



**Parks and Recreation Department Board
Minutes**

**January 22, 2002
Meeting**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Board was held on Tuesday, January 22, 2002 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, Jeff Francell, Rhonda Pratt, Mary Ruth Holder, Clint Small and Amy Babich

Board Members Absent: Jeb Boyt and Pablo Valdez

City Staff Present: Jesus M. Olivares, Kimberley Jamail-Mitchell, and Dina Haines

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:39 p.m. by Rosemary Castleberry, Chair.

- B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** January 8, 2002 meeting. **Board Member Small** made the motion to approve the minutes as written. **Board Member Francell** seconded the motion. **The Board was in favor 6-0-0.**

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Eric Babyak, Premier Youth Soccer Organization (PYSO) spoke to the board regarding their proposal to construct a soccer complex at Yett Creek Park.

Shawna Babyak donated time regarding PYSO proposal for Yett Creek Park.

D. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Make a Recommendation to City Council Regarding the Naming of the Pedestrian Bridge on Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail at Mopac for Roberta Crenshaw.

At the request of various citizens, the Austin Parks and Recreation Department requested permission to re-naming the Loop 1 Pedestrian Bridge over Town Lake at Mopac after Roberta Crenshaw. The land is owned by the State of Texas, Department of Transportation and at the request of PARD, the Department of Transportation agreed to the re-naming. Mr. Olivares recommended the board

determine the name they believe would be appropriate. Mr. Olivares also explained that the department will undertake a project for this area that would involve adding landscaping, cut limestone and other amenities for people to continue to gather and meet, as this place has served as meeting ground for trail users. Mr. Olivares explained that the staff believes an appropriate name for the pedestrian bridge and landscaping would be the "Roberta Crenshaw Pedestrian Walkway."

Board Members discussed the many contributions Ms. Crenshaw has made to the parks system in the city and her lifelong dedication to preserving and enhancing the parks. Board Member Small made a motion that the Parks Board recommend the pedestrian hike and bike trail at Mopac and accompanying new landscaping be re-named the "Roberta Crenshaw Pedestrian Walkway" and that the department present schematic drawings to City Council for final approval. Board Member Holder seconded the motion. The motion passed in favor 6-0-0.

2. Appoint (3) Parks Board Members to serve on the Arts & Recreation Sub-Committee.

Board Member Francell nominated 1) Mary Ruth Holder, 2) Rosemary Castleberry and 3) Rhonda Pratt to serve on the Arts and Recreation Sub-Committee. **Board Member Small** seconded the motion. **The motion passed in favor 6-0-0.**

E. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Olivares informed the board of two upcoming events and invited the board members to attend the St. Johns Community Center Grand Opening Ceremony, Sunday, January 27. Mr. Olivares also distributed the PARD 2002 Annual Report. Also discussed was the upcoming Parks Board Retreat.

Parks Board Retreat, Saturday, February 16, 2002, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at St. John's Community Center, 7500 Blessing Avenue. (North East Austin, off St. Johns Avenue, east off IH-35)

Advisory Boards Workshop, Saturday, February 23, 2002, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., South Austin Senior Activity Center, 3911 Manchaca Road

F. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Programs Committee

Board Member Pratt informed the board of upcoming boxing events to take place at Pan Am Recreation Center and Valentine dances at various recreation centers. Ms. Pratt also distributed a handout of programs forth coming at the 5th Annual National Prevention Through Recreation Services School Conference, January 31 – February 2, 2002 at the Radisson Hotel, Downtown. The conference will provide

participants an opportunity to share information about their programs for youth at risk and will include a tour of PARD Social Fabric Initiative Programs.

Land and Facilities Committee

Board Member Holder stated items discussed:

1. Naming of the pedestrian bridge at Mopac
2. Capital Austin Tennis Association's request to use Yett Creek Park or another park for a tournament tennis facility.
3. A presentation was given by Ted Siff, Austin Parks Foundation, regarding Republic Square Park.

Navigation Committee

None

G. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None

H. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:38 p.m.