

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
JANUARY 23, 1990

1. Call to Order. The Chair, Mrs. Griffith, called the meeting of the board to order at 6:30 p.m. in the offices of the Parks & Recreation Department, 1500 West Riverside Drive, with the following board members present: Mrs. Griffith, Mr. Britton, Mr. Cartlidge, Mr. Colgan, Dr. Edwards, Mr. Iscoe, Mr. Kreutz, Mrs. Nivison, Mrs. Robinson and Ms. Cruz-Torres.

2. Citizens Communications. Rob Wendt and David Adair of the Young Men's Business League made a presentation to the board concerning the Austin Sunshine Camp. YMBL has requested approval of an expansion to the kitchen facility at the camp which will be made as a formal presentation to the board at a later date.

Jeff Hart, President of the Austin Rowing Club, made a presentation to the board concerning the history and plans for expansion of the club.

3. Approval of Minutes. Approval of the December 11, 1989 and January 8, 1990 minutes of the board was deferred.

4. Parks and Recreation Director's Report. Mr. Williams, the Acting Director, introduced Raul Calderon, a member of the City legal staff, who presented an overview of the Cedar Door litigation. The State of Texas has filed a lawsuit against the City of Austin in which the Attorney General of the State of Texas alleges that the City has violated restrictions in the grant to the City of the Sand Beach Reserve by allowing access to the Cedar Door through the Reserve. Mr. Iscoe strongly objected to the presentation made to the City Council which stated that the Parks and Recreation Board had approved access through the Reserve. Mr. Iscoe called Mr. Calderon's attention to the resolution passed by this board on October 24, 1989 which specifically denies access to the 3.1 acre Mopac railroad site adjacent to City parkland on West First Street. Mr. Williams stated that a solution to further misunderstandings and misrepresentation of board action could be avoided if the actual resolution of the Parks Board were attached to Requests for Council Action which involve Parks and Recreation Board matters.

Colgan?

Upon motion by Mr. Iscoe, which was seconded by Mr. Calderon, the board unanimously passed the following:

Whereas, in the presentation of a Request for Council Action concerning access by the Cedar Door Bar through the Sand Beach Reserve the resolution passed by the Parks and Recreation Board denying such access was not accurately represented to the City Council, and

Whereas, the Board wishes to assure that future resolutions of the Board are accurately presented to the City Council.

RESOLVED, that the Parks and Recreation Board will send copies of resolutions passed by the Board which will impact on City Council action, directly to the members of the City Council and the City Manager and, if appropriate, direct the Chairman, or other officer of the Board, to make a formal presentation to the City Council when the subject matter which is deliberated.

Mr. Colgan requested that the City Attorney provide the board with an opinion as to the authority of the City to charge third parties for granting an easement through parkland. Mr. Williams agreed to formally make the request for such opinion through the City Attorney's office.

Mr. Williams informed the board that the old Chamber of Commerce building, which now houses Parks and Recreation Department staff, is being evaluated for child care uses. If the use is changed, the staff would need to find new offices.

5. Committee Reports.

5.1 Community Education Consortium Representative.
Dr. Edwards presented a report to the Parks and Recreation Department Board dated January 23, 1990 concerning the work of the Community Education Consortium.

5.2 Program Committee. Mr. Colgan, the new chair of the Program Committee, had no report.

5.3 Land and Facilities Committee. Mrs. Robinson, in the absence of Mr. Heimsath, presented the following committee recommendation:

The Land and Facilities Committee recommends that the Parks and Recreation Board approve the recommendation of Peter Marsh to grant an easement through dedicated parkland for the construction of water and wastewater lines as detailed in that ~~certain~~ memorandum dated _____, a copy of which was furnished to the board. *an undated*

David Bayless and Hank Kidwell of Murphee Engineering were present to represent the Circle C Municipal Utility District. Robert Chapman of the City Public Works office was also present.

Mr. Colgan moved that approval of the committee recommendation be tabled to allow the applicant to work with the staff to clear up several conditions to the granting of the easement until the February 12, 1990 meeting of the board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Iscoe. By common consent, the motion to table passed.

George Avery of the Sierra Club addressed the board raising several questions concerning whether all environmental studies as required by the City of Austin had been conducted and the results evaluated.

Mr. Iscoe directed the staff to develop a dollar value for the easement to be granted based on comparable transactions in the area.

6. Miscellaneous. Stuart Strong stated that the Parks and Wildlife Board of the State of Texas will meet on January 25, 1990 to consider the grant application of the City of Austin for development of Mary Searight Park. Mr. Strong stated that the Parks and Wildlife Department staff will recommend approval of the grant.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Beverly Griffith, Chair

Date of Approval: _____

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