



PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 – 6:00pm

MINUTES

The Parks and Recreation Board convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 via videoconference in Austin, Texas.

Chair Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

Board Members in Attendance: Chair Dawn Lewis; Laura Cottam Sajbel; Richard DePalma; Anna DiCarlo; Sarah Faust; Francoise Luca; Kate Mason-Murphy; Fred Morgan; Nina Rinaldi and Kimberly Taylor.

Board Members Absent: Vice Chair Romteen Farasat.

Board Member Faust joined the meeting at approximately 6:10pm.

Staff in Attendance: Kimberly McNeeley; Brie Franco; Liana Kallivoka; Lucas Massie; Suzanne Piper; Anthony Segura; Scott Grantham; Mary Marrero; Randy Scott; and Sammi Curless.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Bill Bunch – continued support for Barton Springs area.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the special meeting of December 4, 2020 were approved on Board Member Morgan motion, Board Member Cottam Sajbel second on an 10-0 with Vice Chair Farasat absent.

B. NEW BUSINESS: PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

1. Discussion and possible action regarding Recommendation 20210126-B1 supporting the City of Austin's 2020 Legislative Agenda.

Public comment from Bill Bunch encouraging the City to explore utilizing Hotel Occupancy Tax to fund parks.

Board Member Cottam Sajbel made a motion to approve Recommendation 20210126-B1; Board Members DePalma and Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 10-0 with Vice Chair Farasat absent.

2. Make a recommendation to the Planning Commission to deny the applicant's request to pay fee in lieu of land dedication for 4802 S. Congress (SP-2019-0600C).

Board Member Mason-Murphy made a motion to recommend to the Planning Commission to deny the applicant's request to pay fee in lieu of land dedication for 4802 S. Congress (SP-2019-0600C) and uphold staff's recommendation for the dedication of parkland; Board Morgan seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 9-1 with Board Member Luca voting nay and Vice Chair Farasat absent.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding a recommendation to the City Council regarding modifications to Austin City Code for naming or renaming a park facility or feature.

Board Member DiCarlo made a motion to encourage the Austin City Council to incorporate the recommended changes to the Ordinance 20160324-021 in order to make the naming and renaming process more transparent, more efficient, more equitable, and less costly for the Parks and Recreation Department; seconded by Board Member Luca. The motion passed on a vote of 10-0 with Vice Chair Farasat absent.

4. Discussion and possible action regarding the 2020 Annual Internal Review of the Land, Facilities and Programs Committee.

Board Member Morgan made a motion to approve the 2020 Annual Internal Review of the Land, Facilities and Programs Committee; Board Member DePalma seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 10-0 with Vice Chair Farasat absent.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding the 2020 Annual Internal Review of the Contracts and Concessions Committee.

Board Member Taylor made a motion to approve the 2020 Annual Internal Review of the Contracts and Concessions Committee; Chair Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 10-0 with Vice Chair Farasat absent.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding membership on the Contracts and Concessions Committee and Finance Committee.

Chair Lewis made a motion to have the following members serve on the Contracts and Concessions Committee: Board Members Luca (remaining as Chair), Rinaldi, DiCarlo, Morgan and Vice Chair Farasat; Board Member Cottam Sajbel seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 10-0 with Vice Chair Farasat absent.

Chair Lewis made a motion to have the following members serve on the Finance Committee: Board Members Faust, Cottam Sajbel, DePalma, Mason-Murphy and Taylor with Board Member Faust serving as Chair; Board Member Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 9-0 with Board Member Faust abstaining and Vice Chair Farasat absent.

7. Discussion and possible action regarding a recommendation to City Council regarding strategic partnership agreements.

Public comment from Bill Bunch expressing concern that no background materials were posted prior to the meeting.

Discussion occurred and no action was taken.

8. Presentation and discussion of partnership pathways as it relates to Resolution No. 20200312-041.

Public comment from Karen Brimble supporting partnerships and Bill Bunch suggesting that future partnership agreements include a public input process prior to Council adoption.

Discussion occurred and no action was taken. Board Members requested this item be included on the February agenda for continued discussion.

C. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None.

D. DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON PROGRAM AND PROJECT UPDATES AND EVENTS

Director McNeeley provided a report.

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Cottam-Sajbel – use of Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) for parks as mentioned by Mr. Bunch suggested as a topic for the Finance Committee; Mary Baylor Park backboards chopped off; possibility to add larger sized picnic tables at Roy G. Guerrero Park.
- Rinaldi – discuss at next meeting having the Finance Committee assume the work of the alternate funding working group; citizen concerns about why basketball hoops have not been re-installed.
- Luca – also received citizen concerns about basketball hoops.
- Lewis – what is the process for a neighborhood to create a pocket park including illustrations of what they might look like?

Chair Lewis adjourned the meeting at 9:27pm.