

**DRAFT**

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES  
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD  
August 26, 1997**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, August 26, 1997, in the Board Room at 200 South Lamar Blvd. Board members present: Erma Linda Cruz-Torres, Phil Friday, Dewayne Naumann, Jeff Francell, Rosemary Castleberry, Chair, Elaine Carter, Secretary, Rocky Medrano, Vice-Chair.

Staff members present: Stuart Strong, Butch Smith, Randy Scott, Mary Ybarbo, Jesus M. Olivares, Director.

**A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

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

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

There were three corrections to the minutes of July 22, 1997: Elaine Carter was recommended to Council to be the Parks Board representative to the Downtown Commission; all active committees are to be included in the agenda; and in Items for Action, the sentence should read the swimmers, more specifically concentrated around the area of Emma Long Park on Lake Austin, but other areas not to be excluded. With these corrections the minutes were approved.

**C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

None

**D. SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

None

**E. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

**Review and Recommend Approval of PARD Master Plan**

Stuart Strong, Division Manager for Planning, Design and Construction, updated the board on the Master Plan for the Parks and Recreation Department. On occasion PARD solicits grant funding from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. In order to make an application, TP&WD requires that the Master Plan be updated periodically. Butch Smith, staff planner, has completed a draft of a new plan which is entitled Long Range Plan for Land and Facilities. Other requirements for grants are goals and objectives, park standards; needs assessment and prioritization of needs and implementation plan. The goals for land and facilities for the period 1997 thru 2002 are: (1) provide equitable distribution of recreational opportunity throughout Austin; (2) periodically determine the public's most needed recreational opportunities, and provide those which are not readily available; (3) address the infrastructure restoration needs of the Austin park system; (4) cost effective means of providing recreational land and facilities will be given the highest priority in the allocation of resources and (5) identify, protect and maintain cultural and natural resources that are unique to Austin. The department followed four different

methodologies assessing the needs for land and facilities and put that information into a matrix to establish priorities. Using a series of overheads the board was shown recreational desires for different age groups within the 26 planning areas. There followed extensive discussion about the report covering many phases. Mr. Olivares informed the board that this complies with the requirements set by Texas Parks and Wildlife, possibly scoring as much as 24 points. Elaine Carter stated that land acquisition is a number one thing toward the first stage of development in any parks and recreation of life and that what is listed on table 7 is an accurate portrayal of what the board's overall wishes and desires were. Ms. Carter made a motion that the board support staff recommendation to present to council what we had presented here in their budget for current and future projects for the parks. Erma Linda Cruz-Torres seconded.

There was discussion about the length of time needed to implement bond election items. At the request of the Chair, the motion was re-stated to read: Support staff recommendation to present as budgetary item to council. Phil Friday questioned the methodology of measuring used in the report and stated there are more precise ways to measure information.

The vote to accept the recommendation was 5-0-2 (Carter, Castleberry, Medrano, Naumann, Cruz-Torres) (Friday, Francell)

#### Parkland Use Agreements

Jesus M. Olivares informed the board this item was put on the agenda at the request of Phil Friday. In 1995 an RCA was drafted to amend the City Code to permit the City Manager to negotiate and execute Parkland Improvement and Management agreements. Budget and Assistant City Manager signed off, but Law Department never did. Council is now asked to amend Section 11-1 of the City Code to authorize the City Manager or his designee, upon the recommendation of the Parks Director and the Parks Board to negotiate and execute Park Land Improvement and Management agreements. The Parks Director presently signs off on all the many cultural contracts at the request of the city manager. Phil Friday made a motion to recommend this ordinance to the City Council for approval. Dewayne Naumann seconded. The vote in favor was 7-0-0 (Friday, Carter, Castleberry, Medrano, Francell, Naumann, Cruz-Torres)

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

The annual Board Retreat will be held, tentatively, on Saturday, October 11, 1997, at Reicher Ranch. An Annual Report will be presented. On September 3rd there will be a budget presentation to Council. The Special Event Policy will need to be reviewed by the Parks Board either at the retreat or a special called meeting.

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

Programs Committee minutes were distributed. The Teen Academy had 9 sites and was a very successful summer program.

Navigation Committee will give a presentation to Council on the Basin Report.

Joseph McCormick is the Planning Commission's appointee to the Robert

Mueller Municipal Airport Advisory Group.  
Downtown Commission recommendation has been sent to City Clerk's office.  
Eeyore's Task Force meeting is scheduled for 9/3/97.

**H. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS (not for action)**

The Dove Springs Recreation Center parking lot is being paved.  
Some funding has been identified for the Montopolis Sportsplex creek crossing.

A Norwood House update was requested.

The issues at Fiesta Gardens will be handled on a future board agenda.

An AquaFest update report will be submitted to the board before it goes to Council.

Phil Friday announced he will be working closely with the Austin Parks Foundation and will no longer serve on the Parks Board. His work with APF will begin in September.

**I. ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.