

Minutes

Parks and Recreation Board Meeting

May 21, 1991

The special called meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on May 21, 1991 at 6:30 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation Department, 1500 W. Riverside Drive. Board Members present: Albert Black, Phil Friday, Neil Iscoe, James Crump, Lawrence Britton, Beverly Griffith, Terry Colgan, Ron Cartlidge and ErmaLinda Cruz-Torres. Board Members absent: Agnes Edwards and Charlie Gandy. Staff present: Manuel A. Mollinedo, Robert Sopronyi, Jody Hamilton and Donna Bohls.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Beverly Griffith presiding.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Tom Wittmer, Sour Grapes Magazine, addressed the Board. He introduced his publication and the agreement to sell advertising signs at our softball fields.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Mrs. Griffith updated Board Members on the status of Givens park and reported on the Junior League grant received by Mayfield Park and the upcoming Senior May Fair.

NEW BUSINESS

Doug Blachly addressed the Board regarding a new advocacy group being formed by members of the Austin Area Garden Council. This advocacy group is interested in working closely with the Parks and Recreation Board to help benefit the Department and the parks system.

Barry Lovelace addressed the Board regarding funding of a portion of Ted Fisher's salary. Mr. Lovelace reminded the Board of how essential Mr. Fisher's help is to the Parks Department, the Garden Center and the citizens of Austin.

1. Make Recommendation Regarding Dedication of Revenue to the Parks and Recreation Department from Zilker Park Facilities--pool, Garden Center, etc.

Terry Colgan moved and Ron Cartlidge seconded a motion to rescind the following motions passed at the May 13 Parks and Recreation Board meeting:

1) To increase the adult entry fee at Barton Springs pool from \$1.75 to \$2.00 on weekdays and from \$2.00 to \$2.25 on weekends. To increase adult swim tickets from \$45.00 to \$52.50 for 40 swims. To increase adult entry fees at Municipal pools from \$1.50 to \$1.75.

2) To increase the rental fees at the Zilker Park Clubhouse from \$135 to \$200 for five hours of use.

The motion passed unanimously.

Terry Colgan moved and ErmaLinda Cruz-Torres seconded a motion for the Parks and Recreation Board to go on record as opposing any fee increase at the Zilker Clubhouse, Barton Springs Pool and Municipal Pools. The Board also opposes any reductions to the Parks and Recreation Department budget.

The motion passed unanimously. The following resolution was drafted:

WHEREAS Austin has long prided itself in making its superb park system available to its citizens at low cost; and

WHEREAS the facilities and programs of the Parks and Recreation Department are a vital component of the City's Youth-At-Risk Program; and

WHEREAS the programs and facilities of the Parks and Recreation Department are used more intensively during the summer months than any other time of the year; and

WHEREAS the programs and facilities have been diminished by budget cuts in recent years to the point where their traditional high quality is now in danger; and

WHEREAS the current budget crisis can be resolved in other areas without diminishing the budget of the Parks and Recreation Department budget.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED this 21st day of May, 1991.

#### ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

James Crump thanked ErmaLinda Cruz-Torres, Lawrence Britton, Ron Cartlidge and Terry Colgan for their statesmanship in reopening the debate on the fee increase issue. He also asked that Ron Sparks and Joan Canning be thanked for their cooperation and assistance at Bull Creek Park.

There being no further business, the meeting stood adjourned.