

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
APRIL 27, 1993

Board members present were James Crump, Ron Cartlidge, ErmaLinda Cruz-Torres, Sterling Lands, Eleanor McKinney, Beverly Griffith, Albert Black, Margaret Reed-Lade, and Member Emeritus Louise Nivison.

Staff members present were Michael J. Heitz, AIA, Director, Jesus Olivares, Stuart Strong, Robert Sopronyi, Kim Mitchell, Jody Hamilton, and Dolores Posada. From the Law Department was Raul Calderon.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Sterling Lands, Chair.

CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATION

Robert L. Thomas addressed the Board with his concerns on the contamination of Boggy Creek and with the staff at the Rosewood Recreation Center.

James Crump requested Mr. Thomas document his concerns on different topics and present a copy to all Board members in order for them to review.

Pastor Paul Smith addressed the Board and commended them for the improvements being done on Lott Park. He then addressed the Board with his concerns regarding the quality control management and the deteriorating conditions at Doris Miller Auditorium. The building needs improvements, the indoor equipment is minimal and outdated, vending machines are needed, and pay phones would help eliminate the use of the office phone.

Stuart Strong informed the Board that the roof was to be fixed in the near future. Bids were to go out soon.

Michael J. Heitz, AIA, Director will have staff immediately review and correct the situation at the Doris Miller facility.

James Crump requested staff, as an ongoing process, develop a list of small improvements that perhaps a foundation, such as the Austin Foundation, could do for the department.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

ITEMS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION

Make recommendation on Parks and Recreation Department's negotiation and execution of an agreement with Capital Metro for continued use of the park-and-ride Dillo lot.

Eleanor McKinney, Land and Facilities Chairperson, moved approval of the above item. James Crump proposed that the Board should add the amendment that Capital Metro do a study on the feasibility of a Dillo ride between the lot and Zilker Park. Ron Cartlidge seconded the motion.

The vote was 8-0.

Make recommendation to Council regarding lighting for Montopolis Practice Fields.

Stuart Strong addressed the Board and told them the estimate to light both ballfields was \$190,000.00. James Crump moved the item above be approved. Eleanor McKinney seconded the motion.

The vote was 8-0.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Discuss clarification of Cinco de Mayo event sponsorship denial based on legal advise regarding religious activities.

ErmaLinda Cruz-Torres asked for clarification on the memo from Raul Calderon to Jesus Olivares regarding Christian Tejano Night. Raul Calderon from the Legal Department discussed the Constitutional principles and case law, and brought to the Board's attention that every situation would be different. Reverend Lands, Chair, proposed to the Board they make a request to Council to clarify the above issue for consistency in future activities.

Review and make recommendation regarding City Manager's proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Fiscal Year (FY) 1993-94, including possible addition of Civitan Park Walking trail and Pool at Dick Nichols Park.

Fred Jolibois requested the Board consider a pool for Dick Nichols Park.

Martha C. Blackburn requested the Board consider a pool for Dick Nichols Park.

Ted Siff requested the Board support the Barton Creek Wilderness Park CIP funding.

The ad hoc CIP committee reported they had met and received positive and helpful responses. They will meet again on Thursday, May 6, 1993 at 6 p.m. Since they were not ready to make a recommendation, the item was tabled.

James Crump proposed that Staff let the Board know at least one month before the City Manager's CIP meetings begin so they may have adequate time to set up public hearings. He also requested that the starting date for the CIP process be put into the by-laws.

Reverend Lands indicated that the current procedure for review of proposed CIP projects is not acceptable and that the changes would involve the City Manager.

Make recommendation approving Department to negotiate and execute an agreement with two model aircraft clubs.

James Crump moved that the above item be approved with the amendment that the model aircraft clubs put cable around the driveway and parking lot. Eleanor McKinney seconded the motion.

The vote was 8-0.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Michael J. Heitz, AIA, Director, reported that the recommended building code amendments regarding fences into the lake has been turned over to the Planning and Development Department and is in the process of being reviewed by the different departments prior to consideration by Council.

The Director gave everyone a schedule for the Board Orientation. Reverend Lands, Chair, requested all Board members check their calendars and let Dolores Posada know if the schedule is fine with them.

ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Margaret Reed-Lade requested each Board member turn in a schedule as to when they can meet in order to accommodate all committee and sub-committee members.

Ms. Reed-Lade requested the Director indicate what type of program the department has in place to see that the different types of animals, birds, and wildlife would be checked by a veterinarian regularly and who on staff would be responsible.

Eleanor McKinney requested that the Barton Creek Access Policy be placed on the agenda as an action item for the next meeting. Ms. McKinney requested a copy of any policies and items from the Board that are sent to Council. Ms. McKinney would like a retreat to be scheduled before August to clarify Board and Staff roles.

Ron Cartlidge requested a time frame on the Navigation issues. Staff has scheduled these issues for the next meeting.

James Crump requested that the Board develop policies on mountain bikes on the Shoal Creek Greenbelt. Mr. Crump stated that Andy Jones of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department would like to make a special presentation on the climbing facility at McKinney State Park. Staff will schedule for a date in May.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ron Cartlidge, James Crump, and Margaret Reed-Lade made corrections.

James Crump moved and Margaret Reed-Lade seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the April 27, 1993.

There being no further business, the meeting stood adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Audio tapes of the Parks and Recreation Board meetings are available through the Director of Parks and Recreation, 499-6717.