

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
January 13, 1998

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, January 13, 1998, at 200 South Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas. Board members present: Elaine Carter, Secretary, Rosemary Castleberry, Chair, Rocky Medrano, Vice-Chair, Jeff Francell, Mary K. Isaacs, Erma Linda Cruz-Torres, and Carol Kim.

Staff members present: Jesus M. Olivares, Director, Jay Stone, Stuart Strong, Butch Smith, and Dolores Posada.

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Rosemary Castleberry. At this time, Ms. Castleberry introduced the newest board member, Carol Kim.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Elaine Carter moved the minutes of December 9 & 16, 1997 meetings be approved. Mary K. Isaacs seconded. The vote was unanimous.

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Dale Johnson, 1108 Mission Ridge, approached the Board and asked them to rethink and change the Colorado River Park master plan to preserve wildlife and the wild area.

Tommy Eden, 2901 Barton Sky, approached the Board and stated after waiting very patiently, the Bicycle Advisory Council determined that the Parks Board was unresponsive to bicyclists' needs. This would be the final request that the following items be placed on the agenda:

1. Bicycle lanes in Zilker Park
2. Keep the gate at the Austin Nature Center open for bicyclists
3. Build a short bike path in Westenfield Park.

Mary K. Isaacs, Land and Facilities Committee, Chair, replied that both the committee and the Board had reviewed the items and apologized if he had not been notified. She informed Mr. Eden of the following recommendations regarding his request:

1. Since the Zilker Loop would make a complete trail around Zilker Park, they felt no need for bicycle lanes along the road.
2. The gate at the Austin Nature Center cannot remain open due to vandalism.
3. To build a short bike path in Westenfield Park they would need to contact the community.

D. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Proposed New Concession Management Contract for PARD Disc Golf Courses

Jay Stone, PARD Financial Analyst, made the presentation to the Board. He stated the advantages of these management contracts would be that the Department would not have to worry about the maintenance of the course and the replacement

of the equipment, but would still make a profit. He asked if the Board would set a date to hold a public hearing for discussion of the new concession.

E. ITEMS FOR ACTION

Set Date for Disc Golf Public Hearing (Recommend 1/27/98)

Mary K. Isaacs moved the Disc Golf Public Hearing be held February 24, 1998 and adequate notification be done. Elaine seconded. The vote was unanimous 7-0 (Carter, Castleberry, Medrano, Francell, Isaacs, Cruz-Torres, Kim).

Make a Recommendation to Council on 1998 CIP Bond Election List

Elaine Carter moved that the Board not make a recommendation to Council on 1998 CIP Bond Election list and take public input. Mary K. seconded. The vote was unanimous 7-0 (Carter, Castleberry, Medrano, Francell, Isaacs, Cruz-Torres, Kim)

Speakers:

T. Murphey, 3200 Hillview Rd., and Sam Miller, 1303 West 10th., approached the Board and asked for funding for a skate park(s).

Don Rivera, 3511 Gonzales St., accompanied by Alvino Mendoza and Dora Rivera, approached the Board and asked they include funding to add the game room to the Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center that was deleted when built due to lack of funds.

Dan Hall, 930 E. Rundberg, approached the Board and requested CIP funding for the development of Rundberg Park.

Karen Cannatti, 2704 Macken St., approached the Board and requested \$250,000 in CIP funding for a large renovation project at the Mayfield-Gutch House in Mayfield Park.

Kimberly Nwogu, Nicole Vigil, and Kingsley Nwogu, Dobie Middle School National Junior Honor Society, students, approached the Board and asked that they be included for the development of Rundberg Park so students may have a place to vent their energy and not get in trouble for hanging around the school after hours.

Madelyn Howard, Windsor Hills Neighborhood Assoc., approached the Board and requested CIP funding for the development of Rundberg Park.

John Hamilton, 2001 Arthur Lane, approached the Board and asked they include CIP budget funds for restoration of Mayfield-Gutsch House in Mayfield Park.

Larry Malone, 1110 Village Green Dr., approached the Board and requested CIP funding for the development of Rundberg Park, maximize use of space to include ballfields as well as a multi-purpose center.

Glen Shield, 4407 Outlay Way, had to leave but left a note with the Board requesting CIP funding for the development of parks in Southeast Austin.

Margaret Carter, 11908 Corner Brook Pass, approached the Board and stated

natural land and resources are disappearing. Requested CIP funding to create greenways around Austin.

Julie Wade, P.O. Box 685106, approached the Board and requested the CIP Bond package include trails and greenways.

Sharon Wagner, 1307 Thaddeus Cove, approached the Board and requested the CIP Bond Election list include funding for better and accessible parking, accessible trails and pathways, and an accessible entrance to the Austin Nature and Science Center.

Inga Van Nynatten, 904 West Avenue #109, approached the Board and stated she was there to support Parks and Recreation Department funds in City Bond Election specifically for Shoal Creek redevelopment and the Walnut Creek Greenway development.

Marta Newkirk, 10711 Burnet Rd., had to leave but left a note to the Board in which she asked for funding of the full development of Walnut Creek Greenway through 1998 CIP Bond Funds, including land acquisition and pedestrian/ bicycle improvements.

Juan Ramirez, 12001 Indianhead Dr., had to leave but left a note to the Board in which he stated he was in support of the development of the greenbelt projects, specifically the Walnut Creek Trail Development and to please include it in the 1998 CIP Bond Election List.

Jed Boyt, 5423 Shoalwood, approached the Board and requested the CIP Bond package include trails and greenways.

Charlotte Boyle, 712 Garner Ave, approached the Board and requested a commitment for improvements that would incorporate the Austin Nature and Science Center masterplan with ADA necessities be placed on the CIP Bond Election List. She would like to be involved in planning and in priority setting.

Dave Garloch, 10802 Low Bridge Ln., approached the Board and requested CIP funding for parking at the Austin Nature and Science Center.

Tony Plutino, 4710 Brassiewood Dr., approached the Board and requested CIP funding for parkland acquisition for trails in Southeast Austin to link to the rest of the system.

Roy Waley, 13008 Council Bluff, had to leave but left a note to the Board in which he stated he was in support of the development of the greenbelt and greenways in Austin and Travis County.

Ted Siff, 1809 Palma Plaza, approached the Board and requested CIP funding for parkland acquisition for trails, greenbelts, greenways, and parks.

Rosemary C. Kass, 1511 Granaas Dr., approached the Board and stated she was in support of the development of the Walnut Creek Trail Development, not just the land acquisition, and to please include it in the 1998 CIP Bond Election List.

Phil Friday, 1207 West 10th., approached the Board and requested the Board not settle for 3 million dollars, but insist for 12 million dollars for the

development of the Colorado River Park.

F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jesus M. Olivares informed the Board about the upcoming TRAPS Conference to be held in Corpus Christi, March 4-6, 1998. Mr. Olivares asked the Board to briefly look over the CIP Schedule and urged all those who could to attend the CIP Hearings.

Mr. Olivares again introduced Carol Kim and welcomed her to the Board and informed her of the different committees she might want to join.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Land and Facilities: will meet 2 weeks from today.

Navigation Committee: met on docks. They will hold a Public Hearing on January 30 in the LCRA Board Room at 6:30 p.m.

H. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Erma Linda Cruz-Torres requested that election of officers be on the next agenda.

I. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.