



**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**  
Tuesday, March 22, 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 6:01 p.m.

#### Board Members in Attendance:

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

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

1. Approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting of January 26, 2016.

Board Member Schmitz made a motion to approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting of January 26, 2016. Board Member Wimberly seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-0 with Board Member Casias absent.

### **C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Daniel White, an Austin resident, addressed the Board regarding poison ivy in the park system. He expressed concern about how staff reviewed his application of an herbicide treatment to the poison ivy at Stacy Park.

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

#### **Consent**

2. Make a recommendation for approval of Permanent Use (146,231 sq. ft.), not to exceed 450 Calendar Days on parkland located at 1001 Ed Bluestein Boulevard (Bolm Rd District Park). Total Mitigation Value is \$90,068.

Chair Rivera read item 2 into the record. Board Member Vane moved to approve item 2 on the consent agenda. Board Member Donovan seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 10-0 with Board Member Casias absent.

## **Non-Consent**

3. Make a recommendation to approve the 2016 By-laws of the Parks and Recreation Board.

Board Member Alter made a motion to recommend changing Article 3, Section A to read the Board is composed of 11 members appointed by the City Council, and Article 7, Section F to read 6 members constitute a quorum. Board Member Schmitz seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 9-1 with Board Member Wimberly against and Board Member Casias absent.

## **E. BRIEFINGS**

4. Marty Stump, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Department, made a presentation to the Board regarding the Zilker Bathhouse Zone – Feasibility Study.

5. JJ Langston, Executive Director, Barton Springs Conservancy, made a presentation regarding the partnership between the Conservancy and the Parks & Recreation Department.

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

Director Hensley informed the Board that April Shaw, who was serving as the Board Liaison has taken a position with the Human Resources Department with the City of Austin. April Thedford will assume the Liaison duties until a replacement is hired.

Phase III of the Aquatics Assessment has kicked off. The community can attend public meetings, respond to an on-line survey or request a presentation for their neighborhood through the Department's Communication Office.

The community meetings for Shipe Pool will begin March 23, with two additional meetings in the coming weeks.

Staff is working with the community on the Master Plan for Highland Neighborhood Park and Reznicek Fields.

Various agreements and plans will be coming forward to the Board for their consideration: ATX Swim, Downs Field, Travis County Expo Center Market Study, Lamar Beach Master Plan, and Emma Long Metro Park Master Plan.

The Park Naming Ordinance – Code Amendment will be before Council on Thursday, March 24.

Sparky Park Building Rehabilitation will have its ribbon cutting on Tuesday, April 12 at 6pm.

Assistant Director Kimberly McNeeley informed the Board regarding the presentation item on alcohol in the parks. She plans on having it in front of the Board by April.

Director Hensley also presented the Board with the Department's 2015 Annual Report.

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

Board Member Alter – requested a briefing on the outcome of the Lake Austin Taskforce recommendations. She inquired about the Board’s role regarding the Children in Nature grant. She also requested an update from the Parkland Events Taskforce.

Board Member Cofer – requested a briefing on Wi-Fi availability in the park system. He also requested clearer communication between Staff and Board Members regarding placing items on the Board’s agenda.

Board Member Luca – the Department needs to address sidewalk access from the bus stop on N. Lamar to Walnut Creek pool. She requested a discussion regarding the on-leash versus off-leash areas at Walnut Creek Metropolitan Park. She also requested an update on the undeveloped park by Lamplight Village.

Vice Chair DePalma – requested a memo on the current and planned capital improvements at the Veloway. He also requested the Board be updated via memo regarding the performance metrics being tracked by the Department’s Office of Performance Measures.

Board Member Schmitz – asked for clarification of the purpose of the Joint Committee of the Environmental Board and the Park and Recreation Board.

Board Member Vane and Board Member Wimberly – requested an update on Waterloo Park.

Chair Rivera – requested a briefing on the possibilities relating to Bolm Road District Park.

## **H. ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Rivera adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.