. McNeely also explained the various alternative options that the City could pursue to avoid sending each citizen to Council to request the lifetime pass. Recommendation for City Council's approval to amend the FY 2016 Fee Schedule by adding a fee of \$0 for City of Austin Residents 80+ allowing free access to all City of Austin operated/managed aquatic facilities was approved on MPT Tovo's motion and on CM Pool's second. Vote 2-1-1. CM Garza was off the dais and CM Zimmerman voted against.

Agenda Item #6: Amendments to City Code Chapters 25-11, 15-6 and related 15-6 Administrative Rules regarding recycling and reuse of materials generated by building and demolition permits. (Bob Gedert, Director, Austin Resource Recovery; Woody Raine, Austin Resource Recovery; Gena McKinley, Austin Resource Recovery)

Woody Raine presented a background on the City's current programs and policies related to the recycling of construction and demolition materials. Raine then described the proposed amendments to City Code. Raine also went through the development of the draft ordinance per Council resolution No. 20100930-023, which directed the City Manager to investigate requiring all C&D site to recycle or salvage and create incentives for recycling and salvaging. Approval to recommend the proposed amendments to City Council was made on MPT Tovo's motion and on CM Pool's second. Vote 2-1-1. CM Garza was off the dais and CM Zimmerman voted against.

**There was one speaker:
-Ross Rathgeber spoke in favor.**

Agenda Item #8: Repair and improved accessibility to Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest Municipal Pool. (Kim McNeely, Assistant Director, Parks & Recreation Department; Marty Stump, Assistant Director, Parks & Recreation Department.)

Kimberly McNeely and Marty Stump, both Assistant Directors with the Parks and Recreation Department, provided a current operational overview of the Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest Pool, findings of the 2014 Aquatics Assessment report with improvement recommendations, and improvement considerations for the Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest Pool with an estimated timeline. No action taken.

Agenda Item #9: Discussion of future agenda items.

Council Member Leslie Pool adjourned the meeting at 4:58 PM.

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