



**Parks and Recreation Department Board  
Minutes**

**January 23, 2001  
Regular Meeting**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Board was held on Tuesday, January 23, 2001 in the Board Room of the Parks and Recreation Department Main Office located at 200 South Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas.

**Board Members Present:** Rosemary Castleberry, Mary Ruth Holder, Rocky Medrano, Carol Kim, Jeff Francell, Clint Small, Rhonda Taylor, and Amy Babich.

**Staff Members Present:** Jesus M. Olivares, Director, Kimberley Jamail Mitchell, Randy Scott, Jay Stone and Dina Haines.

**A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Rosemary Castleberry, Chair, at approximately 6:36 p.m.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, from the January 9, 2001 meeting**

**Board Member Francell** made the motion to approve the minutes as written. **Board Member Holder** seconded the motion. **The vote was in favor 8-0-0.**

**C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

**Mary Arnold** spoke to the Parks Board members regarding the Settlement Agreement concerning Sand Beach Reserve Parkland.

**D. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

1. Make a Recommendation Regarding the Construction of Fowler Boat Dock on Lot 8 Manana Terrace Lots.

**Board Member Small** stated that the Fowler boat dock is a single slip dock requiring the replacement of the pilings. **Board Member Small** made the motion to approve the construction of the Fowler boat dock. **Board Member Francell** seconded the motion. **The vote was in favor 8-0-0.**

2. Make a Recommendation Regarding the Construction of Bulkheading on Larson Boat Dock at 609 River Road.
4. Make a Recommendation Regarding the Construction of Bulkheading on O'shea Boat Dock at 711 River Road.

**Board Member Small** stated items #2 and #4 concerned removing existing bulkheads and replacing them with concrete walls to prevent erosion. **Board Member Small** made the motion to approved construction of Larson and O'shea bulkheading projects. **Board Member Francell** seconded the motion. **The vote was in favor 8-0-0.**

3. Make a Recommendation Regarding the Construction of Bulkheadings on Sidarras, Lamar, Johnson, and Janek Boat Docks and Retaining Wall on Lot 1 - 4 in Hidden Valley. This item was pulled from the agenda.
5. Make a Recommendation Regarding the Construction of Bulkheading on Peterson Boat Dock at 4817 Laguna Lane.
6. Make a Recommendation Regarding the Construction of Bulkheading on Graham Boat Dock at 7709 River Road.

**Board Member Small** stated that both items #5 and #6 also involved replacing the existing bulkheadings and the projects met all Land Development Codes. **Board Member Small** made the motion to approve the Peterson and Graham bulkheading projects. **Board Member Taylor** seconded the motion. **The vote was in favor 8-0-0.**

7. Make a Recommendation to City Council to Authorize Run-Tex to conduct a Triathlon adjacent to the Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail by the Austin High School to include Waiving the Prohibition to Swim in Town Lake on Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, 2001.

**Carl Owens, Event Consultant, Run-Tex** spoke to the parks board members to answer any questions they might have regarding the Triathlon proposed for May 28, 2001 on Town Lake. Mr. Owens stated the event would draw worldwide TV coverage and create a World-Class Triathlon event in downtown Austin. Mr. Owens stated the triathlon would consist of three events. The swimming event will be a 1/2-mile swim with Wave Starts to take place on Town Lake adjacent to Stephen F. Austin High School. The swimmers will enter on a specially built ramp under Mopac bridge and exit onto a ramp at Stephen F. Austin High School. Mr. Owen stated that the event would have several lifeguards placed along Town Lake to ensure the safety of the swimmers.

The biking event will be a 12-mile event, exiting Stephen F. Austin High School onto Cesar Chavez. The course will head down Cesar Chavez, make a short loop onto S.1

Street, Riverside Drive, and then straight up Riverside pass S. 1st Street to Congress Avenue. From Congress Avenue straight to the State Capitol, around the Capitol and back the same routes to Stephen F. Austin High School.

The running event will head west on Stephen F. Austin Boulevard up Veterans Drive onto Lake Austin Boulevard to turn around and return to Stephen F. Austin High School.

**Jesus Olivares, Director, Parks and Recreation Department** stated that along with lifeguards, there would be a list of requirements that will need to be met before such an event takes place on Town Lake. Along with the lifeguards there will also be safety equipment, Park Police, Lake Patrol, EMS, ski jets and canoes. The reason this item came before Parks Board Members was because of the ordinance that prohibits swimming in Town Lake. That ordinance will require the waiver by City Council. Mr. Olivares stated that the hike and trail must remain open all weekend. Staff will be directed to close portions on were the swimmers will exit Town Lake, but that staff will have to be present to open and close the trails only at those times.

**Board Member Holder** made the motion to recommend that City Council authorize Run-Tex to conduct a triathlon adjacent to the Town Lake hike and bike trail by Austin High School to include waiving the prohibition to swim in Town Lake on Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, 2001 with the assurance that a portion of the proceeds go to benefit the Parks and Recreation Department and that there be notices to trail users along the trail and at Run-Tex informing the citizens that this event is going to occur, and that Run-Tex continue to work with the Parks and Recreation Department and Park Police to keep the trails open to the maximum extent possible during the event. **Board Member Taylor** seconded the motion. **The vote was in favor 8-0-0.**

8. Make a Recommendation to the Director Regarding Placement of Temporary Fences for Special Events in Austin Parks. **This item was pulled from the agenda.** Board Member Holder explained that the staff responsible for the fencing would meet with members of the Land and Facilities Subcommittee to try to resolve the matter.

9. Approve Resolution Regarding Sand Beach Reserve.

**Board Member Holder** presented a resolution regarding Sand Beach Reserve parkland to the Board Members and explained that the resolution from the last Land and Facilities Sub-Committee meeting. This parkland is right across the river on Lamar adjacent to the Seaholm Power plant. Currently the Cedar Door is located on part of this tract.

**Mary Arnold** spoke to the Board urging the members to request that City Council amend the Settlement Agreement with Lumberman's Investment Corporation to comply with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code, Chapter 26.

Upon displaying a map, Ms. Arnold also spoke in regards to Lumberman's Investment Corporation requesting a new access across the Sand Beach Reserve. The City Council stated in the Settlement Agreement that access has no dimensions, so how much is unknown. Ms. Arnold stated what the City Council said in the settlement agreement, "the city shall also dedicate the necessary right-of-way and allow access across the Sand Beach Reserve at a location mutually acceptable by Lumberman's Investment Corporation and the City of Austin. The City of Austin also waves any objections to the location of such right-of-way across Sand Beach Reserve Parkland." The question now is whether or not the city can do this and still comply with the Texas State Parks and Wildlife Code, Chapter 26. No public hearing was held in compliance with Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code.

**Board Member Holder** explained that the Land and Facilities Committee reviewed the Settlement Agreement and Chapter 26 of the Parks and Wildlife Code and that the resolution recommends that Council include the Board in planning for the parkland and the adjoining Seaholm Power Plant redevelopment, recommends that the parkland continue to be used for a public purpose, and offers the Board's assistance in helping to meet the requirements of Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code. **Board Member Holder** made the motion to approve the Sand Beach Reserve Resolution. **Board Member Francell** seconded the motion. **The vote was in favor 8-0-0.** A copy of the resolution is attached.

**E. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Olivares invited Parks Board Member to Texas Recreation and Parks Society (TRAPS) Legislative Breakfast, January 24, 2001 at 7:30 a.m. being held at the Omni Hotel.

**F. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Programs Committee

**Board Member Medrano** stated at the last program meeting held, January 23, 2001, all area Site Supervisors attended the meeting and informed the program members of the programs being offered at their recreation centers.

**Board Member Taylor** encouraged all recreation centers to diversify their programs to include other recreation centers during cultural awareness, such as Black History Month and the Cinco de Mayo celebration.

Land and Facilities Committee

**Board Member Carol Kim** was appointed to Land and Facility Committee. Gardens at Bullcreek parkland was discussed, Board Chair Castleberry and Board Member Holder discussed their concerns about the impacts of the adjoining development and of the regional detention facility on the Gardens at Bullcreek parkland and informed the Board the next meeting of the Joint Committee on the Gardens at Bullcreek will be Thursday, February 1.



Navigation Committee

**Board Member Small** stated that due to Lake Austin being lowered, the navigation committee has received numerous requests for bulkheading constructions and for more boat docks.

Downtown Committee

**Board Member Small** wishes to be removed from this commission. Board members suggested a letter of resignation to be sent to Candy Parham, City Clerk that oversees Boards and Commissions.

**G. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

**Board Chair Castleberry** informed the parks board members of (2) new items coming to the Parks Board under items to discuss. These two items will be Bond Oversight Committee Report and Gardens at Bullcreek parkland Report.

**H. ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.