



Parks and Recreation Department Board Minutes
Tuesday, June 28, 2005
Meeting

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Parks Board was held on Tuesday, June 28, 2005 at the Parks and Recreation Department Main Office, 200 S. Lamar, Blvd. Board Room

Board members present: Board Chair Rosemary Castleberry, Marilyn Bostick, Leonard Lyons, Clint Small, Mark Vane, Jeff Francell and Hector Ortiz.

Board members absent: Board Vice-chair Linda Guerrero and Jeb Boyt.

Staff members present: Warren Struss, Jay Stone, Cora Wright, Farhad Madani, Stuart Strong and Bianca Garza.

A. Meeting called to order

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Rosemary Castleberry at 6:35 p.m.

B. Approval of the minutes

Board member Boyt moved to approve the minutes seconded by Board member Small. Motion passed.

C. Citizen Communication – N/A

D. Presentation

Due to the forthcoming bond election a departmental needs assessment package was presented to the Board. Assistant Director Strong outlined the department's most critical needs which includes renovations and maintenance needs totaling \$78.2 million dollars. City-wide the amount is \$104.3 million. The breakdown of PARD needs are as follows: 1) \$35.3 million is needed for pools to comply with various regulations, repairing of leaks and shell replacements and replacing of failing decks, 2) \$31.2 million is needed for infrastructure which includes playscapes, hike and bike restoration and sports facilities and 3) \$11.6 million is needed for Facility improvements which includes compliance with regulation, roof repairs and replacement, heating ventilation air conditioning systems, parkland development and renovations and historic restorations.

Director Struss emphasized the importance of securing new parkland now to meet the needs of our future patrons (\$50 million as been requested for parkland acquisition). He reminded everyone that the bond oversight committee will be reviewing the parkland acquisition needs and all other projects through November 2005. In November, the Bond Oversight Committee will make their recommendation to the City Council. The election will be held in May 2006. Board member Small suggested that the Board should make a formal recommendation to the Bond Oversight Committee in support of the bond package.

E. Items for action – N/A

F. Items for Information – N/A

G. Director's Report

Director Struss reported on the following:

- The Juneteenth celebration and parade was highly successful.
- The Balcones Canyonland proposal (regarding the 70ft easement) has been approved by City Council.
- The Summer Playgrounds opening ceremony was a huge success with over 1,150 kids participating. Mayor Wynn joined in the walk from Butler Field to Auditorium Shores.
- July was proclaimed as National Recreation and Parks Month by the Mayor.
- Urban park systems throughout the country are experiencing diminishing funds and federal, state, regional and county dollars are drying up. As a result, Public/Private partnerships are becoming more prominent in providing funding.
- AISD is interesting in a joint use partnership at Colony Park with respect to Turner Roberts Recreation Center. Dialogue continues with them and further information will be forthcoming.
- City Council has approved some of the destination park money to design and construct a disc golf course on parkland at 51st and Hwy 183.
- The annual report for 2004 will be distributed at the next parks board meeting.
- An attendance report will be submitted to the board in the near future.

H. Committee Reports

Programs – N/A

Land and Facilities – N/A

Navigation – St. Tropez discussion is forthcoming possibly at the next board meeting

I. Items from Board Members – N/A

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.