

DRAFT



Parks and Recreation Board Minutes

**September 23, 2003
Meeting**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, September 23, 2003 at the Parks and Recreation Department Main Office, 200 South Lamar, Board Room.

Board Members Present: Rosemary Castleberry, Pablo Valdez, Jeb Boyt, Jeff Francell, Linda Guerrero, and Clint Small.

Board Members Absent: Marilyn Bostick

City Staff Present: Jesus M. Olivares, Kim Jamail, Jay Stone, Randy Scott, Paulinda Mackie and Dina Haines.

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Rosemary Castleberry, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:44 p.m.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES, August 26, 2003

Board Member Small made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Board Member Boyt seconded the motion. The vote was in favor 5-0-0.

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Richard Viktorin spoke on his concerns of Balcones Preserve Canyonland trails (BCP). He would like the parks board chair to appoint a parks board member who has specific interest in trails to serve on BCP Citizens Advisory Committee.

Scott Johnson updated the board on his proposal pertaining to the Tree Planting Fund on the Austin Energy electric bill. Mr. Johnson would like to the funds spilt between the Parks and Library departments.

Joyce Basciano, Chairman, Urban Forestry Board spoke on her concerns of the Libraries and Parks Departments Enhancement fund. She requests the Parks Board,

Urban Forestry Board and Library Commission Chairs be allowed to review the final plan before it is finalized. The 'Tree Planting Fund' was created 13 years ago by Austin Energy to enhance the trees in Austin. The reasoning behind the tree-planting funds are that trees provides an energy conservation measure and Austin Energy was looking for something compatible to AE goal. Libraries have nothing to do with tree conservation.

Leonard Lyons spoke against Mr. Johnson's proposal. Mr. Lyons stated he had attended all meetings and felt the concept needs more input from the three boards, Parks, Forestry and Library Commission.

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 Small stated that this dock had been red-tagged due to navigational issues. Mr. Small also stated that the navigation committee had received a letter from the up-stream property owner agreeing to the as-built Bell dock. A "Restricted Covenant" was filed prohibiting any more boat docks on the property. Mr. Small noted that the property survey might not have been correct when the original site plan was filed.

Board Member Small made the motion to approve the Bell boat dock at 3002 Scenic Drive as it currently is built. **Board Member Boyt** seconded the motion. **The motion passed in favor 5-0-0.**

2. Make a Recommendation to the Director on Construction of a Sidewalk on Parkland at Caswell Tennis Center.

The project consists of installing a 5-foot sidewalk to the Caswell Tennis Center on the east side of Lamar from Martin Luther King Jr. to 29th Street. The adjacent parkland will be restored to equal or better condition and the contractor will take every precaution to safeguard trees. No trees will be removed. The sidewalk will go around two trees to complete the project.

Julie Hastings, Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam, Inc., (LAN) Project Consultant and **Paulinda Mackie**, Project Manager, Public Works Department were present to answer questions.

Board Member Francell made the recommendation to the Director to approve the construction of the sidewalk on Caswell Tennis Center parkland. **Board Member Boyt** seconded the motion. **The motion passed in favor 5-0-0.**

3. Set a Date for Parks Board Retreat.

Tuesday, November 18 at 6:00 p.m. in PARD Board Room

E. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Olivares updated the board on the Austin City Limits concert. He stated some cars were towed from parking on the Johnston Creek Trail. The concert was a great success.

Austin Energy will assist PARD with the cost of re-planting ten 10" caliber trees for Deep Eddy Pool.

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs Committee

Board Member Guerrero informed the board the Summer Teen Academy program is being cut due to the budget saving measures. She also spoke on the success of the Go Girl Go Program.

Land & Facilities Committee

The West Austin Park request for a permanent leash free area for dogs was discussed.

Navigation Committee

The Bell boat dock item was discussed.

G. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

A request to link the Parks Board members' web page information to be linked to the PARD web page.

H. ADJOURNED

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:10 p.m.