



PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
Tuesday, May 24, 2016 - 6:00 p.m.
Boards and Commissions Room, City Hall
301 W. Second Street
Austin, Texas 78701

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rivera called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Jane Rivera, Chair; Richard DePalma, Vice Chair; Alison Alter, Michael Casias, Rick Cofer, Alesha Larkins, Francoise Luca, and Birger "Alex" Schmitz

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Vice Chair DePalma made a motion to approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting of April 26, 2016. Board Member Cofer seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 8-0 with Board Members Donovan, Vane and Wimberly absent.

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

None

D. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

Consent

2. Make a recommendation to the Director regarding the Highland Neighborhood Park and Reznicek Fields Master Plan.

Chair Rivera read item 2 into the record. Board Member Schmitz moved to approve item 2 on the consent agenda. Board Member Casias seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 8-0 with Board Members Donovan, Vane and Wimberly absent.

Non-Consent

3. Make a recommendation to City Council regarding Parks and Recreation Department Staff findings on The Grove at Shoal Creek PUD application as submitted on March 28, 2016.

Citizen Communication: Jeff Howard spoke in favor of the development. Robert Deegan spoke in favor of the development. Alison Beck spoke in support of City Staff findings of the development not being superior. Grayson Cox spoke in support of City Staff findings of the development not being superior. Sarah Speights spoke in support of City Staff findings of the development not being superior. Todd Shaw spoke in support of City Staff findings of the development not being superior. Ranleigh Hirsh spoke in support of City Staff findings of the development not being superior.

Vice Chair DePalma made a motion to extend citizen communication. Board Member Cofer seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 8-0 with Board Members Donovan, Vane and Wimberly absent.

Citizen Communication: Ted Swift spoke in favor of the development. David King spoke in support of City Staff findings of the development not being superior.

Board Member Luca made a motion to affirm the staff's findings the PUD application for The Grove, as submitted on March 28, 2016 is not superior. Board Member Cofer seconded the motion. Board Member Casias offered a substitute motion to table the item. Board Member Schmitz seconded the motion. Board Member Casias withdrew the motion. Board Member Casias offered a substitute motion to postpone the item to the June 28, 2016 of the Board. Board Member Schmitz seconded the motion. The motion failed on a vote of 2-6-3, with Board Members Casias and Schmitz for; Chair Rivera, Vice Chair DePalma, Board Members Alter, Cofer, Larkins, and Luca against; and Board Members Donovan, Vane and Wimberly absent. Board Member Luca offered a substitute motion to affirm the PARD (Parks and Recreation Department) staff findings that The Grove at Shoal Creek Planned Unit Development application, as currently submitted on March 28, 2016, is not superior in relation to parks. Board Member Alter seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 6-1-1-3, with Chair Rivera, Vice Chair DePalma, Board Members Alter, Cofer, Larkins and Luca for; Board Member Casias against; Board Member Schmitz abstained; and Board Members Donovan, Vane and Wimberly absent.

4. Make a recommendation to the Director to initiate the posting of the administrative rules process adhering to Section 1-2 of the City Code for the Parkland Dedication Operating Procedures Rules.

Board Member Alter made a motion to recommend the Director to initiate the posting of the administrative rules process adhering to Section 1-2 of the City Code for the Parkland Dedication Operating Procedures Rules. Board Member Cofer seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 8-0 with Board Members Donovan, Vane and Wimberly absent.

5. Board Chair to appoint a working group of the Parks and Recreation Board for the Parkland Dedication Ordinance Operating Procedures and CodeNext; and directs the working group to provide a recommendation to the full board by July 26, 2016.

Chair Rivera appointed Board Member DePalma, Board Member Alter and Board Member Casias to the working group. She named Board Member DePalma as the Chair of the working group.

6. Make a recommendation to Council regarding the negotiation and execution of agreements with Huston-Tillotson University and the Austin Metro Baseball League for the maintenance and use of Downs Mabson Fields.

Board Member Luca made a motion to approve negotiation and execution of the agreement with Huston-Tillotson University and the Austin Metro Baseball League for the maintenance and use of Downs Mabson Fields. Board Member Casias seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 6-0 with Board Member Alter and Board Member Cofer off the dais, and Board Members Donovan, Vane and Wimberly absent.

E. BRIEFINGS

7. Invasive Species Update – postponed to June 28, 2016.
8. Bulkhead Remediation at Emma Long Metropolitan Park – withdrawn.
9. Strategic Plan Update – postponed to June 28, 2016.

F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Hensley provided general updates on Palm Park, as well as the 2016 Summer Swim Season. She also provided a list of upcoming special events.

G. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None

H. ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Rivera adjourned the meeting at 9:59 p.m.