

**MINUTES**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**  
February 27, 1996

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, February 27, 1996 at 6:30 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation Department Main Office Board Room, 200 South Lamar Blvd. Board members present were Erma Linda Cruz-Torres, Elaine Carter, Rosemary Castleberry, Phil Friday, Rocky Medrano and Mary K. Isaacs.

Staff members present were Jesus Olivares, Kim Jamail Mitchell, Mary Ybarbo.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Phil Friday, Chair

**CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATION**

R. J. Molina addressed the Board and asked that improvements be made at Longview Park to accommodate youth baseball practice. Jesus Olivares informed Mr. Molina that Rick Stephan, Youth Athletics Coordinator, would be in touch with him to address his concerns regarding additional baseball practice space.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Paula Fracasso, Executive Director of the Austin Parks Foundation introduced Robin Redford as Project Manager for the Adopt-A-Park program. Ms. Redford informed the Board that the Foundation was closely assisting PARD with the Adopt-A-Park program through the development of a city-wide marketing effort that would target neighborhood parks. Mr. Olivares stated Staff and the Foundation are working together to revitalize the program and improve the Adopt-A-Park efforts.

**ITEMS FOR ACTION**

Make a recommendation to Council regarding the Mexican American Cultural Center Feasibility Study.

Mr. Friday stated that the Mexican American Cultural Committee requested that this item be pulled indefinitely.

Reconsider recommendation to City Council of Parks Board recommendation regarding parkland improvement and management agreement with the North Austin Shortline Ski Club to install and manage a slalom ski course at the north end of Lake Austin.

At the request of the Board Members and Staff, this item has been placed back on the agenda for reconsideration as all issues surrounding the requests had not been revealed. Mr. Friday opened this discussion by stating the item did not initially follow an established process. He apologized to the area residents in attendance and assured them the policy of the Board and Department is to always notify property owners of issues affecting them.

Rocky Medrano moved to reconsider the motion of the Parks Board favorable recommendation for this to go to the City Council. He stated that further developments regarding the slalom course have come to the Board's attention. He stated it would be in the best interest of everyone that the motion be recalled and the Board start the process all over again. Ms. Castleberry seconded the motion. Aye: Cruz-Torres, Carter, Castleberry, Friday, Medrano, Isaacs. Nay: none.

The Chair stated that the Navigation Committee met last night and revived the slalom course issue. The Committee decided to refer back to the Navigation Committee for further review after Staff conducts a formal review.

Speakers who opposed the ski course were Don Gardner (property owner), David Meyerhofer (property owner), Steve Sanin (property owner) and Lance Shockley. Issues were raised regarding noise levels, preserve nesting areas, erosion and overall safety.

Speakers who were in favor of the ski course were Don Rogers (President of North Lake Austin Shortline Ski Club), Rick Link (Vice President of North Lake Austin Shortline Ski Club), Jared Preuss (self-employed) and William Miller (Vice President of Auto. Equip for North Lake Austin Shortline Ski Club). There was a phone call received from Steve Present of Central Texas Water Sports who was in favor of the ski course. Comments were made regarding organized water skiing as a wholesome family activity and rebuttals were presented regarding erosion, safety and noise. The Club brought an 8 minute tape explaining organized water skiing and asked that it be shown.

Opposers also said they had a 4 minute tape but neglected to bring it to this meeting. Review of both tapes was deferred until a future meeting.

Questions by Board Members:

What causes erosion?

How wide is Lake Austin?

Other suggested locations for the ski course?

Is this a private ski club?

The Director stated these questions would be addressed in the staff report.

Mr. Friday suggested Mr. Rogers' organization meet with some area property owners represented to attempt to arrive at a mutual agreement.

Elaine Carter reinforced Mr. Friday's suggestion regarding reaching a mutual agreement especially when issues involve public property abutting private property. She also suggested some improvements to the process for the Board to receive citizen comments in order to alleviate involving the Board in public debates.

Committee recommendation is to refer the issue to Navigation Committee and to department staff for further investigation and report and then to Navigation Committee for recommendation and then to return to Parks Board. The vote was 6 in favor (Cruz-Torres, Carter, Castleberry, Friday, Medrano, Isaacs) and 0 no votes.

The Board requested staff to arrange a meeting between property owners and applicants to further review concerns and discuss the issue. The interested individuals were instructed to contact the Board Liaison Kim Jamail Mitchell at 499-6743 for more information.

At 7:30 p.m. there was a short break.



#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

There was no Director's report given.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no Committee reports given.

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

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Corrections from Elaine Carter: (a) page 8, 2nd paragraph should read: Elaine Carter suggested the parking lot be upgraded. Jesus Olivares said it would be a cost of \$200,000.00 or more. There was a brief discussion about the number of vehicles the lot can hold. (b) page 10, 9th line should read: After some discussion it was recommended to appoint Rosemary Castleberry to the Parkland Maintenance Task Force and recommend that Elaine Carter be appointed by council member. (c) page 11, 13th line should read: The vote was 5 in favor (Medrano, Isaacs, Zamarripa, Cruz-Torres, Castleberry) and 3 abstained (Carter, Cartlidge, Friday).

Corrections from Mary K. Isaacs: (a) page 8, 10th paragraph should read: Phil Friday asked if condo community and homeowner assn. and business people would throw in money for grading? Duffy Oyster and John Zapp nodded agreement. (b) page 9, 4th & 5th paragraphs should read: Ron Cartlidge moved that the board not restrict the area to a curfew. It was seconded by Mary K. Isaacs. The vote was 8-0 against a curfew (Cartlidge, Castleberry, Carter, Friday, Cruz-Torres, Medrano, Isaacs, Zamarripa). (c) page 12, 2nd paragraph should read: He reminded the Board that the independent investigator whom Council had appointed to determine the work of Boards and commissions, had liked the timely method that the navigation Committee did in getting boat dock application out and having action on them.

Rosemary Castleberry moved to have the minutes of the regular meeting of February 13, 1996, approved with the above corrections. Elaine Carter seconded the motion.

The vote was 6-0 (Castleberry, Carter, Cruz-Torres, Medrano, Isaacs, Friday) in favor.

#### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Elaine Carter motioned that the meeting adjourn. Medrano seconded motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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

PARKLAND MAINTENANCE TASK FORCE

Mr. Mehron Azarmehn  
3303 Tom Green (05)  
Home Phone: 499-8179  
Geographic Area: Central  
Employer: Office Attorney General  
Natural Resources Division  
Business Phone: 463-2012  
(Nofziger)

Mr. Philip C. Friday  
1207 West 10th Street (03)  
Employer: Self  
Business Phone: 472-9291  
Occupation: Attorney  
(Citizens Planning Committee Rep.)

Mr. L. Hayden Brooks  
1804 Lakeshore Drive (46)  
Home Phone: 327-3770  
Geographic Area: West  
Employer: American Realty Corp.  
Occupation: Real Estate Consulting  
(Todd)

Ms. Jean A. Mather  
1611 Alameda Drive (04)  
Home Phone: 444-4153  
Geographic Area: South Central  
Business Phone: 444-4153  
Occupation: Landscape Architect  
(Shea)

Ms. Rosemary L. Castleberry  
2719 Windsor Road (03)  
Home Phone: 322-9260  
Employer: Self  
(at large)

Mr. Sergio Lozano-Sanchez  
1607 Wheless Lane (23)  
Home Phone: 454-7945  
Geographic Area: Northeast  
Employer: LOC Consultants  
Occupation: Principal  
(Garcia)

Mr. David G. Stekoll  
11931 Tobler Trail (53)  
Home Phone: 834-2186  
Geographic Area: Northeast  
Occupation: Writer/Editor  
(Goodman)

Ms. Mary K. Isaacs  
4816 Canyonbend Circle (35)  
Home Phone: 892-1176  
Geographic Area: Southwest  
Employer: Self  
Occupation: Educator  
(Reynolds)

Ms. Delores G. Duffie  
3004 Cherrywood Rd (22)  
Home Phone: 472-8178  
Geographic Area: Northeast  
Business Phone: 473-9679  
Occupation: Judicial Aide  
(Mitchell)