



## **PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

Tuesday, May 22, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.

**Zilker Botanical Garden**

2220 Barton Springs Rd.

Austin, Texas 78746

# **MINUTES**

## **A. CALL TO ORDER**

Board Member DePalma called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

### Board Members in Attendance:

Rick Cofer, Vice Chair; Richard DePalma, Tom Donovan, Dawn Lewis, Francoise Luca, Randy Mann, Fred Morgan, and Frank Ward

### Board Members Absent:

Jane Rivera, Chair; Romteen Farasat, Michael Casias

## **B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **1. Approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting of May 22, 2018.**

Board Member Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board regular meeting of May 22, 2018. Board Member Lewis seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 7-0 with Vice Chair Cofer and Board Members Casias and Farasat off dais and Chair Rivera absent.

## **C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

**Sharon Blythe** addressed the Board and spoke about cemetery issue and expressed her concern about disparate treatment of City managed cemeteries.

**Vice Chair Cofer arrived at 6:12 p.m.**

**Linda Bailey** showed a video about Camelback PUD Land Use Amendment to 1985 Plan.

**Christie Nalle** donated time to Bill Nalle.

**Bill Nalle** spoke about his concerns about the amended Camelback PUD.

**Tony Iglesias** spoke about his use of the lake and Camelback PUD.

**Bill Glass, Gracy Woods Neighborhood Association**, spoke about McKalla Place, his concern about additional apartments being built and adequate recreational spaces for the residents. Mr. Glass asked the Board Members to advocate for open spaces instead.

**Craig Nazor, Sierra Club and Gracy Woods Neighborhood**, spoke about the possible development of the McKalla Place and cautioned about using wetland for development.

**Judy Garibay** spoke against the proposal to build a soccer stadium at McKalla Place and cautioned about the space being a wetland and thus inappropriate for development.

**Randy Ortega, Gracy Woods Neighborhood Association**, asked for support of affordable housing and parkland as the use for McKalla place.

**Linda Messier, Gracy Woods Neighborhood Association**, spoke about her love for parks and long-term support of parks. Ms. Messier urged the Board to not support McKalla place use for a soccer stadium.

**Vice Chair Cofer** took over presiding over the meeting.

#### **D. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS**

##### **Non-consent**

#### **2. Appoint members for the Parks Recycling Task Force as outlined in the council Resolution No. 20180614-072.**

**Andrew Dobbs, Texas Campaign for the Environment**, spoke about the resolution and encouraged PARB to appoint Brandi Burton Clark and John Rooney to the Task Force.

Vice Chair Cofer nominated himself and Board Member Mann to serve on the Task Force.

Board Member DePalma moved that the Board approve Vice Chair Cofer, Board Member Mann, Brandi Clark Burton, John Rooney, and Andrew Dobbs to serve on the Recycling Task Force. Vice Chair Cofer and Board Member Mann accepted the nominations.

Board Member Lewis seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 8-0 with Chair Rivera, and Board Members Casias and Farasat absent.

#### **E. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **3. Discussion on the Waller Creek Boat House Concession**

Ricardo Soliz, Acting Assistant Director, informed the Board Members about the history of the Waller Creek Boathouse contract and about a resolution posted for Council discussion and action for June 28, 2018 Council meeting. Discussion on the process for awarding the contract was held.

**Kimery Duda**, The Expedition School, addressed the Board and spoke about their partnership with

PARD and expressed her concern about lack of competitive bidding. Ms. Duda asked to have a fair chance to bid for the use of the space.

**Matt Knifton, Texas Rowing Center**, introduced his company and compared it to the Austin Rowing Club. Mr. Knifton opposed the resolution and asked (if Council resolution is approved) for the same contract conditions Austin Rowing Club may get.

## **F. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

### **4. Briefing on Shoal Creek Trail: Vision to Action Plan**

Joanna Wolaver, Executive Director, Shoal Creek Conservancy, made a presentation on Shoal Creek Trail Vision to Action Plan and answered Board Members' questions.

## **G. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Kimberly McNeeley, Acting Director, Austin Parks and Recreation Department, updated the Board on the master plan efforts, park development, ongoing maintenance projects, and upcoming programs and events.

## **H. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Board Member Lewis—Camelback PUD information

Board Member Ward—requested information on number of children served and not served through PARD programs because of funding shortages, costs associated with increasing programs

Board Member Luca—requested information on wetland at McKalla and environmental concern

Board Member Luca—report on historical information on another department donating land to PARD and how the land/property is being used

Board Member Luca—information on the Redline Trail development and coordination with the Development of McKalla place

Vice Chair DePalma—requested costs associated with increasing programs for children

Vice Chair DePalma—requested update on potential HOT projects (particularly Barton Springs)

Vice Chair DePalma and Mann—presentation on cemeteries, capital spending, what the policies are, particularly Austin Memorial Park Cemetery

## **I. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chair Cofer adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.