



PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

Tuesday, March 24, 2015 - 6:00 p.m.

Boards and Commissions Room

City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street

Austin, Texas 78701

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rivera called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Jane Rivera, Chair; Jeff Francell, Vice Chair; Susan Roth, Lynn Osgood, Dale Glover

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting of February 24, 2014.

Vice Chair Francell made a motion to approve the minutes from February 24, 2015. Board Member Osgood seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 4-0 with Board Member Roth off the dais and Board Member Casias and Abell absent.

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Robert Corbin addressed the Board and referenced a letter he wrote regarding Lamar Beach. He discussed some one of his specific proposals for this property. He expressed concern about WAYA having a large amount of Lamar Beach.

Frank Cruz addressed the Board regarding angler access along the banks of the Colorado River. He suggested that the Blunn Creek pier be used exclusively for fishing. He discussed Red Bud Isle and how much his group enjoys fishing at that location and discussed other locations.

Bill Bunch, executive Director of Save our Springs. He addressed the Board regarding a proposal to expand Mopac and his concern that it will harm the parks. He shared specific concern regarding the double decker highway about the hike and bike trail, and the impacts to Cesar Chavez. He shared information regarding an upcoming public meeting at Austin High School.

David King addressed the Board and expressed interest in more information about the Mopac expansion impact on Zilker park and the waterfront. He suggested a public hearing on this topic at a future meeting of the Board.

Roy Whaley, Sierra Club, addressed the Board regarding the proposed Mopac expansion and suggested a public hearing. He expressed interest in what sort of noise can be expected, and what is being done for sound abatement. He also expressed the possibility of needing to widen Cesar Chavez and the impact that would have on the hike and bike trail.

D. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

Consent

2. Make a recommendation to the Austin City Council regarding the negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between City of Austin and Austin Independent School District for the District's priority use of Garrison District Park Baseball Field and the Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park Baseball Field for AISD's UIL boys' baseball teams.
3. Make a recommendation to the Director for the adoption of the Master Plan for Hartford Triangle Pocket Park.
4. Make a recommendation to the City Council for approval of seeking 2015 Transportation Alternatives Program funding for the construction of the Austin to Manor Trail from Lindell Lane to Ben E. Fisher Park.

Vice Chair Francell made a motion to approve the Consent agenda. Board Member Glover seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0 with Board Members Abell and Casias absent.

Non-Consent

5. Public comment period to consider the installation of a permanent marker at Auditorium Shores at Town Lake for President Obama's February 23, 2007 rally at that site.

No speakers came to address the Board on this item.

6. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the negotiation and execution of a contract with Texas Tennis Consultants for the management and operation of the Caswell Tennis Center.

Lonnie Lyman and Patricia Rossett made a brief presentation to the Board regarding this item and responded to their questions.

Vice Chair Francell made a motion to recommend to the City Council to approve the negotiation and execution of a contract with Texas Tennis Consultants for the management and operation of the Caswell Tennis Center. Board Member Roth seconded the motion. The motion carries on a vote of 5-0 with Board Members Abell and Casias absent.

7. Approve the appointment of a representative to the Parkland Events Task Force, established by City Council Resolution No. 20150305-025.

Assistant Director Wright provided the Board with an overview of the Parkland Events Task Force and its scope and deliverables. She responded to the Board's questions on this Council Resolution.

Board Chair Rivera made a motion to nominate Vice Chair Francell. Board Member Osgood seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 4-0-1 with Vice Chair Francell abstaining.

8. Make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the renaming of the Quick Start Tennis Courts located at 7800 Johnny Morris Road.

April Thedford, Project Assistant, presented this item to the Board and discussed the applications received.

Vice Chair Francell made a motion to recommend that City Council not rename the Austin Tennis Center – Quick Start Tennis Courts located at 7800 Johnny Morris Road any of the proposed names; permit the Board time to review and recommend new naming policy for parks facilities and parkland; forward the Board’s policy recommendation to the City Council’s Open Spaces, Parks, and Sustainability Committee; and request that the Council not name any park facility or parkland until the Board has made its policy recommendation. Board Member Osgood seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0 with Board Members Abell and Casias absent.

9. Make a recommendation to the Director regarding the Temporary Use Work Area (1,404 sq. ft.), Temporary Use Staging Area (2,676 sq. ft.), Temporary Use Access Area (26,640 sq. ft.), of parkland located at Shoal Creek Greenbelt, (Shoal Creek Blvd at Bull Creek Road), not to exceed 79 Calendar Days. Mitigation value \$12,287.

Greg Montes, Park Development Coordinator, introduced this item to the Board. Mike Russ, Engineer, Austin Water Utility, provided a brief presentation to the Board and responded to their questions.

Board Member Osgood made a motion to recommend to the Director the approval of the Temporary Use Work Area (1,404 sq. ft.), Temporary Use Staging Area (2,676 sq. ft.), Temporary Use Access Area (26,640 sq. ft.), of parkland located at Shoal Creek Greenbelt, (Shoal Creek Blvd at Bull Creek Road), not to exceed 79 Calendar Days. Mitigation value \$12,287. Board Member Roth seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0 with Board Members Abell and Casias absent.

E. BRIEFINGS

None.

F. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director Hensley provided an update regarding the improvement projects at Govalle pool and Shippe pools.

Director Hensley noted that the department received an award for the Barton Springs Improvements Project.

Director Hensley discussed the new Council Committee schedule and the need for parks employees to attend these committee meetings. She notes that the first Committee meeting is Wednesday March 25, 2015.

Director Hensley noted that the Decker Lake Golf proposal was discussed at the Economic Opportunity Committee, focused on the economic development impacts, and that parks staff will attend the next meeting to discuss.

Director Hensley notes that Assistant Director McNeeley attended the Health and Human Services Committee regarding the Montopolis project.

Director Hensley discussed the upcoming pool season and the need to hire sufficient staff. She and Assistant Director McNeeley discussed current hiring efforts to attract enough lifeguards.

Director Hensley reminded the Board that the national conference is in Las Vegas, Nevada this year.

G. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Chair Rivera requested that TXDOT present to the Board on the proposed Mopac expansion and its impact on parkland.

Board Member Osgood requested an update regarding pools.

Board Member Glover requested additional information via email regarding historic parks.

Chair Rivera noted that she will report to the Board regarding the first Council Committee meeting.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Rivera adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.