

DRAFT

Parks and Recreation Board Minutes January 25, 2000 Regular Meeting

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Board was held on Tuesday, January 25, 2000, in the Board Room of the Parks and Recreation Department Main Office located at 200 South Lamar Boulevard.

Board Members Present: Rosemary Castleberry, Chair, Elaine Carter, Secretary, Mike Librik, Mary Ruth Holder, Jeff Francell, Carol Kim and Clint Small.

Staff Members Present: Jesus M. Olivares, Director, Kim Jamail Mitchell, Stuart Strong, Channy Soeur and Donna McKennis.

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairperson Rosemary Castleberry called the meeting to order at approximately 6:40 p.m.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from the December 14, 1999 meeting

Board Member Holder had a change to the minutes; Item D.number 5 should read – Mary Ruth Holder made a motion, based on staff recommendation, the board grant approval for 120' foot wide boat dock; if they would like to come back to the Board in the future to request an expansion of the boat dock, it would be reviewed, along with the Land and Development Code. Jeff Francell made a motion that the minutes be accepted with the amendment. The motion passed. (6-0-0).

C. CITIZENS COMMUNICATION

Rhonda Taylor, CEO of the organization Thirsty? Drink. appeared before the board with a proposal for a concession on Town Lake. Ms. Taylor stated that she had submitted a proposal to the Department in February and it was denied. Ms. Taylor is interested in placing a Coca-Cola trailer on the hike and bike trail, underneath the Mopac Bridge, to sell drinks. After discussion, it was decided that the Concessions Committee would meet to review this issue.

D. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Colorado River Park
 - a. Update on Park Development Process – Stuart Strong, Division Manager with the Planning and Design Division of the Parks and Recreation Department stated that the consultant (Hargreaves and Associates) hired to develop a master plan, has had a series of three meetings with the public to solicit ideas, hear alternatives and receive citizens input. Final recommendation is not yet available.
 - b. ISTEA Trail – Mr. Strong presented a map of the Colorado River Park and the area with the proposed trail. Consultant suggested moving the trail inward, the map reflects the trail south of Country

- Club Creek. Mr. Strong presented a slide show that showed where the proposed trail would be and discussed issues associated with this location.
2. Update on Downtown Projects – Mr. Strong presented another slide show of projects currently being worked on downtown. Some of these were Republic Square, City Annex, construction of the Ullrich waterline, the area for the proposed CSC building and the Waller Creek ISTE A trail.
 3. Update on Park/City Projects
 - a. Walsh Boat Landing – Mr. Strong reported that the contractors have finished the sewer work and are patching the streets. PARD is working on getting a permit to spread granite gravel and put down cables and bollards in the far parking lot. Mr. Strong also reported that at this time the boat launch is closed.
 - b. Shoal Creek Trail – Mr. Strong reported that the bridge is assembled, the trail will be lowered for about 200 feet on either side, the trail will be widened, a sidewalk will be placed for a continuous trail and some bank stabilization work will be done.

Board Member Elaine Carter left at this point.

- c. Red Bud Isle – Mr. Strong reported that Red Bud Isle is currently closed due to it being a service place for tunnels that are being dug. Upon completion, a turnaround area and a drive will be re-constructed. The edge of the new road will be protected with granite blocks that were discovered from the old dam.
- d. Barton Springs Showers – This is in reference to the bathhouse at Barton Springs Pool. Improvements were made last year as part of the effort in making the bathhouse accessible. And also, Mr. Strong explained that a valve was installed underground which switches over and allows the drainage from the shower goes into the sewer line.
- e. Barbara Jordan Field Development – Mr. Strong reported that PARD is working with the Austin Energy Department for design and installation of ballfield lights. Mr. Olivares explained that this is relation to the additional funds received in the budget to do an expansion of the after school program at Barbara Jordan and also to do the summer program there.

E. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Election of Officers – After discussion, Jeff Francell made a motion to keep the same officers. Clint Small seconded. The motion passed. (5-0-0).

F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jesus M. Olivares spoke regarding the nomination forms that were handed out to Board Members from the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. The 1998-1999

Annual Report was handed out. The Northwest Recreation Center 20-year anniversary will be held on Saturday the 29th, and a Barton Creek Green Belt cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, Mr. Olivares noted that the Colorado River Park is scheduled for a cleanup on Saturday the 29th, as well. The Riverboat Concession is scheduled for City Council Agenda on February 17th. The Director has been meeting with Council Members regarding this issue.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs – The committee met today and approved their goals and objectives for this year, also had a presentation on the Roving Leader program.

Land and Facilities – Did not meet. There was a meeting with the Planning Commission on the Waterfront Overlay.

Navigation Committee – Reviewed one boat dock request. Discussed the LCRA 2000 Lake Travis Lake Recreation Management Plan.

Downtown Commission –Have been working on trying to get residential “stuff” downtown.

Municipal Airport Advisory Group – A map was passed around. One thing that the consultants have added is a lake, which would serve as a drainage function. One of the issues with the lake is that the level will go up and down and when it is up this will result in lack of green space because the lake comes right up to the buildings. On the map, the consultants have laid out parks; the size will need to be adjusted. Regarding transportation issues, the consultants have a hike and bike trail around the perimeter, and Board Member Librik brought out concerns about safety of the street crossings where the streets go into the site and the consultant drew underpasses under the streets, but did not calculate the costs of them. Mr. Librik also noted that a film studio is there and operating. Also, Tannehill Creek is part of the site, the eastern section, and the consultants wanted to look into getting hike and bike trails along Tannehill Creek as an extension of their perimeter hike and bike trail.

H. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

There were several issues discussed by Board Members.

I. ADJOURN

J. ITEMS FOR FUTURE ACTION

1. East to West Bicycle/Pedestrian Access through Zilker Park.