

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD / ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD JOINT COMMITTEE

Monday, September 19, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Joint Committee Members in Attendance:

Linda Guerrero, Chair
Carol Lee

Jerry Perales, Co-Chair
Mary Ann Neely

Mary Gay Maxwell

Staff in Attendance:

Tom Nelson, PARD
David Johns, WPD
Charles Kaough, WPD
Emily King, PARD
Kimberly McNeeley, PARD
Jodi Jay, PARD

Gary Gregson, PARD
Mike Personett, WPD
Pedro Patlan, PARD
Sharon Knotts, PARD
Johnnie Price, WPD
Dennis Crabill, PW

The PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD / ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD JOINT COMMITTEE convened in a regular meeting on Monday, September 19, 2011, at City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street, Room 1029, in Austin, Texas.

Co-Chair Jerry Perales called the Joint Committee Meeting to order at 6:19 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. The minutes from the August 15, 2011, meeting were approved 4-0-0 vote.

2. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATION

- Bill Bunch encouraged revisiting the project subject to dispute without interrupting others that are in consensus. He also spoke against developing the south side of Barton Springs Pool.
- Wendy Price Todd spoke about the process for public input and the desire for more transparency. She offered suggestions on ways to reach more citizens.
- Rick Morgan spoke on the neglect of staff in getting stakeholders to the table. He suggested the funds could be better allocated.
- Dan Crow requested that the south gate location at Barton Springs not be relocated.
- Peter Steinhardt spoke against moving south entrance and utilizing the paved parking lot. He also opposes adding an ADA accessible pathway to the south side.
- Robert Corbin spoke in opposition to relocating the south gate.

- Karen Kreps spoke about the lack of communication about Barton Springs improvement projects to the public.
- Eddie Wiley spoke in opposition to the proposed plan for improving the south side and encouraged leaving the south entrance in its current location.
- Andrew Hawkins spoke about the need for more public process and opposes moving the entrance on the south side, creating a long ADA trail, and the proposed wrought-iron fence.
- Robin Cravey spoke about the public process that has already occurred and that there has been and will continue to be opportunities for input.
- Tom Weber spoke generally in favor of the plan for improvements but felt that comprises could be reached regarding the south side improvements.
- April Rose spoke generally in favor of the general grounds improvements plan. Especially regarding how it addresses the treatment of trees.
- Mark Nowacki expressed that the Joint Committee and City staff are doing a horrible job. He mentioned that Facebook could be utilized as a communication tool.

3. STAFF BRIEFINGS AND DISCUSSION

- a. Introduction of Arts in Public Places artist.
 - Postponed.
- b. Urban Forestry Program's Tree Treatment Plan
 - Emily King provided an update on the progress of the plan.
 - **a.** Citizen Jon Beall spoke about a recent limb falling at Barton Springs.
 - **b.** Citizen Zoila Vega spoke about limb failure being related to the drought and that she and volunteers have been working to keep the trees watered.
- c. Bypass Culvert Repair and Inlet Grate Projects
 - Johnnie Price provided a presentation on the status of these projects.
- **4.** BUSINESS (Discussion and Action)
 - None.

5. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

a. Discussion of south side improvements, specifically the relocation of the south gate.

6. ADJOURN

Committee Chair Linda Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m. without objection.