



PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
January 28, 2020
MINUTES

The Parks and Recreation Board convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 301 W. 2nd St. in Austin, Texas.

Board Members in Attendance: Dawn Lewis; Laura Cottam Sajbel; Richard DePalma; Anna L. Di Carlo; Francoise Luca; Fred Morgan; Kate Mason-Murphy and Nina Rinaldi

Board Members Absent: Romteen Farasat and Kimberly Taylor

Staff in Attendance: Kimberly McNeeley; Liana Kallivoka; Lucas Massie; Suzanne Piper; Anthony Segura; Sammi Curlless; Denisha Cox; Kevin Gomillion; Steven Linnet; Larry Mendez; Thomas Rowlinson; Randy Scott; D'Anne Williams and Ana Sievert

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:04p.m.

B. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Sharon Blythe – removal of trees planted by neighborhood at Mountain View Park; homeless camps in parks

Kevin Reinis – Austin Rowing Club end of year update

Fred McGhee – Oakwood Cemetery chapel restoration

Eric Harris – Millwood Neighborhood concerning Walnut Trail through Balcones Park

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board Member Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes; Board Member Cottam Sajbel seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 8-0 with Vice Chair Farasat and Board Member Taylor absent.

NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

Consent

1. Recommendation to approve the 2020 meeting schedule for the Concessions & Contracts Committee according to approved Concessions & Contracts Committee November 12, 2019 Minutes.

Board Member Luca made a motion to approve the 2020 meeting schedule for the Concessions & Contracts Committee; Board Member DePalma seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 8-0 with Vice Chair Farasat and Board Member Taylor absent.

Non-consent

2. Make a Recommendation to City Council regarding the superiority of the Austin Green Planned Unit Development and Municipal Utility District as it pertains to parkland.

Board Member DePalma made a motion to recommend to the City Council regarding the superiority of the Austin Green Planned Unit Development and Municipal Utility District as it pertains to parkland; Board Member Cottam Sajbel seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 8-0 with Vice Chair Farasat and Board Member Taylor absent.

3. Make a Recommendation to City Council to authorize the execution of Amendment No. 1 to the Parkland Improvement, Management, and Operations Agreement for Republic Square Park between the City, Austin Parks Foundation, and the Downtown Austin Parks, LLC.

Board Member Luca made a motion to recommend to the City Council to authorize the execution of Amendment No. 1 to the Parkland Improvement, Management, and Operations Agreement for Republic Square Park between the City, Austin Parks Foundation, and the Downtown Austin Parks, LLC.; Board Member Mason-Murphy seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 8-0 with Vice Chair Farasat and Board Member Taylor absent.

4. Briefing, discussion and possible action regarding Lions Municipal Golf Course.

Mary Arnold and Brian Greig representing the Save Historic Munny District presented this item at the request of Chair Lewis.

Following discussion, Board Member DePalma made a motion to support the effort for the 4th amendment to the Brackenridge development agreement and a 5th amendment to the lease agreement for Lions Municipal Golf Course as stated in the City of Austin's January 23, 2020 letter to the University of Texas System; Board Member Morgan seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 7-1 with Vice Chair Farasat and Board Member Taylor absent. Those voting aye were: Chair Lewis and Board Members Cottam Sajbel; DePalma; Di Carlo; Luca; Morgan and Mason-Murphy. Voting nay was Board Member Rinaldi.

5. Briefing on the Parks and Recreation Department's capital improvement program.

The presentation was made by Steven Linett, Capital Improvement Program Manager, Parks and Recreation Department.

6. Briefing on project update and construction closeout process for the Northern Walnut Creek Trail (Phase 1A), an urban/regional trail project in Balcones District Park.

The presentation was made by D'Anne Williams, Project Manager, Parks and Recreation Department and Ana Seivert and Larry Mendez, Project Coordinators, Public Works Department.

7. Discussion and possible action regarding the park and facility renaming process (Ordinance 20160324-021).

Requested by: Board Member Di Carlo

Following discussion, Board Member Di Carlo made a motion to establish a working group to discuss amending Ordinance 20160324-021; Chair Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 6-2 with Vice Chair Farasat and Board Member Taylor absent. Those voting aye were Chair Lewis and Board Members Cottam Sajbel; Di Carlo; Luca; Mason-Murphy and Rinaldi. Those voting nay were: Board Members DePalma and Morgan.

Board Member Luca made a motion for Vice Chair Farasat and Board Members Di Carlo and Luca to serve on the working group; Board Member Morgan seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-2 with Vice Chair Farasat and Board Member Taylor absent. Those voting aye were Chair Lewis and Board Members Cottam Sajbel; Di Carlo; Luca; Mason-Murphy and Rinaldi. Those voting nay were: Board Member DePalma and Morgan.

8. Discussion and possible action regarding communications real-time closure alerts.
Requested by: Board Member Cottam Sajbel

Following discussion regarding exploration of real-time communication methods for alerting users to park and facility closures no action was taken on this item. Director Kimberly McNeeley will report back on options.

D. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director McNeeley reviewed highlights of the Parks and Recreation Board Director’s Report.

E. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Board Members Mason-Murphy and Morgan – homelessness issue
Board Members Morgan and DePalma – Oakwood Cemetery restoration based on citizen comment
Board Members Cottam Sajbel and Rinaldi – working group update on transportation options and parking
Chair Lewis and Board Member DePalma – Austin City Limits (ACL) C3 Presents contract
Chair Lewis and Board Member Luca – off leash dogs and portable signs

F. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Lewis adjourned the meeting at 9:28 pm.