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MINUTES PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD July 8, 1997

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, July 8, 1997, in the Board Room at 200 South Lamar Blvd. Board members present: Rosemary Castleberry, Chair, Dewayne Naumann, Elaine Carter, Secretary, Mary K. Isaacs, Erma Linda Cruz-Torres, Hermelinda Zamarripa.

Staff members present were Kendall Moss, Deputy Director, Kim Jamail Mitchell, Warren Struss, Peter Marsh, and Dolores Posada.

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Rosemary Castleberry.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

With a correction, add if Ms. Quadlander was for or against the concert, the minutes of June 24, 1997, were approved.

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Anjali Kaul, Member of Citizen's Planning and Implementation Committee, gave an update on the Traditional Neighborhood District Ordinance.

Lucius Lomax, citizen, expressed his concerns regarding the problems he has encountered at Stacy Pool such as no water in the pool because they forgot to turn the water on and the pool not opening in time due to lack of lifeguards. Mr. Lomax also expressed his wishes that while Stacy Pool was closed for renovation, that Deep Eddy Pool, which will be opened in its place, be opened at 6 a.m. instead of 10 a.m. to accommodate early swimmers.

E. ITEMS FOR ACTION

Approve construction of bulkhead at St. Tropez (Peninsula on Lake Austin). Westlake Drive, File #SP-85-045 and SP-94-0155B.

Dewayne Naumann informed the Board the Navigation Committee recommended approval as amended subject to the following: the project being also approved by the US Army Corps of Engineers. Elaine Carter seconded. The vote in favor was 6-0 (Castleberry, Naumann, Carter, Isaacs, Zamarripa, Cruz-Torres).

Approve Construction of two-slip boat dock at 2454 Scenic drive. File #SP-96-0085DS.

Dewayne Naumann informed the Board the Navigation Committee recommended approval and for the request for a variance, Under Section 13-2-795, to extend more than 30' into the lake; in accordance with Site Plan #SP96-03-0085DS as amended. Mary K. Isaacs seconded. The vote in favor

was 6-0 (Castleberry, Naumann, Carter, Isaacs, Zamarripa, Cruz-Torres).

D. PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing regarding the re-naming of Clarksville Park to Mary Baylor-Clarksville Community Park was held.

Malcolm Greenstein, 720 Patterson, spoke in support of re-naming the park Mary Baylor-Clarksville Community Park.

Mark R. Ferrari, 1719 Enfield Rd., spoke in support of re-naming the park Mary Baylor-Clarksville Community Park.

Vicky Baylor, 1613 W. 10th. St., spoke in support of re-naming the park Mary Baylor-Clarksville Community Park.

The hearing closed at 7:30 p.m.

E. ITEMS FOR ACTION

Make a recommendation to Council regarding the Re-naming of Clarksville Park to Mary Baylor-Clarksville Community Park.

Elaine Carter moved to rescind the previous action and recommend the re-naming of Clarksville Park to Mary Baylor-Clarksville Community Park. The vote in favor was 5-0-1 (Castleberry, Carter, Isaacs, Zamarripa, Cruz-Torres) (Naumann).

Discussion and Recommendation to City Council on "The Basin" Report.

Dewayne Naumann gave an overview on the Basin Report. Mr. Naumann stated the report identifies following the six issues at the Basin (the area beginning at Tom Miller Dam and extending upstream approximately one mile to the outfall at Taylor Slough: development along the shores and shoreline conservation, congestion, boating safety, natural and man-made hazards, noise and trash and aquatic weeds. Public health and safety being the number one concern. They recommend a study of the lake from dam to dam and develop a management plan to implement conditions to provide a safe and livable environment. In order to achieve this goal, a three phase approach which includes seeking more funding for lake patrol, consider limiting the amount of development in the basin itself and along with the Army Corps of Engineers commission a management plan study.

To commission a boat study the cost is \$200,000. In order not to deplete the Parks and Recreation Department funds of the full amount, they have been trying to find alternative funding sources such as having some of the study underwritten by the Corp of Engineers, another part underwritten by the LCRA and the remainder underwritten by the department itself. The cost for the development of a management plan is approximately between \$75,000-\$100,000. Some of the other measures are less costly. The most effective tool will be the presence of Lake Patrol to ensure the safe use of the lake and since the lakes have been closed due to the rain, the cost has now been estimated at \$19,200.

Kendall Moss stated that at this point staff's sole recommendation is to pursue doing the study.

Elaine Carter asked if there was a timeline for the study. Mr. Naumann stated it would not be until the 1998 boating season that the Corp could actually begin.

Rosemary Castleberry stated a presentation should be made to Council to make them aware of the seriousness of the problem.

Hermelinda Zamarripa expressed concern about swimmer's safety. Mr. Naumann stated that at this stage of the development they are looking at the general issues. Specific issues will be addressed later.

Dewayne Naumann recommended the board present the report on the basin to Council which includes other areas beyond just the basin which will be incorporated within the outcome dealing with media, interim and long term issues effecting all the lakes within the City of Austin purview to the Council with the addition of the notations. He recommended staff prepare a synopsis of the report. Then have the report presented to each Council member in its entirety with the amendments before the presentation made in front of Council so he will not have to read the whole report and try to answer questions.

There was consensus from the board for him to proceed with his recommendations.

Make a recommendation regarding an event on Auditorium shores for Sunday, August 31, 1997.

A couple of years ago the Parks Department along with the neighborhoods developed a policy that addressed the number of event days. It capped the number of event days at Auditorium Shores at 30, which was where it stood at the time, with the understanding that as people did not renew their application that the number of event days would go down to 25 and that would be the new cap. The number of event days would have to go below 25 before an event would be allowed to return or a new event be allowed. The current amount is 27.

Mary K. Isaacs informed the board the Land and Facilities Committee recommends that they support the current policy and recommend this application be declined. The committee also recommends the board revisit the policy and examine it to make sure it is meeting the needs of the department and the neighborhood and the applicant who would like to use Auditorium Shores to make sure it is still an applicable policy. Elaine Carter seconded. The vote in favor was 5-0 (Castleberry, Naumann, Isaacs, Zamarripa, Cruz-Torres).

F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Special Events - The 4th. of July concert and the Great Hills opening were a success.

Council Report - The Program Review will be on July 16. Givens Pool - Closed due to a leak, not sure when it will reopen. Eeyore's Task Force - Meeting on Wednesday, July 9, at 6:30 p.m. Lake Austin/Town Lake - There will be a meeting on Thursday, July 10, 1997 to discuss the opening the lakes.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs Committee will be meeting Monday, July 21, 1997. Concession Committee will be meeting Thursday, July 10, 1997.

H. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Erma Linda Cruz-Torres informed everyone her new address is 6112 Atwood, Austin, TX 78741. The Office of the Director has her new number.

Dewayne Naumann gave thanks to Roy Mann for providing him materials to read regarding lake and river studies. These materials will be helpful in regard to the boat study.

I. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.