



## PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

March 9, 2020

5:30 p.m. - Basement, Thorman Conference Room  
801 Texas Ave., City Bldg. 3, El Paso, Texas

### Minutes

#### Members Present: (8)

Mayor – Romaree Friedman Herbert  
District 1 – Martin Morgades  
District 2 - Anna Alemán  
District 4 – Julia Smith (Chair)  
District 6 – Sandra Olivar  
District 7 – Sylvia Carreon  
District 8 – Robert (Bob) Bigney

#### Members Absent: (1)

District 3- Vacant  
District 5- Vacant

#### City Staff Present

Ben Fyffe, Interim Director  
Joe Rodriguez, Assistant Director  
Rocio Rivas, Board Recording Secretary  
Rick Isaias, Lead Public Affairs Coordinator  
David Lopez, Senior Distric Coordinator  
Ana McCranie, Events & Program Coordinator  
Marylou Jones, Research Assistant  
Ricardo Bustamante, Recreation Program Supervisor  
Nicolas Valdes, Recreation Center Supervisor

#### City Attorney – Legal

Sol Cortez, Assistant City Attorney

#### Public Present

none

1. Agenda Item #1. Meeting Called to Order  
Julia Smith, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.
2. Agenda Item #2. Approval of Minutes: January 13, 2020  
Julia Smith, Chair, asked the Board to review minutes and approve.

*Motion by Julia Smith to accept minutes as written, seconded by Martin Morgades. Motion carried (unanimous).*

3. Agenda Item #3. Call to the Public (for items not on the agenda):

No members of the public were present.

4. Agenda Item #4. Introduction & Update: On Parks & Recreation Transition Plan-Ben Fyffe, Interim Director of Parks and Recreation Department

Ben Fyffe, Interim Director, addressed the board to introduce himself and discussed the details of the transitional plan for Parks and Recreation.

Board members asked questions and were answered.

5. Agenda Item #5. Presentation: 2020 Texas Recreation & Park Society-TRAPS-Arts and Humanities Programming Achievement Award- David Lopez, Senior District Division Coordinator- Joe Rodriguez, Assistant Director

David Lopez, Senior Division Coordinator, addressed the board, discussed details of the award that was given at the TRAPS 2020 conference.

Nicolas Valdes, Recreation Center Supervisor, addressed the board in regards to the award.

Ricardo Bustamante, Recreation Program Supervisor, addressed the board with additional details in regards to the award.

A short video was played.

Photos were taken by Rick Isais, Lead Public Affairs Coordinator with Public Affairs Office

*At 5:49 p.m. board member, Bob Bigney arrives.*

6. Agenda Item # 6. Presentation: WaterParks Update-Ana McCranie, Events and Programming Coordinator

Ana McCranie, Events and Programming Coordinator, addressed the board and presented a detailed PowerPoint presentation.

Board members asked questions and were answered.

*At 6:05 David Lopez, Nicolas Valdes, Marylou Jones and Ricardo Bustamante depart.*

*At 6:08 Rick Isais departs.*

7. Agenda Item #7. Discussion and Action : On vacancies on the Park Naming and Grievance Subcommittees

Julia Smith, Chair, addressed the board with details of current vacancies for Park Naming and Grievance Subcommittee.

*Motion by Julia Smith to move Romaree Friedman Herbert from alternate position for Park Naming Subcommittee to a regular vacant position. Motion by Julia Smith to move to Vice Chair of Park Naming Subcommittee. Motion Seconded by Martin Morgades, motion carried. (unanimous)*

*Motion by Julia Smith to move Anna Aleman from alternate position for Grievance Subcommittee to a regular vacant position. Motion by Julia Smith to place Bob Bigney as an alternate member and to move to Vice Chair of the Grievance Subcommittee. Seconded by Martin Morgades, Motion carried. (unanimous)*

*Point of Order by Julia Smith: Alternate Position for Park Naming is to remain vacant until a full board is established.*

8. Agenda Item # 8 **Presentation and Discussion on Recreation Activity :**

a. Recent City Council Agenda Items List

Ben Fyffe, Interim Director, addressed the board with details of the recent agenda items listed.

b. Upcoming Committee Meetings List Open Space Advisory Board

c. Parks and Recreation Construction Projects List

Nothing to discuss on b-c items

9. Agenda Item #9. **Discussion:** Identify Items for Future Agendas

Ben Fyffe, Interim Director identifies:

- Featuring presentations for three recreation centers set to open later this year.
  - Chamizal
  - Lomaland
  - Alameda
- Possibly reactivating Parks and Recreation Foundation that has been dormant for fifteen years, will address in the next few agendas.

*Motion by Julia Smith to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Romaree Friedman Herbert. Approved (unanimous)*

10. Adjournment – 6:23 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Rocio Rivas, Board Recording Secretary