



**CONCESSIONS AND CONTRACTS COMMITTEE  
of the PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

12:00 PM

**Parks and Recreation Department Main Office**

200 S. Lamar Blvd.

Austin, Texas 78704

**CONCESSIONS AND CONTRACTS COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Michael Casias, Chair**

**Rick Cofer** (late arrival)

**Richard DePalma**

**Alesha Larkins**

**Francoise Luca**

**Jane Rivera, ex-officio**

**AGENDA**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Casias called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approve the minutes from the Concessions and Contracts Committee meeting on February 9, 2016.

Board Member Larkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the Concessions and Contracts Committee meeting on February 9, 2016. Board Member Luca seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Committee Member Cofer absent for this portion of the agenda.

**C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

There were no requests for comments from Austin citizens at the April 12, 2016, Concessions and Contracts Committee.

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

2. **Action Item:** Make a recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Board regarding authorization to negotiate and execute an agreement with the successful proposer to manage and operate the senior meal program at the Asian American Resource Center.

**Presenter:** Taja Beekley, Cultural & Arts Education Manager

Chair Casias read item 2 into the record. Board Member De Palma moved to approve item 2 on the agenda. Board Member Larkins seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Committee Member Cofer absent for this portion of the agenda.

3. **Discussion Item:** Discussion of Current PARD Outsourced Contracts

**Presenter:** Beverly Mendez, Contract Compliance Manager

Beverly Mendez, Procurement, Contracts and Grants Manager, presented information regarding how the Parks and Recreation Department (PARC) approaches negotiating and executing contracts. Her presentation included identifying the different City and Department Units with contracting authority and what their roles are; types of PARC agreements; and the contracting process.

4. **Discussion Item:** Presentation on Parkland Improvements and Revenue Generation Utilizing Public/Private Partnerships

**Presenter:** Chris Ewen, Park Advocate and Development Planner

Chris Ewen, Park Advocate and Development Planner, made a presentation to the committee on potentially utilizing existing structures and green space to create concessions that would help meet needs of park patrons, by providing access to food, beverages and recreational activities.

5. **Discussion Item:** Concessions and Contracts Committee Board Members Discussion of Future Projects and Solicitation Methods

**Presenter:** Michael Casias, Committee Chair

Michael Casias, Committee Chair, shared aerial maps of several existing structures and green space that he believed to have significant potential as concession opportunities. He identified Plaza Saltillo, Auditorium and Holly Shores.

Chair Casias asked other committee members if they could identify any other potential spaces. The following spaces were identified by members:

- Rick Cofer: None at this time.
- Alesha Larkins: Dove Springs Recreation Center area (Community consultation is needed before specific areas are identified.)
- Francoise Luca: Walnut Creek Metropolitan Park
- Jane Rivera: Givens Park

## **E. COMMITTEE COORDINATOR REPORT**

Assistant Director Marty Stump briefed the members on the contracts under development.

- Zilker Food and Beverage solicitation has been cancelled due to restricted public access during the Watershed Protection Department's upcoming construction project at Eliza Springs and building renovation costs for Zilker Café. Alternative concessions options are being explored.
- The Zilker Zephyr contract, with the current vendor, is being extended by amendment for the following reasons:
  - In conjunction with the Barton Springs Pool Master Plan, which was adopted by the City of Austin in 2009, assessments on existing buildings and amenities at Zilker Park, including the Zilker Zephyr, are taking place.
  - The future configuration of the track and station may change based on some of the preliminary findings.

- Because of this ongoing assessment and the potential effect the findings may have on the Zilker Zephyr Concession, it is not advisable to seek new vendor proposals for the concession operation.
- It would not be feasible to ask a vendor to invest a major amount of money to a site that will undoubtedly undergo substantial changes in the near future for a short-term contract of three to five years.
- The Seaholm Redevelopment project is being resolicited because the previous successful proposer withdrew from the project due to historical designation language issues in the original solicitation.

## **F. FUTURE ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Chair Casias asked for item #5 to continue to be on the agenda to discuss at the next meeting.

## **G. ADJOURNMENT**

Board Member Rick Cofer moved to adjourn the meeting. Board Member Alesha Larkins seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 1:59 pm.

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For more information on the Concessions and Contracts Committee, please contact Beverly Mendez at [beverly.mendez@austintexas.gov](mailto:beverly.mendez@austintexas.gov) or by phone at 512-974-6784.