

Parks and Recreation Department Board Minutes

February 12, 2002 Meeting

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Board was held on Tuesday, February 12, 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, Jeb Boyt and Pablo Valdez

Board Members Absent: Clint Small and Amy Babich

City Staff Present: Jesus M. Olivares, Kimberley Jamail-Mitchell, Victor Ovalle, Gene Faulk, Philip Salyers and Dina Haines

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Rosemary Castleberry, Chair.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES January 8, 2002 meeting. Board Member Francell made the motion to approve the minutes as amended. Board Member Pratt seconded the motion. The Board was in favor 5-0-0.

Board Member Boyd arrived at 6:37 p.m.

C. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Ted Siff, Executive Director, Austin Parks Foundation, presented the Parks and Recreation Department with a check in the amount of \$25,000 for Springdale Park.

D. PRESENTATION

Gene Faulk, Division Manager, Golf and Tennis and Philip Salyers, Project Manager, Public Works gave a presentation on the Parks and Recreation Department newest golf course, Jack Rabbit Run. The golf course will be located off HWY 71 and FM 973 east of the Bergstrom Airport. The project should be completed in the fall of 2004.

E. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Make a Recommendation to Boards and Commissions Process Review Task
Force concerning Draft of Proposed Ordinance Repealing and Replacing
Chapter 2 – 4 of the City Code regarding Boards and Commission.

No Action vote was needed.

Board Members discussed the provisions of the new ordinance concerning boards and commissions drafted by the City Legal Department and the accompanying letter from the Chair of the Boards and Commissions Process Review Task Force, Bill Spelman. Board Members stated that they felt the proposed ordinance provisions concerning the Parks and Recreation Board would make significant substantive changes to the duties of the Board concerning its role in park master planning and subsequent park use agreements. Board Members also said that the proposed ordinance would change the role of the Board in giving advice to the Parks and Recreation Department Director because it would eliminate the phrase currently in the ordinance allowing the Board Members to give advice to the "City Manager." The Members also discussed the new "sunset" provision in the proposed ordinance and stated that this should contain criteria to guide the City Auditor's office in its review of boards and commissions. Board Members Boyt and Francell stated that 5 years between sunset reviews may be too short a period of time and that the state currently provides for 12 years between sunset reviews of state agencies. Board Chair Castleberry stated that the proposed ordinance should provide for Council to appoint a new member to fill a vacancy within two months after a position becomes vacant. Board Chair Castleberry will draft a memo to the City Clerk's office containing the comments of the Board Members on the proposed ordinance and will also send her comments to the members.

F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Olivares introduced Victor Ovalle to the board members. Mr. Ovalle is the Parks and Recreation department's Public Information Manager. Mr. Olivares also updated the board on various matters regarding Balcones Canyonland Preserves. Also discussed was Maintenance Audit Report, in which will be distributed to the parks board members the week of February 19, 2002.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs Committee

Senior Activity Programs brochure was distributed.

Land and Facilities Committee

Item discussed at February 5, 2002 meeting.

1. Town Lake Park Art in Public Places, (AIPP), project

Navigation Committee

None

H. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS None

I. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:33 p.m.