



**PARKS & RECREATION BOARD / ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD  
JOINT COMMITTEE**

**Monday, February 6, 2012  
Meeting Minutes**

**Joint Committee Members in Attendance:**

Linda Guerrero, Chair  
Hill Abell  
Jennifer Walker

Jerry Perales, Co-Chair  
Mary Ann Neely

**Staff in Attendance:**

Tom Nelson, PARD  
Gary Gregson, PARD  
Sharon Knotts, PARD  
Jodi Jay, PARD  
Jim Adams, PARD  
Walter Passmore, PARD  
Clark Hancock, PARD

Laurie Dries, WPD  
Chris Herrington, WPD  
Johnnie Price, WPD  
Ed Peacock, WPD  
Jose Ibarra, PW

The PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD / ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD JOINT COMMITTEE convened in a regular meeting on Monday, February 6, 2012, at Zilker Botanical Gardens - Auditorium, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., Austin, Texas.

Chair Linda Guerrero called the Joint Committee Meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. The minutes from the November 21, 2011, meeting was approved with a 4-0-1 vote.

**2. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION**

- Robin Schneider – spoke about plastic bags being detrimental to the environment and polluting the water ways, debating about paper vs. plastic and recycling and the possibility of bag fees either by transaction or per bag.
- Peter Steinhardt – asked if there is an irrigation plan to use creek water or Barton Springs Pool water to water the trees. Tom Nelson stated we could not use Barton Springs Pool water but we are currently in the negotiation process with US Fish and Wildlife for using creek water as irrigation.
- Robert Corbin – Stated that he is having intestinal issues and he attributes it to the ducks contaminating the pool water. He wants to find a way to keep the ducks out of the pool.
- Bill Bunch – spoke about the quality of the water and amount of the spring flow are both at considerable risk due to the climate change, population growth

and increased pumping pressure and development. The city is developing a Bond package for November and he doesn't want to miss a critical opportunity for making headway for protecting the springs. He's interested in getting the proper funding for Barton Springs Pool. He emphasized the importance of citizens participating in the Bond Development Package and giving input at various community meetings.

**3. STAFF BRIEFINGS AND DISCUSSION**

- Brian Larson – spoke about the general grounds improvements plan for Barton Springs Pool, updated South Trail to the pool deck and the new ticket booth with paving around it. He also covered fencing the parameter of the pool, paving the parking lot and ADA accessibility.
- Peter Steinhart – asked Brian Larson to explain the pathway near diving board and pool deck (i.e. its steepness, the retaining walls, etc.)
- Karen Kreps – spoke about the closing of the pool during construction, materials that will be used for the path to the monument, the materials that will be used for the paving around the ticket booth, lighting on the pathway, and how hot the paving will be on bare feet. She also inquired about the size of the ticket booth and the materials that will be used to construct it.
- Zoila – spoke about irrigation for the trees and how older heritage trees need to be watered differently than small trees.
- Bill Bunch – spoke about designing a version of a drawing with one trail instead of two trails that combine into one trail. He stated he doesn't like the 60% to 90% language when we are still changing concepts. He asked we please consider drawing plans with only one path.
- Roy Waley – spoke about having only one path to the pool and his concerns about where the trail terminates making sure the trails end is not uneven causing a safety issue for ADA. He also wanted to know about a storage area for the wheel chairs in order to keep it a safe area for everyone.

**4. BUSINESS (Discussion and Action)**

- a. Condition Assessments of Elm & Cottonwood Trees near Eliza Springs  
 ..... Walter Passmore, PARD
  - Removal of the Elm and planting trees & shrubs then assessing trees every 6 months was approved by a 4-1-0 vote.
- b. Tree Treatment Plan – Proposed Revisions.....Walter Passmore, PARD
  - The Tree Treatment Plan and Proposed Revisions was approved by a 3-1-1 vote.
- c. Planting of Two Trees near Barton Creek Greenbelt Trailhead  
 .....Walter Passmore, PARD
  - A briefing was given, but no action was taken.
- d. Proposed Communication Process Regarding Barton Springs Trees  
 .....Walter Passmore, PARD
  - This item of business will be placed on the March agenda.
- e. Proposed Drought Plan for Barton Springs Trees.....Walter Passmore, PARD
  - This item of business will be placed on the March agenda.

- f. Grounds Improvements Project-90% Complete Design Presentation  
.....Brian Larson, Larson Burns and Smith

**5. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

**6. ADJOURN**

Committee Chair Linda Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m. without objection.