



Parks and Recreation Department Board Minutes
Tuesday, March 28, 2006
Meeting

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Parks Board was held on Tuesday, March 28, 2006 at the Board and Commissions Conference Room, 301 W. 2nd St. Room 1101.

Board members present: Board Chair Linda Guerrero, Vice-chair Jeb Boyt, Secretary/Parliamentarian Mark Vane, Marilyn Bostick, Clint Small, Jeff Francell and Rosemary Castleberry.

Board members absent: Hector Ortiz and Leonard Lyons

Staff members present: Warren Struss, Randy Scott, Ricardo Solis, Cora Wright and Tino Garcia.

A. Meeting called to order

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

B. Approval of the minutes from the February 28, 2006 meeting.

Board Member Small moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Board Member Bostick. Motion carried with the following correction – www.bcpcas.org to www.bcpcac.org.

C. Citizen Communication

Jim VonWolski, opposed to the construction of the wave break, thanked the Board for pulling agenda item #6 and taking a second look at the issue.

D. Presentation – Briefing on the stakeholder process for Turkey Creek Trail

Ricardo Solis, Division Manager, Planning, Design and Construction, reported on the nature trail at Turkey Creek Park. He provided a list of potential task force members whose objective is to look at the issues and come up with a recommendation within the next 6 months. The first meeting will be held in April with a full board presentation in September. It was suggested that dog owners and members of the bike community be asked to participate in the task force.

E. Items for Action

Board Member Small suggested that item #5 be discussed first.

5. Make a recommendation to the Zoning and Platting Commission on the proposed CR (Commercial Recreation) zoning at 1703 River Hills Rd.

Board member Francell reported that the Navigation Committee has been looking into the issue for the last several months but indicated that the Board needs more definitive information regarding lake usage. He reiterated the need to have a lake traffic study done. He offered the following resolution: (see attached). Board Member Francell moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Board Member Bostick, Motion carried 6-0. In a follow-up action, Board Member Small moved to reconsider the approval of the resolution previously adopted, seconded by Board Member Vane. Motion carried 6-0.

Joe Lymont, Lake Resident, asked the Board if the zoning proposal was proceeding as planned. Board Member Francell responded that Zoning and Platting had asked the Parks Board to review the issue and approve the zoning plan. He indicated that the Navigation committee has approved the change as long as the Pier stays true to the proposal, which is renovating the restaurant and providing for 180 boat slips. In an effort to reduce proliferation of other facilities on the lake, future zoning changes must be approved by the Board. Board Member Small further added that the issue will be revisited by the Board for discussion and final approval.

Jeanie Hargerty indicated that she is in favor of the restaurant renovation at the Pier, but is opposed to the dry boat storage.

Eric Moreland, Pier Partner, reiterated his request that the Board still support the project.

Jim VonWolski is still opposed to the zoning request.

Board Member Boyt indicated that he has some concerns about the project and that the project is out of scale for the lake.

Board Member Francell would like to see revisions to the Land Development Code restricting this kind of facility. He moved to approve the resolution as read, seconded by Board Member Bostick. Motion carried 6-1 with Board Member Boyt in opposition.

1. Make a recommendation to City Council on naming Morrison Ranch Tract to "John Trevino Jr. Park at Morrison Ranch".

Ricardo Solis, Division Manager, provided a map of the 250 acre park along the Colorado River. He indicated that the Board has received many letters of support for the naming of the park.

Hermelinda Zamarripa provided the Board with a summary of Mr. Trevino's many accomplishments in civic, public and private life.

Rebecca Cobos spoke in favor of the naming of Morrison Ranch Tract for Mr. Trevino. She also provided the Board with a list of Mr. Trevino's accomplishments.

Jim VonWolski indicated that perhaps buildings and other facilities should be named after persons after they have been deceased.

Board Member Boyt reported on the meeting at Pan Am Recreation Center, and announced that they received many letters of support for Mr. Trevino. He informed the Board that the Land and Facilities committee has voted in favor of the naming of the site. Board Chair Guerrero indicated that she also was in favor of the proposal. Board Member Boyt moved for approval, seconded by Board Member Castleberry.

Board Member Francell indicated support for the naming, but is concerned that there is no master plan for the property. As a result, he indicated he would abstain from the voting.

Board Member Small shares Board Member Francell concerns as well. He asked the family to be aware that there are no current plans for the property as of yet. Ms. Cobos reported that she was aware of options and would support the stakeholder process for development of the park. Dr. Charles Rx (sp) reported on the discussion of the many possibilities for the park, but indicated that the family is confident that the City will develop the park appropriately. So the record will reflect that supporters and family members were specifically asked if they were concerned that future plans for the property have not been developed or decided and that they were not concerned. The family has indicated that they have faith in the system to develop a plan for the property that will be in the best interests of the Austin community and that they do not have any preconceived ideas as to the planned future use of the property. The vote was taken and the motion was approved with Board Member Francell abstaining.

2. Presentation and action on recommending to the Director of Parks and Recreation a conceptual plan and placement of a Cancer Survivor Park by the H & R Block Foundation.

Staff has met with Block Foundation personnel to look into possible sites for the cancer survivor park. Two locations are currently under review. Block Foundation criteria for the park is 1) large traffic visibility and 2) a minimum of 1.5 acres. The two sites under review do not meet the criteria. Board Member Vane asked if the Survivor Park idea/concept would in any way change other planned events for the site. Director Struss indicated that the design of the park will have to integrate with other park programming uses. Board Member Francell reminded that Board that through naming rights, the department could receive considerable revenue to operate parks and other facilities. Board Member Boyt moved to continue to do preliminary exploration of the site and to

consider the concept of building a cancer survivor park in conjunction with the Block Foundation, seconded by Board Member Francell. Motion carried 6-0.

3. Consideration of Resolution that supports the construction of a private velodrome outside of Central Austin parkland.

Director Struss reported that he had spoken to Todd Reed, Director of the Austin Velodrome Project, about the concept. Mr. Reed has requested postponement of the item until a presentation can be provided. Several of the board members expressed concern about the velodrome being placed in a central Austin location and that maybe other parks may be more appropriate. Board Member Small recommended that the agenda item go to Land and Facilities for further review. Board Member Vane withdrew the item and concurred that it go to subcommittee for review.

4. Approve the construction of a single-slip boat dock at Lake Austin, 10806 River Terrace Dr.

Board Member Small said the proposal exceeds the 20% rule, therefore moved to not approve the construction of a single-slip boat dock at Lake Austin, 10806 River Terrace Dr, seconded by Board Member Francell. Motion carried, 6-0.

F. Director's Report

Director Struss reported on the following:

- (5) Little League openings
- Garden Fest
- Kite Tournament
- Capital 10K

G. Items from Board Members

Navigation committee - Board Member Small reiterated that staff look into possible revisions to the Code and also recommended that the Department initiate another informal lake study. Director Struss concurred that a lake study is needed.

Land and Facilities – Board Member Boyt reported on the other letters of support received for the naming of facilities for the “Trails of Tejano Legends” theme.

Programs subcommittee – Board Member Rosemary Castleberry announced that Eggstravaganza will be held at House Park Stadium and informed the Board about a program called Recruit, Educate and Promote. This program promotes recruitment at universities and other community events.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.