PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
***SPECIAL CALLED* MEETING**
MINUTES
JUNE 17, 2024

The PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD convened in a SPECIAL CALLED meeting on June 17, 2024 at 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive in Austin, Texas.

Chair Villalobos called the PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Pedro Villalobos, Kathryn Flowers, Jennifer Franklin, Holly Reed.
Board Members in Attendance Remotely: Stephanie Bazan, Lane Becker, Nicole Merritt, Shelby Orme, Kim Taylor.
Board Members Absent: None.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Liz Barhydt - Austin Rowing Club
Sharon Blythe - Cemetery advocate
Scott Cobb - Lifeguard hiring
Andrea Hill - Lifeguard hiring and chain of command issues
Chris Flores - Violet Crown and Barton Springs Pool
Joy Casnovsky - Austin Parks Foundation
Elisa Rendon Montoya - Holly Shores concerns
Bertha Rendon Delgado - Edward Rendon Holly Shores Master Plan
Frank Estrada - Possible renaming of Camacho Activity Center
Phillip Thomas - Edward Rendon Sr. Park and Holly Shores concerns
Ricardo Chavana - Hispanic Baseball League

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board regular meeting of May 20, 2024.

   The motion to approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board regular meeting of May 20, 2024 was approved on Chair Villalobos' motion, Vice Chair Flower's second on a 9-0 vote with two vacancies.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

2. Presentation, discussion and approve letters of support for enhancements to the PARD Cemeteries Program.

Jason Walker, Cemeteries Division Manager and Lucas Massie, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Department gave a presentation and answered questions on private organizations doing interments.

The motion to approve letters of support for enhancements to the PARD Cemeteries Program was approved on Chair Villalobos' motion, Board Member Reed's second on a 9-0 vote with two vacancies.

3. Presentation, discussion and approve a recommendation to Austin City Council to approve the negotiation and execution of a Parkland Improvement Agreement with Hill Country Conservancy for the Violet Crown Mile Zero Trailhead project that includes a maximum amount of funding of $900,000 the Parks and Recreation Department will allocate to Hill Country Conservancy for a portion of the cost to construct the project.

D'Anne Williams, Project Manager, Parks and Recreation Department and Kathy Miller, CEO, Hill Country Conservancy gave a presentation and answered questions on Parkland Dedication Area restrictions, PLD funding for operation and maintenance, Parkland acquisition, construction management costs, costs associated with completing the additional 13 miles of the Violet Crown Trail, public engagement regarding the design of the trailhead and origins of the project.

The motion to recommend to Austin City Council to approve the negotiation and execution of a Parkland Improvement Agreement with Hill Country Conservancy for the Violet Crown Trail Mile Zero Trailhead project. The agreement includes a maximum amount of Parkland Dedication funding of $900,000 the Parks and Recreation Department will allocate to Hill Country Conservancy for a portion of the cost of constructing the project was approved on Vice Chair Flowers motion, Board Member Franklin's second on a 6-2 vote with two vacancies. Those voting aye were Chair Villalobos, Vice Chair Flowers, Board Members Bazan, Becker, Franklin and Merritt. Those voting nay were Board Members Reed and Taylor. Those abstaining were Board Member Orme.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Discussion on Parks and Recreation Board input to City Manager on the selection of a new Parks and Recreation Department Director.

Board Members discussed the opportunity to offer public comment on the hiring of the new Parks Director, trust concerns, parks districts, municipal management districts, parkland acquisition, timeline for the search, equity in parks, state of the Parks and Recreation Board, mistrust of the partnership program.

No action was taken on this item.

STAFF BRIEFINGS

5. Staff briefing on the status of The Expedition School's permitting and construction of the permanent location for boating concessions.

Reynaldo Hernandez, Project Manager, Parks and Recreation Department gave a briefing and answered clarifying questions on the concession agreement with the Expedition School, any involvement from The Trail Conservancy, where revenue will be directed to, whether the concession agreement will be presented to the Contracts and Concessions Committee,

community involvement, rationale for extensions, ownership of the facility, amendments to the Edward S Rendon Holly Shores Master Plan, the timeline for this project, opportunities for community feedback, PARD's role when directed by City Council to take some action, the Concession Agreement with The Expedition School and a Parkland Improvement Agreement.

No action was taken on this item.

6. Staff briefing on Parks and Recreation Department community engagement events, planning updates, development updates, maintenance updates, program updates and administrative updates.

Angela Means, Interim Parks Director gave a briefing on her personal journey that led her to this role, community engagement event for Tillery Neighborhood Park and answered clarifying questions on high demand aquatics spaces.

No action was taken on this item.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

Chair Villalobos adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m. without objection.

These minutes were approved at the July 22, 2024 Parks and Recreation Board meeting on Chair Villalobos' motion, Vice Chair Flowers' second on a 7-0 vote with one vacancy. Board Member Eady abstaining. Board Members Orme and Taylor absent.