



**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**  
Tuesday, May 22, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.  
**Boards and Commissions Room, City Hall**  
301 W. Second Street  
Austin, Texas 78701

## **MINUTES**

### **A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Rivera called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

#### Board Members in Attendance:

Jane Rivera, Chair; Rick Cofer, Vice Chair; Richard DePalma, Tom Donovan, Dawn Lewis, Francoise Luca, Randy Mann, Fred Morgan, and Frank Ward

#### Board Members Absent:

Michael Casias  
Romteen Farasat

### **B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **1. Approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting of April 24, 2018.**

Board Member DePalma made a motion to approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board regular meeting of April 24, 2018. Board Member Morgan seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 9-0 with Board Members Casias and Farasat absent.

### **C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

**Mike Cannatti** addressed the Board and spoke about the upcoming bond election and encouraged the Board to ask that some funding for Barton Springs Bathhouse Project is allocated.

**Bill Nalle, Bunny Run Neighborhood Association**, described upcoming PUD in his neighborhood on Lake Austin and spoke against it.

**Ed Uecker, Bunny Run Neighborhood**, spoke about a trail leading to the overlook in the upcoming revised PUD and highlighted the challenges with extending the trail to the overlook.

**Bill Bunch, Save Our Springs Alliance**, spoke about protecting Barton Springs for recreation and water supply and expressed his concerns about posting of item D. 2. and about Waller Creek Park TIF on Council agenda.

## **D. NEW BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS**

### **Non-consent**

### **2. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the Stratford Drive Redevelopment Project**

Reynaldo Hernandez, Division Manager, Tony Arnold, Project Manager, Parks and Recreation Department, and Scott Smiley, Vice President, Atkins Engineering, made a presentation to the Board regarding the Stratford Drive Redevelopment Project and answered Board Members' questions.

**Mark Gentle, President of Barton Hills - Horseshoe Bend Association**, expressed his concern about lack of citizen input regarding this project and about the impact of large events in Zilker Park.

**Mike Cannatti**, described the advantages of the proposed project and spoke in support.

**Kathryn Meesner, Zilker Neighborhood Association**, donated time to **Gale Rothe**.

**Gale Rothe, Zilker Neighborhood Association**, presented the neighborhood's feedback and comments on the plan. Ms. Rothe advocated for more green space.

**Bobby Levinski, Save Our Springs**, donated time to **Bill Bunch**.

**Bill Bunch, Save Our Springs**, addressed the Board and expressed his concern about the project and addressed environmental issues. Mr. Bunch also noted that Open Meetings Act requires public notice and greater detail in postings.

**John Rooney, Austin Parks Foundation**, voiced support for the proposed project and explained its benefits.

**Marion Alsup, Austin Area Garden Center**, expressed full support for the project and explained the need for more parking at the Zilker Botanical Garden.

Chair Rivera moved that the Board takes no action at this time; the Board would like to hear the feedback from the Environmental Commission and from the City staff again, and would like to postpone the action to a future meeting. Board Member DePalma seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 9-0 with Board Members Casias and Farasat absent.

**Chair Rivera called a recess at 7:48 p.m. Chair called the meeting back to order at 8:05 p.m.**

### **3. Staff presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding FY2019 Budget and Board recommendation regarding funding priorities**

Suzanne Piper, Acting Division Manager, and David Hillers, Financial Analyst, Parks and Recreation Department, made a presentation to the Board regarding the FY2019 Budget.

Vice Chair Cofer introduced his recommendation to the Council regarding funding priorities.

Chair Rivera moved to approve the recommendation no. 20180522-003 and adding \$50,000 for ADA operational costs. Board Member Mann seconded the motion.

**Mike Cannatti**, addressed the Board and advocated for adding \$200,000 for the Barton Springs Pool Upper Dam Feasibility Study to the proposed recommendation.

Board Member DePalma proposed amending the recommendation and adding a request for \$50,000 for ADA operational costs. Board Member Lewis proposed amending the recommendation and adding a request for additional \$200,000 for the Barton Springs Pool Upper Dam Feasibility Study. The recommendation was approved with amendments on a vote of 9-0 with Board Members Casias and Farasat absent.

#### **4. Make a Discussion and possible action on recommended funding levels for aquatics in the proposed 2018 City of Austin Bond Election**

Rick Cofer, Vice Chair, Parks and Recreation Board described his recommendation regarding funding levels for aquatics in the proposed 2018 City of Austin Bond Election.

Board Member DePalma proposed increasing the request for bond funding for aquatics to \$68 million and adding \$8 million to the request for a new pool construction in Southwest Austin.

Vice Chair Cofer moved to approve the recommendation with amendment. Board Member Mann seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 9-0 with Board Members Casias and Farasat absent.

### **E. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

#### **5. Briefing on the public private partnership with the Zilker Botanical Garden and the Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy**

Amanda Ross, Division Manager, and Cynthia Klemmer, Environmental Conservation Program Manager, Parks and Recreation Department, and Jeff Pavlat, Interim Executive Director, Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy briefed the Board on the public private partnership with the Zilker Botanical Garden and the Zilker Botanical Garden Conservancy and answered Board Members' questions.

### **G. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Kimberly McNeeley, Acting Director, Austin Parks and Recreation Department, updated the Board on the master plan efforts, park development, ongoing maintenance projects, and upcoming programs and events.

### **H. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Mann— presentation on how PARD is serving the youth in community and how they address changing needs (August or Fall 2018)

Rivera—requested information on how the Camelback PUD from the Citizen Communication will impact parks

Board Member Ward—requested numbers regarding how many children are not being served by PARD programs because of the lack of funding and how much funding would be needed

Vice Chair DePalma—requested update on Norwood House and on Oakwood Cemetery

Vice Chair DePalma—requested information on how PARD can add summer camps in other locations and having a sliding scale fee using and perhaps using elementary schools and middle schools during summer for camps

## **I. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Rivera adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m.