



**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

Tuesday, October 27, 2015 - 6:00 p.m.

**Boards and Commissions Room**

City Hall, 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

Austin, Texas 78701

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**MINUTES**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Rivera called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Jane Rivera, Chair; Alison Alter, Michael Casias, Tom Donovan, Alesha Larkins, Francoise Luca, Alex Schmitz, Mark Vane, Pat Wimberly

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting of September 29, 2015.

Board Member Schmitz made a motion to approve the minutes from September 29, 2015. Board Member Larkins seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 9-0 with Vice Chair DePalma and Board Member Cofer absent.

**C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Michael Fossum, Battle Bend neighborhood resident, addressed the Board regarding Item 8, the waterline project along Williamson Creek. Mr. Fossum reported that they met with the Austin Water Utility, who committed to minimizing the damage and returning the area to its previous condition, and that meetings with the neighborhood has addressed their concerns.

**D. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

**Consent**

2. Make a recommendation to the Director for approval of the Zilker Metropolitan Park Barton Creek Trailhead Restroom.

Board Member Vane made a motion to approve Item 2 on the Consent agenda. Board Member Alter seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 9-0 with Vice Chair DePalma and Board Member Cofer absent.

## **Non-Consent**

3. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the negotiation and execution of a development, operation and maintenance agreement for a Master Developer for the Seaholm Intake Facility.

Lyn Estabrook, Project Manager, Parks and Recreation Department, Kirk Scanlon, Contract Administrator, Parks and Recreation, and Terry Nicholson, Senior Buyer Specialist, Purchasing Office, presented this item to the Board and responded to questions. Lyn Estabrook provided a history of the site and the background on the Seaholm district. Board Members requested additional information about the content of the proposals. Staff shared what they were able, considering this solicitation is under the No Contact period. Terry Nicholson discussed the limitations related to the No Contact period, the concepts included in the evaluation process, and the distinct between an RFP and an RFQS. Terry Nicholson discussed the process going forward, in which both teams will present their proposals to the City Council in November. Kirk Scanlon provided general information regarding the economic impact anticipated. Terry Nicholson provided information regarding the makeup of the evaluation team.

### Citizen Communication

Susan Rankin, Executive Director of the Trail Foundation, addressed the Board in support of staff's recommendation. She discussed the Foundation's involvement with this process and is fully committed to the project. She noted that the project will transform the trail user experience and that the Foundation will help fund this project and remain involved in the public process.

Board Member Casias made a motion to recommend that the City Council approve staff's recommendation to negotiate and execute a development, operation, and maintenance agreement with Stratus Properties for the Seaholm Intake Facility. Board Member Wimberly seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 6-3, with Board Members Alter, Donovan, and Vane abstaining and Vice Chair DePalma and Board Member Cofer absent.

4. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the performance and issues created through the provision of recreation services by concessions in Town Lake Metropolitan Park.

Kirk Scanlon, Contract Administrator, Parks and Recreation Department, presented the Annual Concession Report to the Board pursuant to City Code §8-1-73 and responded to questions. Kirk Scanlon discussed the process going forward, which includes the same presentation to the Environmental Board. Staff will discuss this at the next Concessions and Contracts Committee to formulate any comments to be included with those of the Environmental Board, and forwarded to Council per Code requirement.

Board Member Casias made a recommendation to forward the staff report to the City Council relating to the performance and issues created through the provision of recreation services by concessions in Town Lake Metropolitan Park, with additional recommendations to be submitted for the broadening of the ordinance relating to the annual report. Board Member Schmitz seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 9-0 with Vice Chair DePalma and Board Member Cofer absent.

5. Discussion and possible action to nominate an additional representative to the Joint Committee of the Environmental Board and the Parks and Recreation Board.

Chair Rivera made a motion to nominate Board Member Wimberly to the Joint Committee of the Environmental Board and the Parks and Recreation Board. Board Member Alter seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 9-0 with Vice Chair Francell and Board Member Cofer absent.

6. Discuss and adopt the 2016 Parks and Recreation Board schedule.

April Shaw, Research Analyst Senior, Parks and Recreation Department presented the Board with the draft 2016 schedule and noted that there are no known conflicts with major religious holidays.

Board Member Larkins made a motion to approve the 2016 Parks and Recreation Board schedule as discussed. Board Member Wimberly seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 9-0 with Vice Chair DePalma and Board Member Cofer absent.

7. Discussion and possible action regarding amendments to the Parks and Recreation Board bylaws.

Board Chair Rivera introduced this item, and referred the Board to the bylaws documents in their backup. April Shaw, Research Analyst Senior, Parks and Recreation Department, noted for the Board that these changes encompass the standard bylaws changes being requested by the Clerk's Office at this time. As such, any substance changes to the bylaws would need to be made via a separate action item in the future. Board Chair Rivera walked the Board through the proposed changes. The Board posed questions regarding the terms of members. Staff committed to discussing this issue with the Clerk's Office and following up with the Board at a subsequent meeting. Board Members asked questions about the approval of the Board schedule. April Shaw clarified that because the Board does not meet in November, it is acceptable to adopt the schedule in October. Board Member Casias posed questions regarding Article 7- H, to clarify the meaning of "affirmative." Staff committed to discussing this issue with the Clerk's Office and following up with the Board at a subsequent meeting. Board Member Alter inquired if reports from Committees would require a bylaw amendment. Staff clarified that this would not require an amendment to the bylaws, but that the agenda would need to be posted in such a way that the public would know which groups and Committees would be reporting to the Board. The Board discussed Article 8 related to the Board Committees. The Board suggested several language changes to the scope of the Land, Facilities, and Programs Committee. Staff noted that these substance changes may need to be made through a separate agenda item.

No action was taken. The Board will consider this item at a later meeting, pending clarification from the Clerk's Office on several questions.

8. Make a recommendation to the Director regarding the Temporary Use (10,000 sq. ft.), not to exceed 150 Calendar Days on parkland located at Wasson Road east of Congress Avenue (Williamson Creek Greenbelt). Total mitigation value is \$3,407.

Gregory Montes, Park Development Coordinator, Parks and Recreation Department, introduced this item requesting temporary use of parkland by the Austin Water Utility. Gregory Montes noted that this item was considered at the Land, Facilities, and Programs Committee and approved contingent on a public meeting and on-site walk-through with the community. He noted that these meetings were productive and that stakeholders seemed satisfied with the information provided. He discussed the site conditions and the timeframe requested for temporary use. Mike Russ, Engineer, Austin Water Utility, addressed the Board regarding this request. He elaborated on the proposed utility project and the need to

address deterioration. He discussed the methods to replace the waterline, consisting of four phases. He stated that he believed the concerns of stakeholders had been addressed.

Board Member Vane made a motion to recommend to the Director the approval of the Temporary Use (10,000 sq. ft.), not to exceed 150 Calendar Days on parkland located at Wasson Road east of Congress Avenue for a total mitigation value of \$3,407. Board Member Schmitz seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 9-0 with Vice Chair Francell and Board Member Cofer absent.

9. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the renaming of an overlook located by Congress Avenue to the east, Cesar Chavez to the north, Lady Bird Lake to the south, and Buford Tower to the west, to the Roberta Reed Crenshaw Overlook at Shoal Beach at Town Lake Metro Park.

Gregory Montes, Park Development Coordinator, Parks and Recreation Department introduced this item and responded to questions from the Board. He explained that this naming process was initiated by a Council resolution, and clarified the specific boundaries of the overlook.

#### Citizen Communication

Phoebe Allen, Shudde Fath, Mary Arnold, and Charlie Betts addressed the Board collectively regarding this item, for a total of 12 minutes. They played a video about Ms. Crenshaw that discussed her contributions to the community. Afterwards, Mary Arnold addressed the Board and discussed Ms. Crenshaw's contributions to the Parks and Recreation Department both before and after Ms. Arnold tenure on the Parks and Recreation Board. Ms. Arnold spoke about Ms. Crenshaw's connections throughout City government and the impact she made reminding people of the importance of parks. Shudde Fath also addressed the Board, speaking of their early friendship and Ms. Crenshaw's contribution to Austin. Charlie Betts also addressed the Board and spoke to his role as the Chair of the Austin History Center, encouraging the Board to read more about Ms. Crenshaw. Mr. Betts noted that Ms. Crenshaw made a commitment to the beauty of the City, and that we should all be thankful for her.

Board Member Schmitz made a motion to recommend to the City Council approval of the renaming of an overlook located by Congress Avenue to the east, Cesar Chavez to the north, Lady Bird Lake to the south, and Buford Tower to the west, to the Roberta Reed Crenshaw Overlook at Shoal Beach at Town Lake Metro Park, with consideration of further appropriate recognition in the area for Ms. Crenshaw. Board Member Casias seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 9-0 with Vice Chair DePalma and Board Member Cofer absent.

#### **E. BRIEFINGS**

10. Briefing regarding the Parks and Recreation Department Recycling Program – Parks and Recreation Department Assistant Director Marty Stump and Austin Resource Recovery Division Manager Jessica King

Marty Stump, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation, and Jessica King, Division Manager, Austin Resource Recovery, made a presentation to the Board regarding the Parks and Recreation Department Recycling Program. They discussed the City's universal recycling ordinance, which applies to facilities but not parks. They also discussed the status of the department's current recycling program and the challenges the department has faced. They also discussed the future goals of the department's recycling program.

## **F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Hensley provided a handout and discussed the upcoming What's Out There Weekend on November 21-22 which features many parks and park facilities. She discussed the expected items coming up on December 8. She announced that the Pease Park Master Plan won an American Planning Association Award. She discussed the kick-off ceremony for the Barton Springs Conservancy. She notified the Board that they would be receiving a memo regarding the department's museum operations. She noted that that same night the department hosted a public meeting regarding the Zilker Park Improvements project. She also announced an upcoming public meeting on the Walsh Boat Landing, and the Latino Youth Leadership Program at the ESB-MACC. She also announced the upcoming visioning efforts at Emma Long Metropolitan Park on November 7. She also shared information from a study from George Mason University regarding the economic impact of parks. During the upcoming briefing the on budget, the department will share key performance indicators tracked nationally. Director Hensley committed to working with the Purchasing Officer to work out a process to provide the information to the Board that they are requesting. The Board was reminded of the November 4 briefing regarding the PARD budget. The Director reminded the Board of the upcoming November 12 vote on parkland dedication and encouraged them to speak to their Council members about their comments and concerns. Director Hensley noted that the department continues to work on the Grove project and is meeting with the developer that week to discuss superior parkland dedication.

## **G. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Board Member Schmitz requested information regarding the Art in Public Places program, following receipt of a citizen inquiry. Staff provided a brief overview and committed to following up with a written update.

## **H. ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Rivera adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.