



Parks and Recreation Department
Tuesday, November 27, 2007

Meeting

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Parks Board was held on Tuesday, November 27, 2007 at the Boards and Commissions Conference Room, 301 W. 2nd St. Room 1001

Board Members Present: Board Chair, Linda Guerrero, Board Vice-Chair, Jeb Boyd, Parliamentarian/Secretary, Mark Vane, Jeff Francell, Hector Ortiz, Clint Small, Stephen Shang, Hector Ortiz, and Danette Chimenti.

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Warren W. Struss, Stuart Strong, Ricardo Soliz, Randy Scott, Farhad Madani, and Tino Garcia.

A. Meeting Called to Order

Board Chair Guerrero called the meeting to order.

B. Approval of Minutes

Board Member Chimenti moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Board Member Boyd. Motion passed.

C. Other Business – N/A

D. Discussion and Action Items

1. Consider approval of the Sanger Boat Dock Case Number SP-2007-0318D

Board Member Small reported that the Navigation committee has been meeting with the applicant who is requesting to reconstruct 4 docks into 2 docks. The gained space will be used to construct a swimming pad. Since the two boat docks and the swimming pad together are under the 20% shoreline frontage requirement, Board Member Francell moved to approve the Sanger Boat Dock at 1204 Rockcliff, seconded by Board Member Bostick. Motion carried 5-0 with Board Member Small abstaining.

2. Consider approval of the Craig and Sarah Swindell Boat Dock Case Number SP-2007-0598DS

The applicant is asking to reconstruct a 2-slip boat dock in to a single boat dock. They are replacing the posts for added safety and constructing a serpentine model bulkhead under the board walk. There was a question regarding approval letters from the two adjacent neighborhoods. As a result, Board Member Small moved to approve the request for the Swindell Boat Dock at 2706 Rivercrest, pending approval by the surrounding neighborhood residents. If letters are provided, Randy Scott can administratively approve.

The motion was seconded by Board Member Bostick. Motion carried 7-0 with Board Member Vane abstaining.

3. Consider approval of the Arsenault Boat Dock and Bulkheading Case Number SP-2007-0646D

Board Member Small indicated that the applicant is requesting a 45 foot dock extension due to the shoreline being too shallow. Additionally, the request includes construction of a bulkhead extending out 15 feet, an extension that would require Environmental Board approval. After considerable discussion, Board Member Chimenti moved to approve the request, but only if the Environmental Board approves the 15ft reclamation of the land. Only then would the Board approve the location of the boat dock. Note: The motion did not include the approval of the variance request of the 45 foot extension from the existing shoreline. Board Member Boyt seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-1 with Board Members Bostick and Vane abstaining. Due to the extenuating circumstances of this request, it was agreed that Board Member Small would attend the Environmental Board's meeting to get a better understanding of this situation.

Citizen Communication:

Charlie McCabe, Executive Director, Austin Parks Foundation, updated the Board on various monthly workdays they have coordinated. They will next work on Red Bud Isle. He announced that the BCP coordinating committee will be meeting to approve a Land Management plan with additions to increase public access.

Leslie Wolfenden, President, Save Austin's Cemeteries, announced the creation of a master plan for city cemeteries. She indicated that currently there is no standard of care and the maintenance varies from cemetery to cemetery, plus there are other issues as well. She said that Save Austin's Cemeteries has created a draft master plan which has been presented to PARD staff. The department has advised them to create a Cemetery Advisory Board to get input from stakeholders. Ms. Wolfenden wants Board input for moving the master plan forward. Cora Wright, Assistant Director, indicated that the department is looking at ways to include funding for the master plan as part of next year's budget proposal.

D. Discussion and Action Items – Cont.

4. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the Standards of Care for Children's Recreation Programs.

Each year the department reviews and/or edits the local standards of care for youth programs. Joanna Mesecke, Division Manager, presented a draft proposal to the Board outlining several minor changes to the ordinance language. The changes are based on the best business practices for the safe and efficient implementation of youth recreation programming. Board Member Shang moved to approve the draft proposal, seconded by Board Member Bostick. Motion carried 8-0.

5. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding a Storm Water Outfall through the park adjacent to Lady Bird Lake to be installed with the Cesar Chavez Two Way Conversion Project.

Art Barrow, Public Works Department, explained that the Board and Council had previously approved two storm water outfall projects. He is asking the Board for approval of the third storm water system, a system that was added to avoid having to excavate Cesar Chavez again after the two-way conversion project is complete. The design of the third storm water system is identical to the previous two already approved. Board Member Boyt moved to approve the recommendation to the City Council regarding the Storm Water Outfall, seconded by Board Member Francell. Motion carried 8-0.

6. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding an ACWP Wastewater Improvement project requesting a permanent use agreement and access at Nicholas Dawson Park.

An easement request, (permanent wastewater and temporary workspace) will use 2.27 acres of parkland. The temporary workspace will take 2-3 months. The work will include installation of wastewater lines via

boring, one junction of 4 lines at the bore pit. The mitigation plan (see attached) will require the transfer of funds between the Austin Water Utility and the Parks and Recreation Department. The project will start in March 2008. Ingrid Wiegand, Bouldin Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA), indicated that the neighborhood is support of the project, but has asked that an arborist be present when the contractor starts digging around the grove of oak trees. Matt Coldwell, BCNA, also is support of the project. Board Member Boyt moved to approve the recommendation to the City Council, with the understanding that an arborist would be on site to oversee the excavation around the grove of oak trees, seconded by Board Member Shang. Motion passed 7-0.

7. Make a recommendation to the Director regarding an ACWP Wastewater Improvement project requesting a temporary and permanent use agreement at the Evergreen Cemetery.

Austin Clean Water Program is proposing to install approximately 357 liner feet of new 15-inch wastewater line near the Tannehill Branch at the Evergreen Cemetery. The new line will replace an existing 15 inch line. All access will be from Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. The overall project is scheduled to begin in April 2008. Approximately nine trees will be removed and the remaining trees that are adjacent will be protected. All disturbed land will be restored and revegetated equal to existing conditions using native species. The Utility will reimburse PARD a total of \$9,696 for the use of the park managed land as permanent and temporary easements required for the installation of the wastewater main. Board Member Chimenti moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Board Member Francell. Motion carried 8-0.

8. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding an ACWP Wastewater Improvement project requesting a permanent use agreement and a temporary staging area near the Raul Alvarez Disk Golf Course.

The Austin Clean Water Program is proposing to use a portion of parkland located between Springdale Road, Ed Bluestein and East 51st. Street for the Group 2 Inverted Siphons Wastewater Improvements project. The work involves relocating and replacing portions of an existing inverted wastewater siphon crossing Little Walnut Creek just west of Wanesburg Cove. The project requires permanent wastewater easements, temporary workspace easements, temporary staging area easements, and finally a permanent access easement. The work will commence in January 2008 and be completed by July 2008. All disturbed land will be restored and revegetated to existing or better conditions. All site restoration will be completed in accordance to PARD's specifications. Board Member Boyt moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Board Member Vane. Motion carried 8-0.

9. Make a recommendation to the Director regarding an ACWP Wastewater Improvement project requesting permanent and temporary use agreements for access to the Greenbelt in Travis Heights Neighborhood.

The Austin Clean Water Program is proposing to install a new wastewater line in the Academy Drive Greenbelt. This line project is part of the overall ACWP Govalle 2 – Travis Heights Wastewater Improvement project. A new 8-inch wastewater line will be installed to replace an existing line in the Greenbelt area of the abandoned right-of-way. Construction is scheduled to begin in early December 2007 and will last a total of 3 months. The greenbelt area will not be accessible during the construction of the improvements. Trees adjacent to the work area will be protected with Permanent Erosion Control – no trees are scheduled to be removed. Board Member Chimenti moved to approved the recommendation, seconded by Board Member Bostick. Motion carried 8-0.

10. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding an ACWP Wastewater Improvement project request for a permanent use agreement and a temporary staging area along Shoal Creek between 24th and 29th Street.

The Austin Clean Water Program is proposing to install new wastewater lines in Pease Park from W. 24th St. northward to the vicinity of Northwood Rd. Existing lines have deteriorated to the extent that they no longer perform as needed. The lines will serve the Shoal Creek watershed. The proposed lines will be

primarily installed using an open trench method. There will be two boring under the Lamar Blvd. into the park just north of W. 24th. Access to the park will be from temporary entrances west of 24th and from Shoal Creek Blvd. All disturbed land will be restored and revegetated equal to existing conditions using native species. Board Member Boyt moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Board Member Francell. Motion carried 8-0.

11. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding an AWCP Wastewater Improvement project request for a permanent use agreement, and a staging area at Metz Park.

The Austin Clean Water Program is proposing to install 850 linear feet of new 36 inch wastewater line on parkland in Metz Recreation Center Park. The line will tie into an existing 42 inch wastewater line at a junction box southwest of Pedernales Street. The new line will replace an existing 15 inch line. The hike and bike trail will not be closed during construction. Board Member Francell moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Board Member Shang. Motion carried 8-0.

12. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding an ACWP Wastewater Improvement project request for a staging area on parkland at 38th street and Red River.

The Austin Clean Water Program is proposing to use parkland for construction and staging purposes. The overall project involves installation of wastewater lines in Harris Park Avenue. The project also includes work in Anderson Lane near Woodrow. The total duration of the project will be approximately 180 days. There will be no adverse long-term affects to the park. Soil disturbance will be mitigated with seeding. Parks disruption will be mitigated by proposed improvements currently being negotiated. Board Member Vane moved approval of the recommendation, with all public safety concerns being addressed, seconded by Board Member Boyt. Motion carried. 8-0.

E. Director's Report

Director Struss reported on the upcoming Trail of Lights, including the tree lighting, the 5k run and the grand opening. Since this meeting is Director's Struss' last meeting, he cited his major accomplishment's as follows:

- ? The opening of the Carver Museum
- ? The opening of the Mexican American Cultural Center
- ? Completion of Town Lake Park
- ? Received Gold Medal Award from NRPA in 2004
- ? Bond Election
- ? Amended the Parkland Dedication Ordinance
- ? Achieved agency Accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies

F. Items from Board Members

Board Member Ortiz reported on a very successful Veterans Day Tree Planting. Board Member Vane reported on the UT Regents meeting regarding the Lions resolution. He reported that citizens were concerned about 1) graduate students housing; 2) affects on Matthews School; and 3) concerns with Lions golf course. Board Member Boyt reported on a Land and Facilities briefing on Barton Springs Pool and that the Environmental Board has requested a briefing with stakeholders. Board Chair Guerrero reminded all that there would be no Parks Board meeting in December. The next meeting will be both a business meeting and a Board retreat. She asked for volunteers to work on the upcoming naming of Town Lake Park. The committee will be made up of Board Chair Guerrero and Board Members Small, Bostick and Vane.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.