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Parks and Recreation Board Minutes January 12, 1999

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department was held on Tuesday, January 12, 1999 at 200 South Lamar Blvd. Board members present: Mike Librik, Mary Ruth Holder, Elaine Carter, Rosemary Castleberry, Rocky Medrano, Jeff Francell, Carol Kim, Erma-Linda Cruz-Torres.

Staff members present: Jesus M. Olivares, Dana Watson, Randy Scott, Mary Ybarbo.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 8, 1998 meeting were approved.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Tommy Eden with the Bicycle Advisory Council expressed concern with automobiles being parked on grassy parkland. His concern will be addressed at the next Programs Committee meeting.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

Recommend Approval of Construction of Thomas Boat Dock at 2315 Island Wood Road, File no. SP-98-0123DS P-98-0407DS P-98-0407DS

Mary Ruth Holder informed the board this applicant had previously been turned down because the structure included an enclosed area with plumbing. The present plans add only a screened-in room above the existing boathouse. The Navigation Committee now recommends approval. With this serving as a motion, Carol Kim seconded. The vote in favor was 4-2-0 (Cruz-Torres, Kim, Francell, Medrano) (Carter, Librik)

Recommend Approval of Construction of Hewitt Bulkheading at 4009 Rivercrest Drive, File No. SP-98-0123DS

Mary Ruth Holder informed the board the proposed improvement consists of installing corrugated galvanized metal bulkhead at an angle to minimize wave return and reduce wave action. Bulkheads help to prevent erosion. The Navigation Committee recommends approval of this request. With this serving as a motion, Carol Kim seconded. The vote in favor was 7-0-0 (Librik, Holder, Carter, Medrano, Francell, Kim, Cruz-Torres).

Make a Recommendation Regarding Knights of Columbus Sculpture Donation
Mary Ruth Holder informed the board that this statue of Father Gilney is significant to
the Knights of Columbus but the general public would not have the same appreciation
for it. It is a statue that is very large and heavy that requires very high maintenance.
Land and Facilities discussed the donation and decided that it should be moved. The
McBeth Board unanimously voted for it to be moved. Ms. Holder moved to disapprove

acceptance of the donation. Elaine Carter seconded. The vote to disapprove was 7-0-0 (Librik, Holder, Carter, Medrano, Francell, Kim, Cruz-Torres).

Approve Grand Meadow Drainage License Agreement

Mary Ruth Holder informed the board this request for an underground drain line would cut across a corner of 6.4 acres of undeveloped parkland in southeast Austin. It would involve the removal of two hackberry trees that are old and in poor shape with revegetation done with a wildflower mixture or better quality trees. Pedestrian access would be closed for a short time. Mary Ruth Holder made a motion to approve the recommendation as it is written subject to re-vegetation with native wildflowers and grasses and with as little inconvenience to pedestrians as possible. Elaine Carter seconded. The vote in favor was 7-0-0 (Librik, Holder, Carter, Medrano, Francell, Kim, Cruz-Torres).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Board Members are invited to the January 15, 1999 dedication of the new Rosewood Playscape at Rosewood Park at 4:00 p.m.

A memo regarding Capital Budget Amendments was distributed. This memo is being presented at the Planning Commission CIP meeting tonight and includes a draft listing of the cash (non-bond) projects and the bond projects.

Mr. Roy Guerrero, the former Assistant Director of Programs with the Parks and Recreation Department (PARD), is being inducted into the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation (TAAF) Hall of Fame. All members are invited to attend.

A poster board showing the Citizens Survey Results shows PARD as placing 4th for services and programs, 6th for park maintenance and 12th for recreation facilities.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs Committee will meet January 19th at noon.

Elaine Carter was appointed Chair of the Land and Facilities Committee. Water and Wastewater will pay for the landscaping of Taylor Slough Lift Station Site.

Items the Airport Advisory Group will consider are the logistics of dealing with pocket parks, converting the old hangar building into a swimming pool and pedestrian under/over passes for Batholomew, Patterson and Morris Williams.

The Downtown Commission Report is available if members want to read and a multipurpose complex will be constructed in the downtown area.

ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

A request was made for board members to try and develop better working relationships with council members.

A BCP update with the public access issue will be available soon.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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