

DRAFT

**Parks and Recreation Board
Minutes
April 11, 2000
Regular Meeting**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Board was held on Tuesday, April 11, 2000 at the Zilker Clubhouse Facility of the Parks and Recreation Department located off of Rollingwood Drive.

Board Members Present: Rosemary Castleberry, Chair, Elaine Carter, Secretary, Mary Ruth Holder, Clint Small, Jeff Francell, Carol Kim and Erma Linda Cruz-Torres

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

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:40 p.m. by Rosemary Castleberry, Chair

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from the March 28, 2000.

Elaine Carter made a motion that the minutes be accepted as written. Mary Ruth Holder seconded. The motion passed in favor. (7-0-0).

C. CITIZENS COMMUNICATION

None.

D. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Robert Hansen with Watershed Protection and Helen Besse of the Eliza Springs Committee spoke regarding their efforts of restoration of the Eliza Springs, believed to be the oldest structure in Zilker Park. Ms. Besse stated that the Eliza Springs Committee is a non-profit group that was formed by concerned citizens and their first focus for Eliza Springs is to bring the amphitheater structure into ADA compliance. There was a sketch display presented. Ms. Besse stated that in addition to the Parks and Recreation Department staff they have been working with the Public Works Department, Watershed Protection Department and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Ms. Besse requested a resolution of support from the Parks and Recreation Department Board so they can take the next step in their plans for the project.

E. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Make Recommendation to the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department to support the restoration efforts at Eliza Springs.

Board Member Holder made a motion to adopt the resolution which states that the PARB supports the Eliza Springs Committee project, including Eliza Springs Amphitheater, Phase I. Board Member Carter seconded. The motion passed in favor. (7-0-0). Please see the attached resolution.

2. Make Recommendation to the Director to allow a channel stabilization project in Bartholomew Park.

Mike Kelly, Engineering Associate C with the Watershed Protection Department spoke regarding a stream channel rehabilitation project proposed for Bartholomew Park to correct the existing erosion problems and restore the channel to where it will contain the flow and not threaten the existing and future infrastructure. Pictures were presented of the existing channel. The Watershed Protection Department will be funding \$350,000 – 400,000 on the project. Mr. Kelly will provide Stuart Strong, Planning and Design Division Manager, with a copy of the project manual. Board Member Carter made a motion based on the Land and Facilities unanimous recommendation that the Board support this project. Board Member Francell seconded. The motion passed in favor. (7-0-0).

3. Make Recommendation to City Council to allow Travis County to acquire 0.303 acres of parkland for roadway alignment on Sprinkle Road.

Chidi N’Jie, P.E., with Travis County stated that Travis County needs this land to improve Sprinkle Road in allowing it to be straightened enough to take out the blind spot that now exists. Also, the bridge at Walnut Creek and Sprinkle Road will be worked on to include raising the height and increasing the width. Board Member Holder moved to recommend to City Council to allow Travis County to acquire 0.303 acreage for roadway alignment. Board Member Carter seconded. The motion passed in favor. (7-0-0).

4. Make Recommendation to City Council to approve right of way dedication in Mary Moore Searight Park for South First Street extension.

Dolores Duran, Project Manager with the Public Works and Transportation Department gave a brief presentation regarding the request to approve right of way dedication in Mary Moore Searight Park. The South First Street Extension, Phase II project will provide street and drainage improvements from Slaughter Lane to Slaughter Creek and will also provide street access to the new Charles Akins High School from Slaughter Lane. The project will also include other real estate acquisitions, which will improve the City’s access to Mary Moore Searight Park. A median break within the street right of way and driveway access adjacent to the park will provide future access to the park from South First Street. The requested right of way contains a total of 1.177 acres. Board Member Carter made a motion that the Parks Board

support approval of right of way dedication for Mary Moore Searight Park for the South First Street extension. Board Member Francell seconded. The motion passed in favor. (7-0-0).

F. DIRECTORS REPORT

The Director, Jesus M. Olivares gave an update on the Austin Parks Tomorrow project and noted that the group will meet again on Wednesday, April 26, 2000 at 12 Noon in the Board Room of the Main Office located at 200 S. Lamar Blvd. And, some members of the group met with the City Manager and received a positive response. Mr. Olivares mentioned a process is moving forward in the Employees Union, that they are going forward to support the Parks Department in addition, the Union is pushing to convert temporary employees to permanent positions. Mr. Olivares also passed out the schedule/brochure for the Aquatics Division.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Programs Committee** – The next meeting is scheduled for April 24th.
- **Land and Facilities Committee** – Most of the agenda was on the Parks Board agenda for items of action. There was also a presentation by Ms. Birdia Jones and a presentation regarding in-line skate services.
- **Navigation Committee** – Expecting to have a planning meeting regarding Hydrilla in Lake Austin. They will have a draft plan in the next two weeks.
- **Downtown Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Municipal Airport Advisory Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Arts and Recreation Committee** – Did not meet.

H. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

I. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8: 15 p.m.