

Minutes  
November 10, 1992  
Parks and Recreation Board  
Givens Recreation Center

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on November 10, 1992 at 6:30 p.m. at the Givens Recreation Center, 3911 East 12th Street. Board Members present: Neil Iscoe, Erma Linda Cruz-Torres, Eleanor McKinney, Beverly Griffith, Albert Black, Ron Cartlidge, and Eliza May. PARD staff present: Michael J. Heitz, Jesus M. Olivares, Robert Sopronyi, Heather Griffith Peterson, Jim Jacksits, Tana Goodwill, Jim Halbrook, Jody Hamilton and Dolores Posada. Water and Wastewater staff: Jim Clarno and Chris Lippe. Environmental and Conservation Services staff: Chuck Sexton.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. with Reverend Sterling Lands presiding.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation

The certificate of appreciation to CHUY'S will be presented at a later date.

Reverend Lands, on behalf of the entire Parks and Recreation Board, presented Beverly Griffith with a plaque for her service as past Chairperson of the Board.

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Robert L. Thomas addressed the Board about his concerns about the management of Rosewood Recreation Center.

Helga Williams addressed the Board about her concerns for Zilker Park and the need for a Zilker Park master plan.

Rosemary Castleberry addressed the Board about the displacement of a teen program at the Montopolis Recreation Center to accommodate a Montessori program for young children.

Ric Casteneda, South Austin Optimists, addressed the Board about permission for construction of a new concession stand at the Little League ballfields in Garrison park.

Bill Padgett, Youth Athletic Council addressed the Board in support of the South Austin Optimists request for the new construction in Garrison park. He also addressed the need for coordination of youth sports.

**ITEMS FOR ACTION**

Items for Initial Consideration

### Approve Revisions to Use Agreement (Easement) Policy

Mike Heitz discussed with the Board changing the wording from "easement" to "use" agreement. This will provide the department with needed flexibility to establish fees for use of park land.

Mary Arnold addressed the Parks Board about the interpretation of "taking of park land" for an easement without a recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Board. She felt that it was essential that the Parks Board make a recommendation before a public hearing is held at City Council. Ms. Arnold also recommended that the use of parkland should be an ordinance instead of a resolution. This would prevent changes from being made without sufficient public notice.

Eliza May moved and Neil Iscoe seconded a motion to table this issue. The motion passed 8-0.

### Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan

Dr. Chuck Sexton made a presentation to the Board on the final draft of the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan. All of the City's boards and commissions are currently reviewing this plan and comments are due back by mid-January.

### Approve Use Agreement (Easement) for South Austin Outfall Phase II

Jim Clarno and Chris Lippe from the Water and Wastewater Utility addressed the Board and updated them on the presentation to the Environmental Board at the Parks Board's request. Service Area to be served and the current need for additional capacity has been reviewed and the size of the line could be reduced from 48" to 42". The cost to redesign however would make the change cost prohibitive.

Mary Arnold also addressed the Board with concerns about the scope and need for the project.

Neil Iscoe moved and Eliza May seconded the following motion:

Whereas Section 26.001 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code states in part that:

- (a) [a] Municipality of this state may not approve any program or project that requires the use or taking of any public land designated and used prior to the arrangement of the program or project as a park, recreation area, scientific area, wildlife refuge, or historic site, unless the municipality acting through its duly authorized governing body or officer determines that
  - (1) there is no feasible and prudent alternative to use or taking of such land; and
  - (2) the program or project includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to the land as a park, recreation area, scientific area, wildlife refuge, or historic site, resulting from the use or taking.



- (c) the governing body...shall consider clearly enunciated local preferences...

and Whereas the feasible and prudent alternatives have NOT been fully examined.

1. No current study has been done of wastewater disposal alternatives for areas proposed for service by the South Austin Outfall Phase II involving other than a city collective sewer system.
2. Operation records of lift stations do not show any extraordinary dangers in terms of lift station failures based on current flows.

and Whereas conditions have changed since the 1985-86 original engineering study justifying "need" for the project. There is no clear and present danger to public health and welfare.

and Whereas the Parks Board is greatly concerned about the impact of the construction of the line and is specifically concerned about:

1. Loss of use of portions of Zilker Park during construction.
2. An open cut across Barton Creek for sewer line crossing close to Town Lake.
3. Impacts during and after construction (including effects of tunneling):
  - 3.1 on archaeological remains
  - 3.2 on possible dinosaur remains
  - 3.3 on trees in area - any cutting of roots during construction
  - 3.4 on hydrogeology of area -- i.e., possible leaks into faults or crevices that would lead back to pool/aquifer
  - 3.5 on Barton Springs Salamander

and Whereas the Parks and Recreation Department Board is greatly concerned about the impacts of development that would be served by the line on the following:

1. The Endangered Species Habitat (Habitat impacts of utility extensions per EPA)
2. The Acquisition of Barton Creek Greenway lands
3. The existing Barton Creek Greenbelt, Barton Creek and Barton Springs Pool

and Whereas the election that approved funds for Barton Creek Greenbelt acquisition in 1975 also rejected a wastewater proposition that included the South Austin Outfall.

and Whereas the Parks Board views the August 8 election as representative of "clearly enunciated local preferences" and finds those preferences contrary to the goal of Phase II of the South Austin Outfall. The Parks Board finds that project has NOT received specific voter approval.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Parks and Recreation Board:

1. Does not believe that there is a legal and urgent need to proceed at this time with the project as currently proposed.
2. Is concerned that impacts of South Austin Outfall Phase II seem contrary to the "clearly enunciated local preferences" expressed on August 8 with approval of bond funds for Barton Creek Greenway land acquisition, Habitat conservation land acquisition and enactment of SOS ordinance.
3. Urges the Council to consider, at least, the following alternatives:
  - 3.1 Consider whether the 1987 "service area" (per Council resolution) for the South Austin Outfall Phase II should be amended to better reflect current voter preferences.
  - 3.2 Consider seeking voter approval or disapproval for the South Austin Outfall Phase II.
  - 3.3 Update analysis of alternate wastewater disposal methods for areas proposed to be served by additional capacity of South Austin Outfall Phase II.
  - 3.4 Utilize City's Hornsby Bend Environmental Center for research regarding on-site systems.
  - 3.5 Coordinate with ongoing Barton Creek Study in Environmental and Conservation Services Dept.
  - 3.6 Analyze possible results of \$1.5 m wastewater capital project for rehabilitation of sewer lines in Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone in relation to "need" for South Austin Outfall project.
  - 3.7 Consider targeting new 1.6 gallon toilet retrofit program in areas currently served through Zilker and Barton Creek lift stations.

The motion passed 8-0 with 1 Board Member absent.

**Public Hearing: Concession Policy**

Heather Griffith Peterson made a presentation to the Board on the proposed Concession Policy.

Dick Kallerman addressed the Board in opposition to any additional concessions on parkland.

**Recommend to Council a Concession Policy**

This item was held over to the November 24, 1992 meeting.

**Approve Proposed Amendments to the Land Development Code, Part E: Requirements for Construction of Boat Docks**



Ron Cartlidge, Chair of the Navigation Committee, reported that the Navigation Committee had reviewed the proposed amendment and recommended approval. The motion required no second and passed 6-0.

#### Approve ByLaws Revisions

The By Laws Committee reviewed the two proposed changes and recommended approval of the change to Article 3 Section 3 and recommended denial of the change to Article 5 Section 1. The motion passed 6-0.

#### **Change: Article III, Section 3**

"Appointments shall be made in June of each year for a two year period, with the Board Members to assume their duties at the first regular meeting in June of each year. A term will expire June 1 of the second year thereafter. If the City Council does not make appointments in June for any reason, the Board Member may continue to fulfill that slot on the Board until the new appointment is made. Five members will be appointed in odd numbered years and four members in even numbered years."

To:

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Article V, Section 1 - will remain as currently written.

"The regular meetings of the Board shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesday nights of each month, unless otherwise determined by the Board. Additional information meetings for Board Members may be scheduled by the Chairperson, but these meetings are not considered regular meetings for attendance purposes and no business will be conducted."

#### Review 1991-92 Goals and Draft 1992-93 Goals

This item was tabled to the November 24, 1992 meeting.

#### Approve Request for Development of Subject Files on Board Items for Action

Reverend Lands reported that in order to accurately prepare the upcoming audit of the Parks Board, the City's Internal Auditors have entered all items from Parks Board Agendas into a database. The Auditors will make the database available to staff for continued updating of the database.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the regular meeting held on October 27, 1992 were approved 6-0.

#### **ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Eliza May requested that the Audit Report, report on the Mexican American Cultural Center Task Force, and Dove Springs Pool be on the November 24, 1992 agenda.

Erma Linda Cruz-Torres requested an update on the situation at Montopolis Recreation Center be prepared on how all user groups can be accommodated at that location.

There being no further business, the meeting stood adjourned.