



**Parks and Recreation Department Board  
Minutes**

**March 27, 2001  
Regular Meeting**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Board was held on Tuesday, March 27, 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, Rocky Medrano, Rhonda Taylor, Clint Small, and Carol Kim.

**Board Members Absent:** Jeff Francell, Amy Babich and Mary Ruth Holder

**Staff Members Present:** Jesus Olivares, Stuart Strong, Kimberley Mitchell, Randy Scott and Dina Haines.

**A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Rosemary Castleberry, Chair.

- B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**, February 13, 2001 meetings. **Board Member Medrano** made the motion to approve the minutes as written. **Board Member Kim** seconded the motion. **The Board was in favor 5-0-0.**

**C. PRESENTATIONS**

**Marcelo Tafoya**, Parque Zaragoza Advisory Board, and **Leon Hernandez** spoke to the Parks Board on their request to have Parque Zaragoza removed from the Alcohol Prohibited Facilities list.

**D. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

1. Make a Recommendation to City Council Regarding Alcohol at Parque Zaragoza (Park).

**Marcelo Tafoya** stated that for many years they had the privilege to sell alcohol at Parque Zaragoza park during their past fiestas. Mr. Tafoya stated that from the proceeds, money would be given to whichever organizations, be it the recreation center or others charities to gain from profits. Mr. Tafoya came to the meeting to request the Parks Board support to reconsider his request to have the Parque Zaragoza park removed from the

alcohol prohibited park list. Currently, there are various parks placed on the list which are under a City Council Ordinance, Chapter 11-1 of the City Code, General Regulations of the Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Tafoya raised the issue that why is Fiesta Gardens allowed to serve and sell alcohol when it is next to the Lorraine "Grandma" Camacho Center. **Mr. Olivares** addressed his question by stating that the Fiesta Garden facility has a history of being a festival and special event facility and is gated. Because it is a gated facility, it can be control with renters in regards to alcohol consumption and security.

**Leon Hernandez** also spoke to the board regarding the ballfields in which in the past were used by the Hispanic League. On the weekend, while their sons played games the families would bring ice chest to watch and drink during the games. Mr. Hernandez was also in attendance to support the request to remove the park as well off the prohibited alcohol list.

**Jesus Olivares** also stated that every year the Parks and Recreation Department comes to the Parks Board Members to consider other parks that need to be added to the list prohibiting alcohol; such as Buttermilk due to a recent youth activity center being built adjacent to the park. Mr. Olivares mentioned to the board that he has work closely with the advisory board and they felt programs should remain non-alcoholic events. **Board Member Small** stated his desire to add Westenfield park to the prohibited list. **Board Member Taylor** also spoke of her concern for children being at the recreation center and that adult should deter alcohol at such activities. As board members we should try to promote more clean and wholesome fun. **Board Chair Castleberry** also stated she polled four recreation centers and they all felt alcohol should remain away from the centers as well as the parks adjacent to centers.

**Board Member Small** made a recommendation to City Council that the Parks Board supports the Director's decision to not allow alcohol at Parque Zaragoza. **Board Member Taylor** seconded the motion. **The motion passed favor 4-0-1. Board Member Medrano abstained.**

2. Make Recommendation to the Planning Commission on the Proposed Zoning of a Tract of Land on Town Lake from SF3 to MF6 (C14-01-0001 and C14-01-0002.

**Board Chair Castleberry** discussed the item to the other board members. The owners of 1400 East Riverside Drive have filed application to rezone the property for SF6 to MF6. The applicant is willing to grant land or an easement for continuation of the Town Lake Hike and Bike trail along the northern portion of the property. Property owners to the west, Extended Stay Hotel are obligated by site plan note to grant a similar easement if and when property owners to their east (this subject property) and west, the State of Texas- I-35 grant such easements. These four contiguous properties will provide over 1/3 mile of potential trail extension.

**Clarke Hammond**, South River City Citizens Neighborhood Association spoke to the Parks Boards in regard to applicant rezoning issue on Riverside Drive. The application is schedule to go before the Planning Commission next week. The neighborhood association is neutral on the zoning.

**Jim Bennett** spoke on behalf of his client, Bob Garrett who is proposing the development.

**Board Member Small** was concerned with the Parks Board's ability to make zoning recommendations. Board Member Kim also agreed with Member Small. After a little discussion, Board Member Kim amended the last paragraph of the resolution.

**Board Member Kim** made a motion to amended the resolution to state:

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Parks and Recreation Board supports the granting of either land or an easement along the north side of the property for extension of the trail, supports the owner's offer to meet with other property owners, and believes the rezoning will not be detrimental to any future trail extension of the trail and parkland.

**Board Member Taylor** seconded the motion. **The vote was in favor 5-0-0.**

3. Make a Recommendation Regarding Construction of Thorjussen Boat Dock at 2101 Lakeshore Drive. File No. SP-01-0078DS
4. Make a Recommendation Regarding Construction of Trilogy Boat Dock at 5026 Plaza on Lake Austin. File No. SP-01-0048DS

**Board Member Small** made the motion to approve the construction of the Throjussen and Trilogy Boat docks that meet the requirements of Land Development Code. **Board Member Taylor** seconded the motion. **The vote was in favor 5-0-0.**

#### **E. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Olivares informed the Parks Board members that the City of Austin budget is under constraints. The department might have to look into scaling down programs. No CIP projects will be affected.

At this time the department is getting more request for Dog Free Leash areas. The Department is looking into this request. Also Mr. Olivares spoke on a new proposed project at the Norwood House. This proposed project would be coming to Parks Board at a latter time as it unfolds.

At Walsh Boat Landing, the department is looking into implementing a new program sometime in May 2001. The Parks and Recreation Department Park Police and staff will help the neighborhood identify the neighbor hood boats and assist with parking matters during the summer.

**F. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Programs Committee

Rocky Medrano passed out program information to the board members. Mr. Medrano provided a summary of the Programs Committee meeting.

Land and Facilities Committee

None

Navigation Committee

None

Bond Oversight Committee

Items spoken were the Urban Transportation Bonds and synchronized street lighting. Ms. Castleberry invited board members to attend these meeting as well.

**G. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

**H.** The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.