

**MINUTES**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**  
February 11, 1997

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, February 11, 1997, in the Board Room at 200 South Lamar Blvd. Board members present were Rosemary Castleberry, Chair, Elaine Carter, Secretary, Rocky Medrano, Vice Chair, Dewayne Naumann, Erma Linda Cruz-Torres, Phil Friday, Marianne Dwight, Mary K. Isaacs, Louise Nivison, Member Emeritus.

Staff members present were Jesus M. Olivares, Director, Kendall Moss, Deputy Director, Butch Smith, Mary Ybarbo, Stuart Strong, Sandra Chipley, Janet Martin, Ray Lopez, Robert Armistead, Mini Freeman.

**A. MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Rosemary Castleberry. Ms. Castleberry introduced 3 students from Austin High School (Josh Jonea, Ben Rodgers, Kyle Sturgel) who are attending this meeting as a government class assignment.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the public hearings held January 28, 29, 30 and February 4, 1997 were approved.

**C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

There were none.

**D. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

Norwood House Update

Ms. Bea Fincher, Ruth Pascal, Camille Harmon Campbell, Mary Pelzel and Julie Clark, all members of the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Texas informed the board that Phase I of the work on the Norwood House has been completed. Phase II which requires the relocation of the house, is scheduled to happen in the spring of 1997 as all monies have been raised for the relocation. Susan Cardwell is researching private and governmental grants to help with funding. Members expressed hope that the project will be completed ahead of schedule.

Social Fabric Presentation

Erma Linda Cruz-Torres introduced Ray Lopez as Programs Division Manager and he briefly gave an overview of the Social Fabric Program which was funded by the City Council in October 1996. Mr. Lopez informed the board the process has already been started, partnerships have been developed and programs have been implemented. Mr. Lopez introduced Robert Armistead who explained the summer teen academy for 13-18 year olds, the summer playground program which will increase from 26 sites to 52 sites with each site having two activity leaders, more wading pools will open this summer and programs will be established in various housing sites around the city.

Mini Freeman informed the board the newly established St. John's Community Outreach program will serve 4 year olds through adults, several recreation centers will have expanded hours, 3 additional senior nutrition sites have been added and more preschool programs developed. Janet Martin informed the board of the non-traditional programs for 14-19 year olds which will be offered at 12 recreation centers and activities will include field trips, tutoring, drama, art, community service, and leadership workshops, among other programs. The goal is to reach 9,000 young people in Austin. 3,500 have already begun participation in a number of programs.

#### **E. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

##### Make Recommendation Regarding Upcoming Capital Improvements Program (CIP)

Stuart Strong, Principal Planner, presented the board with a summary of the public input (from the 4 public hearings) on proposed Capital Improvements Projects. He urged board members to finalize any general priorities and/or recommendations from the summary to the Planning Division during this meeting because he is facing a deadline of February 28th.

All board members participated in sharing their ideas and each listed six of their particular priorities but in the end they agreed to recommend all items from the "Summary of Public Input on Proposed CIP" excluding the Town Lake Boardwalk with the following additions: Infrastructure/Maintenance Package; Playscape Package; Colorado River Park at funding at 12M, to include local parks, 8 soccer fields, more infrastructure. The board believes the priorities are: Colorado River Park (as defined above); Infrastructure/Maintenance package; Planning Zone 8 development and acquisition; trail and other land acquisition and development; Northwest Recreation Center Improvements; Dinosaur Garden; Playscape Package.

Mr. Strong will present a summary of what was recommended at the next board meeting.

#### **F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

There was none.

#### **G. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Programs Committee will meet the 3rd Monday of each month at noon. The next meeting is scheduled for February 18th to discuss goals and objectives.

A special call meeting of the Navigation Committee is scheduled February 18 at noon or 5 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.