



PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
Tuesday, March 27, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.
Board and Commissions Room, City Hall
301 W. Second 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; Richard DePalma, Vice Chair; Rick Cofer, Tom Donovan, Romteen Farasat, Dawn Lewis, Francoise Luca, Randy Mann, Fred Morgan, and Frank Ward

Board Members Absent:

Michael Casias

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting of February 27, 2018.

Vice Chair DePalma made a motion to approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board regular meeting of February 27, 2018. Board Member Mann seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 9-0 with Board Member Farasat off dais and Board Member Casias absent.

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Erin (Ali) Ronder addressed the Board and spoke about the lack of restroom facilities in parks on the East side of the city.

D. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

Non-consent

2. Make a recommendation to the City Council for approval of the Parkland Improvement Agreement between YMCA of Austin and the City of Austin

This item was withdrawn by staff.

3. Update regarding the Artists Access Program, Artists Access Program Community Engagement Process, and a possible action to select one (1) representative of the Parks and

Recreation Board as a representative at the upcoming Artists Access Panel formed by staff

Board Member Farasat arrived at 6:17 p.m.

Laura Esparza, Division Manager, Parks and Recreation Department, explained the purpose of the Artist Access Panel and Artist Access Program. Ms. Esparza answered Board Member's questions.

Vice Chair DeDalma moved to nominate Board Member Luca to participate in the Panel. Chair Rivera seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 10-0 with Board Member Casias absent.

E. DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Staff presentation and discussion on Proposed Trail Connectivity through Morris Williams Golf Course

John Rooney, Austin Parks Foundation, donated time to Pinaki Ghosh.

Pinaki Ghosh, addressed the Board regarding the trail connectivity through the Morris Williams Golf Course.

Erin (Ali) Ronder addressed the Board and spoke about the Morris Williams Golf Course in relationship to equity.

Gwen Irwin—spoke about possible liability issues if the proposed trail passes through existing golf course.

Peter Wall—spoke in favor of opening a trail through the golf course and removing the fence along the south side of the Morris Williams Golf Course.

Susan Tingley—spoke about her support for the trail through the North side of the golf course.

Tracey Calloway—expressed her concerns about challenges and safety issues that would present themselves if the trail is built in the middle of the golf Course.

Joel Bell—asked that the golf course is consider and made accessible to all as parkland.

Ricardo Soliz, Division Manager, Parks and Recreation Department, made a presentation to the Board. Ricardo Soliz and Kevin Gomillion, Golf Division Manager, Parks and Recreation Department, answered Board Members' questions. Discussion was held on the item.

F. STAFF BRIEFINGS

Chair Rivera moved item 7. before item 6. Item 5. was moved to the end of briefings.

7. Facility Briefing on the Golf Enterprise Fund

Kevin Gomillion, Planning Division Manager, Parks and Recreation Department, made a presentation to the Board and together with Kevin Gomillion, Golf Division Manager, Parks and Recreation Department, answered Board Members' questions.

6. Briefing on Leave No Trace Campaign

LaJuan Tucker, Program Coordinator, and Sandra Heath, Park Ranger Supervisor, Parks and Recreation Department, made a presentation to the Board about Leave No Trace Campaign and Park Rangers' educational efforts.

5. Briefing on Parks and Recreation Department Partnerships

Kimberly McNeeley, Acting Director, Parks and Recreation Department, made a presentation to the Board regarding department partnerships and answered Board Members' questions.

G. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kimberly McNeeley, Acting Director, Austin Parks and Recreation Department, updated the Board on the homeless camp cleanup efforts and upcoming programs and events.

H. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Vice Chair DePalma—requested follow up on summer camps costs (cost per summer camp and per summer camper)

Board Member Cofer—will bring a recommendation on Golf enterprise funds

Board Member Cofer—will bring a recommendation on recycling in parks

Board Member Luca—requested an action item regarding a selection of an alternate appointee to the Board appoints alternative Joint Sustainability Committee

I. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Rivera adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.