



**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**  
Tuesday, January 26, 2016 - 6:00 p.m.  
**Boards and Commissions Room, City Hall**  
301 W. Second Street  
Austin, Texas 78701

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## **MINUTES**

### **A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Rivera called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### Board Members in Attendance:

Jane Rivera, Chair; Richard DePalma, Vice Chair; Alison Alter, Michael Casias, Rick Cofer, Tom Donovan, Alesha Larkins, Francoise Luca, Birger “Alex” Schmitz and Mark Vane

### **B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting of December 8, 2015.

Vice Chair DePalma made a motion to approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting of December 8, 2015. Board Member Larkins seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 7-0 with Board Members Alter, Casias, Cofer and Schmitz off the dais. Board Member Wimberly was absent.

### **C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Zoila Vega, Austin Heritage Tree Foundation, addressed the Board regarding the Eliza Springs Daylighting Project. She asked for this item to be posted for Discussion and Action at the Board’s next regularly scheduled meeting. She’s concerned about tree plantings within the project area.

Michael Fossum, a south Austin resident, followed-up with the Board regarding the City’s Coyote Management policy. He expressed concern about this program, especially the approval process for removal within the parks system. He asked for this item to be posted for Discussion and Action at the Board’s next regularly scheduled meeting.

Robin Cravey, Board Member of Barton Creek Conservancy, gave the Board a quick review of the upcoming Barton Springs Bathhouse Renovation Project and other projects related to the Barton Springs Zone. He also asked the Board to support the project.

Robert Corbin, a south-central Austin resident, addressed the Board regarding off-leash dogs on parkland, specifically at Bull Creek District Park, Bull Creek Greenbelt and Barton Springs Greenbelt. He requested the Board to prohibit dogs from being off-leash at the Barton Creek Greenbelt, Bull Creek Greenbelt and Red Bud Isle.

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

### **Consent**

2. Make a recommendation to the City Council to approve entering into an inter-local agreement with Travis County for the construction and maintenance of the Onion Creek Preserve Hike and Bike Trail and Pedestrian Bridge, which will be a portion of the Onion Creek Greenway Regional Trail System.
3. Make a recommendation to the City Council for approval of continued use of 2 rooms (1,870 sq. ft.) at Colony District Park/Turner Roberts Recreation Center for the purposes of providing community health clinic service.
4. Make a recommendation to the City Council for approval of the 2016 Local Standards of Care as a part of the State of Texas child care licensing exemption.
5. Make a recommendation to the City Council for approval of Permanent Use (2,049 sq. ft.), on parkland located at 2101 Jesse Segovia St. (Edward Rendon Sr. Metro Park at Festival Beach).
6. Make a recommendation to the City Council for authorization to negotiate and to execute an agreement with the successful proposer, Rippner Tennis, Inc., for the management and operation of the South Austin Tennis Center.
7. Review and accept the Land, Facilities and Programs Committee of the Parks and Recreation Board 2015 Annual Report.
8. Review and accept the Concessions and Contracts Committee of the Parks and Recreation Board 2015 Annual Report.

Chair Rivera read items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 into the record. Vice Chair DePalma requested item 4 to be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion. Board Member Alter moved to approve items 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 on the Consent agenda. Board Member Donovan seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-0 with Board Member Wimberly absent.

### **Non-Consent**

4. Make a recommendation to the City Council for approval of the 2016 Local Standards of Care as a part of the State of Texas child care licensing exemption.

Sharon Aguilar, Parks and Recreation Program Manager, and Patrick Corona, Parks and Recreation Division Manager, made a presentation to the Board for Items 4.

Vice Chair DePalma made a motion to recommend approval of the 2016 Local Standards of Care as a part of the State of Texas child care licensing exemption. Board Member Larkins seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-0 with Board Member Wimberly absent.

## **E. BRIEFINGS**

There were no briefings.

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

Director Hensley addressed the Board, noting several items coming forward to the Board in February including a briefing on Code Next, the Swim ATX partnership; and the congregant meal program contract for the Asian-American Resource Center. Also at a future meeting, there will be a briefing regarding the decommissioning of museum artifacts.

Director Hensley also announced the collaboration of Parks and Recreation Staff and Huston-Tillotson University on a maintenance and operations agreement for Downs Mabson Fields, as well as an art project. She also provided an update on the community engagement of various projects including; Montopolis Community Center, Dove Springs Expansion, Lamar Beach Master Plan, Wooldridge Square, and University Hills Neighborhood/Island Neighborhood Park.

Director Hensley informed the Board the Department has received a grant through National League of Cities to engage citizens on the benefits of nature and the environment. The Department has also applied for a grant with the National Recreation and Parks Association for projects focused in high-need areas of the city.

Finally, Director Hensley reminded the Board of the public hearing on Thursday, January 28, 2016 regarding the parkland dedication ordinance amendment.

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

Chair Rivera – requested Board Member Cofer to update the Board on the Parkland Taskforce at its next regular meeting. She also requested Watershed Protection Department staff to provide a briefing on the Eliza Springs Daylighting Project Tree Plantings at the Board's February meeting. She also requested a briefing from the Parks and Recreation Department regarding their position on coyote management.

Casias – at an undetermined future meeting, Board Member Casias will be providing an update on the Holly Shores Master Plan Work Group.

Vice Chair DePalma – requested a briefing by the Barton Springs Conservancy at the Board's February meeting.

Vane – at the February meeting of the Land, Facilities and Programs Committee of the Parks and Recreation Board an item will be presented regarding fishing on the Boardwalk Trail. He also requested a briefing on the status of the Walsh Boat Landing Renovation Project.

## **H. ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Rivera adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.