

DRAFT

**MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
March 24, 1998**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, March 24, 1998, at 200 South Lamar Blvd. Board members present: Rosemary Castleberry, Chair, Erma Linda Cruz-Torres, Carol Kim, Mike Librik, Jeff Francell, Elaine Carter, Secretary, Rocky Medrano, Vice-Chair, Dewayne Naumann.

Staff members present: Jesus M. Olivares, Director, Kim Jamail Mitchell, Stuart Strong, Warren Struss, Jay Stone, Mary Ybarbo.

CALLED TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of March 10, 1998 were approved with a request that the minutes of 2/21/98 be approved as amended with the Programs Committee Report on Roving Leaders.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

None

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

None

ITEMS FOR ACTION

Dewayne Naumann, Chair of the Navigation Committee, gave a brief synopsis of the following navigation items:

Reconsider request to construct a two slip boat dock at 666A Big Horn Drive.
File No. SP-97-0462DS (Morrissey Boat Dock)

Navigation Committee approval was given for this request subject to the following conditions: Each two-bulb light station will not exceed a maximum 25 wattage for both bulbs; three light stations shall be provided since the dock measures between 25-50' in the dimension parallel with the shoreline and pilings will be painted with "red iron primer" as stipulated by March 17, 1998, memorandum from Watershed Protection Utility.

Consider construction of a bulkhead at 1411 North Weston Lane. File no.
SP-97-0211D (Skrudland Bulkhead)

Navigation Committee approval was given for this item subject to the following conditions: A document giving approval to build bulkhead within the public utility easement shall be recorded with Travis County, and a copy sent to PARD and each deadman shall be painted with "red iron primer" as stipulated by March 17, 1998, memorandum from Watershed Protection Utility.

Consider construction of a bulkhead at 1409 North Weston Lane. File No.
SP-97-0212D (Barnes Bulkhead)

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Navigation Committee approval was given for this item subject to the following conditions: A document giving approval to build bulkhead within the public utility easement shall be recorded with Travis County and a copy sent to PARD and each deadman shall be painted with "red iron primer" as stipulated by March 17, 1998, memorandum from Watershed Protection Utility.

Consider construction of a bulkhead at 12107 Selma Hughes Park Road. File No. SP-98-0048D (Duval Bulkhead)

Navigation Committee approval was given for this item subject to the following conditions: Bulkhead shall be built at existing shoreline; corrected plan drawing shall be submitted to PARD to reflect this requirement; bulkhead shall have a 10' return tie back on each end; revised plan drawing shall be revised to indicate this requirement; and each deadman shall be painted with "red iron primer" as stipulated by March 17, 1998, memorandum from Watershed Protection Utility.

Consider construction of a single slip boat dock at 13815 Pecan Drive. File No. SP-98-0058DS (Mills Spangberg Boat Dock)

This item is rejected at this time due to insufficient information.

Mr. Naumann requested that his remarks be submitted as a recommendation for the five boat dock requests. Elaine Carter seconded. The vote in favor was 7-0 (Cruz-Torres, Naumann, Librik, Carter, Medrano, Kim, Francell)

Reschedule Public Hearing on Hill Country Aeromodelers until April 28, 1998

The Hill Country Aeromodelers requested an extension of this item. Tours will be arranged so that board members can visit the site of the aeromodelers field at Mary Moore Searight Park.

Elaine Carter made a recommendation to reschedule public hearing until April 28, 1998. Dewayne Naumann seconded. The vote in favor was 7-0 (Cruz-Torres, Naumann, Librik, Carter, Medrano, Kim, Francell)

Consider Sending Disc Golf Concession to PARD Director for Further Review

At the request of the Director, it is recommended that the disc golf concession be given further department review. Jay Stone informed the board that disc golf players and suppliers met with staff on March 11th to further discuss this concession in light of many new ideas that came from the recently held public hearing. Gordon Maxim-Kelly, 7505A St. Amant Place, spoke briefly and asked the board to review the concession with the idea of creating one master course.

Dewayne Naumann made a recommendation to send this item to the Director of PARD for further consideration by the Director and the Land and Facilities Committee. Elaine Carter seconded. The vote in favor was 7-0 (Cruz-Torres, Naumann, Librik, Carter, Medrano, Kim, Francell)

Approve a Resolution Reaffirming the Town Lake Comprehensive Plan and Discouraging Commercial Development of Dedicated Parkland

Elaine Carter requested that the resolution be read into the minutes. Rosemary

Castleberry read the following:

WHEREAS, the Austin City Council dedicated 45 acres around Palmer Auditorium as parkland in 1985, **WHEREAS**, the City of Austin Charter protects the interests of the citizens of Austin by limiting the powers of the City Council to not be able to sell, convey, lease, mortgage, or otherwise alienate any land which is now, or shall hereafter be, dedicated for park purposes, unless the qualified voters of the city authorizes through successful referendum, **WHEREAS**, Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code for the Protection of Public Parks and Recreational Land states any municipality of this state may not approve any program or project that requires the use or taking of any public land designed and used prior to the arrangement of the program or project as a park or recreation area..unless the municipality, acting through its duly authorized governing body determines (1) there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use or taking of such land, and (2) the program or project includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to the land, as a park or recreation area resulting from the use or taking, **WHEREAS**, the Town Lake Park Comprehensive Plan of 1987 recommends an expansion of parkland along the Town Lake Corridor to include land from Barton Springs Road to the river for a more contiguous park, **WHEREAS**, the Town Lake Park Comprehensive Plan recommends public facilities for public use, **WHEREAS**, the Town Lake Park Comprehensive Plan is a 30 year plan to allow funding for recommendations to be obtained over that 30-year period, **WHEREAS**, the Town Lake Park Comprehensive Plan was written involving many business organizations, neighborhood associations, groups and individuals through over 100 meetings, **WHEREAS**, once parkland is given to private use, all parklands will be vulnerable, **WHEREAS**, if a precedent is set to give up parkland, our children will inherit our mistake and have less land to recreate, **WHEREAS**, if parkland is given up to private development regardless of said benefits, those benefits are not comparable to our future parks and enjoyment by the public, **WHEREAS**, the vision for Town Lake and the Colorado River is to maintain and continually beautify the interurban rivet park for the quality of life for the citizens of Austin, **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Board recommends reaffirming the Town Lake Comprehensive Plan and recommends not allowing commercial development on dedicated parkland.

Ms. Castleberry informed the board this item was placed on the agenda in response to an article in the Statesman about possible private development in the Palmer Auditorium/City Coliseum area. Ms. Carter noted this vote was solely to remind citizens there is an ordinance in place to protect parkland against commercial use. Mr. Francell suggested looking at other means to improve parkland. Mr. Naumann had to leave early but wanted board to know he was in favor of the resolution.

Rocky Medrano made a recommendation to accept the resolution as written. Erma Linda Cruz-Torres seconded. The vote was 6-1 (Cruz-Torres, Librik, Carter, Medrano, Kim, Castleberry) (Francell)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The new Dove Springs Recreation Center will open Saturday, March 28, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. Board members are invited.

At the council meeting on March 26 the construction contract will be awarded for the Montopolis Sports Complex.

A citizens bond committee presentation will be given on Saturday, March 28, 1998

at One Texas Center. Staff will attend.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs Committee will next meet April 20, 1998.

Ms. Carter asked to be excused from reporting on the Land & Facilities Committee and the Downtown Commission.

Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Advisory Group: The agenda for 3/25/98 meeting was distributed.

ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS (not for action)

Planning Commission public hearing will be held April 7, 1998 at 6:00 p.m. and action will be taken same night. Members urged to attend.

A public hearing on the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve will be held April 7, 1998, at the Zilker Club House at 6:00 p.m.

Montopolis Little League season opened March 21, 1998.

A boxing program is being organized at A. B. Cantu/Pan Am Recreation Center.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.