



PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
May 27, 2020
Minutes

The Parks and Recreation Board convened in a special meeting on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 via videoconference in Austin, Texas.

Chair Lewis called the meeting to order at 3:06pm.

Board Members in Attendance: Dawn Lewis; Laura Cottam Sajbel; Sarah Faust; Richard DePalma; Françoise Luca; Kate Mason-Murphy; Fred Morgan and Nina Rinaldi.

Board Members Absent: Vice Chair Romteen Farasat and Board Members Anna L. DiCarlo and Kimberly Taylor.

Staff in Attendance: Kimberly McNeeley; Liana Kallivoka; Lucas Massie; Suzanne Piper; Anthony Segura; Kymberley Maddox; Kalpana Sutaria; Scott Grantham and Sammi Curless.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Pat Valls Trelles – Lamar Beach Master Plan and City of Austin lease agreement Austin Pets Alive.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting of April 29, 2020 were approved on Board Member Cottam Sajbel motion, Board Member Morgan second on an 8-0 vote.

B. STAFF BRIEFINGS AND REPORTS*

1. Update on Dove Springs Public Health Facility Project
Presentation made by Kymberley Maddox, Assistant Director, Austin Public Health and Kalpana Sutaria, Project Manager, Public Works Department.

C. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

1. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding a recommendation to the City Council regarding the superiority of the Circuit of the Americas Planned Unit Development as it pertains to parkland.
Board Member Cottam Sajbel made a motion to recommend to the City Council the Circuit of the Americas Planned Unit Development as superior as it pertains to parkland; Board Member DePalma seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 7-0 with Vice Chair Farasat and Board Members DiCarlo and Taylor absent. Board Member Faust abstained.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding the Parks and Recreation Department Fiscal Year 2021 proposed budget.

No action was taken on this item, but it was suggested by Board Members DePalma and Faust to establish a budget committee or working group for the Board.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding continuation of the Land, Facilities and Programs Committee.

No action was taken on this item but possible sunseting of this Committee and amending the bylaws was discussed by the Board. Board Member DePalma will review the bylaws and return to the Board at a future meeting with a recommendation.

D. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the Alternative Funding Working Group (Lewis, Farasat, DePalma, Rinaldi).

Board Member Rinaldi is drafting a recommendation to the City Council to request consideration of alternative funding options for the Parks and Recreation Department.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding the Parking and Mobility Working Group (Cottam Sajbel, Farasat and Rinaldi).

Board Member Cottam Sajbel reported that the 2-hour parking signs have been installed near Deep Eddy Pool and that she continues to have conversations in the community on parking and mobility in/near parks and facilities.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding the Park and Facility Renaming (Ordinance 20160324-021) Working Group (DiCarlo, Farasat, Luca).

No report.

E. DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON PROGRAM AND PROJECT UPDATES AND EVENTS

Due to time constraints, Director McNeeley did not provide a report.

F. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member Cottam Sajbel and Chair Lewis – communication opportunities with Board and community

Board Member DePalma and Chair Lewis – COVID-19 operations as it relates to pool openings and transmission potential in parks and greenbelts and plans for transmission mitigation

Chair Lewis and Board Member Luca – response to resident regarding Balcones District Park related to maintenance and ground cover

Chair Lewis adjourned the meeting at 4:32pm.