

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
September 24, 1996

A regular meeting, (in the form of a public hearing), of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday September 24, 1996, at Fiesta Gardens, 2101 Bergman Street. Board members present were Rosemary Castleberry, Chair, Dewayne Naumann, Rocky Medrano, Marianne Dwight, Elaine Carter, Hermelinda Zamarripa, Phil Friday, Erma Linda Cruz-Torres.

Staff members present were Jesus M. Olivares, Kendall Moss, Stuart Strong, Rueben Olivo, Mary Ybarbo, Brian Lopez, Ray Lopez, Kim Mitchell.

The meeting was called to order at 6:43 by Rosemary Castleberry, Chair.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Phil Friday noted that the minutes mistakenly were listed as those for August 13, when in fact they are the minutes for August 27, 1996. With this correction, Marianne Dwight motioned to accept the minutes of August 27, 1996. Dewayne Naumann seconded. The vote was 7-0 (Friday, (Castleberry, Naumann, Medrano, Dwight, Carter, Zamarripa).

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

The following citizens spoke in favor of hiring Archer Logan as a golf professional at the Morris Williams Golf Course: Bertha Means, former parks board member, Archer Logan, Golf Professional, John Linton, Water & Wastewater Utility employee, Jeffery A. Moten and Charles Johnson.

D. PUBLIC HEARING

Parks Board will hold a Public Hearing Regarding the Location and Construction of a Youth Activity Center

Ponciano Morales, Architect for the project, informed the Board he was hired by the City to work with the Holly Good Neighbor Action Plan and part of that plan was to design a youth activity center. He presented a schematic design showing two possible locations for the activity center on city parkland. Robert Mendoza, Co-President of the Greater East Austin Youth League (GEAYL), showed a story board which outlines the programs that will be offered at the center.

Buster Capuchino, Co-President of GEAYL spoke in favor of the center.

Robert Donley, President of the Town Lake Citizens Neighborhood Association, distributed a copy of the neighborhood association's petition which opposes the use of C.D.B.G. funds for construction of an athletic clubhouse along the banks of the Colorado River. The eighty (80) signatures on the petition oppose the increase of traffic, noise, alcohol consumption and the parking of vehicles in front of their properties.

The following signed up to speak against construction of the youth center:

Jesus E. Segovia
Gavino Fernandez
Lisa Rendon

The following did not want to address the board but wanted to be listed as against construction of the youth center:

Edward Rendon, Sr.
Reuben Montoya
Elisa Rendon DeLeon
Bertha Delgado
Edward Rendon, Jr.
David Trevino

The following signed up to speak in favor of construction of the youth center:

Joe Quintero
Veronica Navarro
Robert Capuchino
David P. Capuchino
Louis Navarro
Andrew Cantu
Jon Capuchino

At 7:50 p.m. Erma Linda Cruz Torres arrived.

The following did not want to address the board but wanted to be listed in favor of construction of the youth center:

Donald C. Polanco
Ray Capuchino
Diana Capuchino
Linda Mendoza
Gonzalo Serrano
Roland Velez
Jim J. Polanco
Antonio Cortez, Sr.
John D. Saldana
Ryan Capuchino
Rick Siegert
John Ayala
Benito Nuncio
Albert Carmona, Jr.
Sabrina Navarro

Ray Ramirez and Robert Velasquez urged the neighborhood association and the GEAYL to work together and reach a compromise on the issue.

At this time, Rosemary Castleberry asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Elaine Carter made the motion and Marianne Dwight seconded. This was followed by a five minute break.

E. ITEMS FOR ACTION

Parks Board will make a Recommendation Regarding the Location and Construction of an Activity Center

Jesus M. Olivares, Director of Parks and Recreation Department, explained to the board that they would have to approve a resolution to council that would amend the Town Lake Comprehensive Plan. The Plan has been sent to council but council has not yet addressed the Plan. Staff is in favor of the laguna site rather than on the grounds of Fiesta Gardens.

Dewayne Naumann asked where is money coming from to finance project, are there written commitments to finance the suggested programs, will the facility be available for city-wide use and what will traffic be with an increase in population.

Dewayne Naumann made a motion that this item be referred back to the Land & Facilities Committee for further consideration. Marianne Dwight suggested the item be brought back on the agenda for the meeting of October 22, 1996. Erma Linda Cruz Torres seconded. The vote was in favor of the motion (8-0) Marianne Dwight, Phil Friday, Hermelinda Zamarripa, Elaine Carter, Rocky Medrano, Rosemary Castleberry, Dewayne Naumann, Erma Linda Cruz Torres.

Board members asked to be notified of the date of the next Land & Facilities meeting.

Make Recommendation to City Council Regarding License Agreement for Driveway through Pease Park

This item was pulled from the agenda by Espey, Huston & Associates, Inc.

F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director's Report will be given at the Board Retreat on Saturday, September 28, 1996.

G. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mary K. Isaacs had a baby boy.

Phil Friday asked for a timeline on the Pease Park issue and would like to see it brought back for the October 22, 1996 meeting. He received a memo from Jackie Goodman regarding tree planting ordinance. Asked for explanation of the no alcohol signage at Zilker Park.

Hermelinda Zamarripa would like to see a copy of the memo regarding recreation center advisory boards.

Rosemary Castleberry would like to be informed about the aeromodelers issue at Mary Moore Searight Park.

Rocky Medrano invited everyone to the playscape dedication at Civitan Park.

Dewayne Naumann informed the board he will be meeting with the Lake Austin Advisory Panel to discuss boater safety, among other subjects.

Jesus M. Olivares was asked to check out the "weapons prohibited" sign on the hike and bike trail by the Statesman building.

Erma Linda Cruz Torres asked for Aqua Fest feedback. The Diez y Siez celebration on Auditorium Shores was well done. Asked status of Norwood House.

Board members will be asked to volunteer at Yule Fest in December.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.