



**Parks and Recreation Board
Minutes**

**July 22, 2003
Meeting**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, July 22, 2003 at the Parks and Recreation Department Main Office, 200 S. Lamar, Board Room.

Board Members Present: Rosemary Castleberry, Pablo Valdez, Jeb Boyt, Marilyn Bostick, Jeff Francell, Linda Guerrero, Mary Ruth Holder, Amy Babich and Clint Small.

Board Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Jesus M. Olivares, Kim Jamail, Stuart Strong, Warren Struss, Randy Scott, Brian Robinson, Darryl Lewis, Chuck Lesniak, Joe Word, Stan Evans and Dina Haines.

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Rosemary Castleberry, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES, July 8, 2003

Board Member Valdez made the motion to approve the minutes as written. **Board Member Boyt** seconded the motion. **The vote was in favor 5-3-0.** (three board members abstained)

C. PRESENTATIONS

Mabel Davis Park Clean Up Presentation

Chuck Lesniak, Environmental Engineer, Watershed Protection Department gave a presentation to the Park Board regarding the clean up project proposed for Mabel Davis Park. Mr. Lesniak stated in 1944 to 1955 the property was leased from St. Edwards University and operated as a municipal landfill. In 1974, the City of Austin acquired the land for park development. As contractors were preparing the ballfield they found pesticides and battery casings. After more testing the park was closed in 2000 as a result of the contamination. **Joe Word**, Landfill Engineer, Solid Waste Services Department, spoke on clean up efforts

that are proposed. Some of the work proposed will include creek re-channel design and redesign of the erosion control and water flow. The construction phase is set to begin in February/March 2004 and plans to have the park reopened are proposed for June 2005.

Board Member Small left the meeting during the Mabel Davis Park presentation at 7:09 p.m.

American Youth Work Presentation

Richard Halpin, Executive Director, American Youth Works introduced a program that offers opportunities for 17 to 25 year olds to serve the Austin community by participation in the restoration and preservation of parks and trail construction. While in the program, many youth pursue their individual educational goals, such as earning their High School Diploma or GED from the American Youth Works Charter School. American Youth Works has partnered with PARD on many projects and assisted with trail design, new trails, brush removal and park improvements.

D. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Make a Recommendation Regarding the Construction of Bell Boat Dock at 3002 Scenic Drive. File No. SP-01-0251DS

Board Member Valdez stated this dock was not built in accordance with approved site plan. The owners have not complied with the site plan submitted. At the present time the dock is red tagged. This is the third time this site plan variance has been back to Parks Board.

Board Member Valdez made to motion to deny the variance request. **Board Member Boyt** seconded the motion. **The motion was in favor for denial 8-0-0.**

2. Make a Recommendation Regarding the Construction of Bordelon Boat Dock at 2910 Edgewater Drive. File No. SP-03-0115DS

Board Member Valdez recommended to reduce the width of this dock by 3' feet and to reduce the extension into the lake by 20' feet. With these changes, the navigation committee recommended approval.

Board Member Valdez made the motion to approve the construction of Bordelon boat dock contingent upon the amended design changes proposed by the navigation committee. **Board Member Francell** seconded the motion. **The motion passed in favor 6-1-1.** (Babich opposed and Holder abstained)

3. Make a Recommendation to City Council on the Austin Clean Water Project at Bartholomew Park.

Karen Poff, Project Manager, Earthtech was present and made a brief presentation. The proposed 24-inch sanitary sewer line in Bartholomew Park replaces an existing 15-inch line and connects to existing 24-inch line located in the park. The construction of the sanitary sewer line will require a 20-foot wide permanent easement and a 15-foot wide temporary workspace easement. The project is an EPA administrative order requiring the city to take corrective action to improve the sanitary sewer overflows. The project is scheduled to begin construction in July 2004 and end in December 2005. One tree will be removed and all disturbed land will be restored and revegetated.

Board Member Holder made a recommendation to City Council in favor of this project at Bartholomew Park with the following conditions: Staging area to be located on the west side of park, stream bank to be restored, two water taps placed at the rest room and pool, football field to be stabilized and the contractor work with disc golfer community to inform them of the project. Board Member Valdez seconded the motion. **The motion passed in favor 8-0-0.**

4. Make a Recommendation to City Council on the Austin Clean Water Project at Shoal Creek Park.

Stan Evan, Project Manager with Public Works Department gave a brief presentation to the Board. Mr. Evans requested permanent and temporary use agreements for construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed 66-inch wastewater tunnel and for several Wastewater repairs and improvements. The proposed wastewater work within parkland consists of the construction of a main work shaft adjacent to 29th Street bridge and an exit shaft north of West 34th Street and a 66-inch gravity wastewater line tunnel between the shafts. The project is projected to begin January 2004, with completion in the summer of 2005.

Board Member Holder made a motion to recommend to City Council to approve the three projects along Shoal Creek Park with the understanding that the project from 29th Street to 34th Street will include the following actions by the Water and Wastewater Utility Department as mitigation: (1) construct a low water crossing as identified by PARD; (2) all disturbed vegetation will be restored; (3) any trees that might be damaged or removed will be replaced and (4) bicycle traffic in this area will be re-routed during construction per PARD direction. Also, for the project from 25th to 29th Streets, the Water and Wastewater Utility Department will restore the trail according to PARD's specification and WWU will construct a low water creek crossing as identified by PARD. **Board Member Boyt** seconded the motion. **The motion passed in favor 8-0-0.**

E. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Board Chair Castleberry informed the citizens that the Parks Board had made a motion, July 8, 2003 regarding Casa de Luz patrons parking on Toomey Road parking lots. She stated this matter is now a code enforcement matter to be addressed by City of Austin Neighborhood Planning and Zoning Department.

Board Member Francell made a motion to not allow citizens to 'swap time'. **Board Member Bostick** seconded the motion. **The motion passed in favor 7-0-1. (Valdez opposed)**

Randy Storm invited board members to attend the play "Crazy for You" playing at the Zilker Hillside Theater.

Brian Buchner spoke in support of Casa de Luz.

Charlie Llewelcin spoke in support of Casa de Luz.

Joe Perez spoke on matters regarding the Holly Power Plant, Camacho Recreation Center, Metz mural at the pool and hike and bike trail concerns.

Dennis Higgins spoke in support of Casa de Luz.

Joe Bruno (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.

Boyd Tracy spoke in support of Casa de Luz.

Bruce Mortimer Shotkin spoke in support of Casa de Luz.

Murti, Owner, Healing in Yoga, spoke in support of Casa de Luz. Murti teaches yoga at Casa de Luz.

Board Member Babich left the meeting during Citizen Communication at 8:34 p.m.

Kata Linfortu spoke in support of Casa de Luz.

Susannah Kirksey spoke in support of Casa de Luz.

Michael Dennaj (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.

Francesca de Frapolli spoke in support of Casa de Luz.

Asher Trimble spoke in support of Casa de Luz. He stated he would pay to have a parking permit.

Sunny Broam (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.

Russ Smith spoke in support of Casa de Luz.

Ernie Fortenberry (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.

Clarita Roccobono spoke in support of Casa de Luz.

Earlynn McIntyer did not wish to speak, but was in support of Casa de Luz.

Mary Faris (did not wish to speak) but was in support of Casa de Luz.

Lara Foss spoke in support of Casa de Luz.

Ross Richard-Crow (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.

Jane Richard-Crow (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.

Robert Stevenson, Manager, Casa de Luz. He requested Casa de Luz be allowed to pay small fee to park at Toomey Road parking lot.

Morgan Jones spoke in support of Casa de Luz.
Michael Kelly spoke in support of Casa de Luz.
Mireille Fornengs spoke in support of Casa de Luz.
Dan, Cathy, Katie Belle and Luke O'Quinn (left before citizen communication) were in support of Casa de Luz.
Russell J. Chalk, Attorney at Law spoke in support of Casa de Luz. Mr. Chalk provided a copy of the letter he sent to Mayor Will Wynn.
John McDowell (did not wish to speak) but was in support of Casa de Luz.
Joy Linam spoke in support of Casa de Luz.
Julie Keim (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.
Amy Clift spoke in support of Casa de Luz. Ms. Clift said she would pay for parking permit to park on Toomey Road.
Patricie A. Wilson (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.
Joel Heller (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.
Edwardo Longoria spoke in support of Casa de Luz.
Cheryl Chunco (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.
David Christopher spoke in support of Casa de Luz.
Thomas R. Flynn (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.
Colette Zygmunt (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.
Mike Ford (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.
Cathy Leman spoke in support of Casa de Luz. Ms. Leman said she would pay for parking permit to park on Toomey Road.
Kate Mays spoke in support of Casa de Luz.
Mary Schneider (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.
Andrea Plowman (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.
Charese Lande (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.
Rowena Caldwell was not present to speak due to health concerns, but left a letter in support of Casa de Luz.
John Corry spoke in support of Casa de Luz.
Elena Reaser (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.
John Schwarzschild (left before citizen communication) was in support of Casa de Luz.
Roberta Hill spoke in support of Casa de Luz.
Kaade Roberts spoke in support of Casa de Luz.

F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Olivares informed the Parks Board of a memo which was distributed to Mayor Wynn and Council Members informing them of the parking matter on Toomey Road. The parking lots along Toomey Road were built to serve Butler and Wright ballfields patrons. Neighborhood, Planning and Zoning Department is working with

area business owners to address the business that is not in compliance with City Code.

Mr. Olivares informed the Board that the PARD Budget Presentation would be presented to council during the City Council Meeting, Thursday, August 14, 2003.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs Committee

None

Land & Facilities Committee

None

Navigation Committee

None

H. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Jeff Francell informed the Board of a (senate) bill filed to sell Common Ford Ranch.

I. ADJOURED

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:45 p.m.