



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

August 12, 2019

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

Minutes

Members Present: (6)

District 1 – Romaree Friedman Herbert
District 3- Edward Frausto (Vice-Chair)
District 4 – Julia Smith (Chair)
District 5- Christa J Madera
District 6 – Sandra Olivar
District 7 – Sylvia Carreon

Members Absent: (3)

Mayor – Adrienne Moody
District 8 – Simon Chandler
District 2- Anna Alemán

City Staff Present

Tracy Novak, Director
Joe Rodriguez, Assistant Director
Joel McKnight, Assistant Director
Rocio Rivas, Board Recording Secretary
Emigdio Gonzalez, Park Area Supervisor
Josue D. Lopez, Senior Centers Division

City Attorney – Legal

Leslie Jean-Pierre, Assistant City Attorney

Public Present

Mario Luna	Ileana Ayala
Daryl Young	Joe Garcia III
Claudia Amaya	Sal Lucero
Laurence Juarez	Tony Robles
Brittany Pratt	Carlos Rodriguez Jr.
Laura Cisneros	Tony Martinez
Sharon Kaminski	Gloria Deras
Jerry Robles	Sanjuanita Gonzalez
Carol Leah	Carol Zernial

1. Agenda Item #1. Meeting Called to Order
Julia Smith, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.
2. Agenda Item #2. Approval of Minutes: July 8, 2019
Julia Smith, Chair, asked the Board to review minutes and approve.

Motion by Julia Smith to accept minutes as written, seconded by Romaree Friedman Herbert. Motion carried (unanimous).

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

None

4. Agenda Item #4. **Update and Discussion:** Park Maintenance Report-Emigdio Gonzalez

Emigdio Gonzalez, Park Area Supervisor, reports:

Quality of turf in the parks is a high priority right now. The department had a shortage of Irrigation Technicians, but have since hired two new technicians. They will all work together to improve turf appearance.

For current and new Technicians, the department is ensuring our training is focused on quality and in working together with a common goal of ensuring all turf is continuously being cared for.

We are also working with vendors to ensuring they know their job in keeping the turf maintained to proper standards. We have begun issuing vendor performance notices with specifications on the quality of work they are providing or not providing. The department is also looking into buying the correct equipment to ensure we are doing an effective job with the proper equipment.

5. Agenda Item # 5. **Update and Discussion:** Well Med Check Presentation to Senior Centers Division- David Lopez.

David Lopez, Seniors Center Division- addressed the board to introduce himself and gave the details of the Senior Center Programs. He introduced Well Med, who have partnered up with Senior Centers for a \$10,000 sponsorship. This sponsorship will support and expand the current programs and expand to additional sites throughout the City.

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director- addressed the board to provide additional information on the history of how the Senior Center Program was started. He introduced each member of the public that will speak about their personal achievements.

- Carol Leedah, Sal Lucero, Tony Martinez, Tony Robles - Public Speakers- all addressed the board on how the program has helped her achieve her personal goals and growth.
- Carol Zernial, Well Med Executive Director, Wellness Charitable Foundation-addressed the board, introduced Laura Cisneros, Vice President, and discussed the details of how they became a sponsor with Parks and Recreation Department.

Motion by Sandra Olivar to recess for a photo with Well Med, Parks Board Advisory Board and Supporters. Seconded by Sylvia Carreon. Motioned carried (unanimously).

Motion by Julia Smith, Chair to reconvene the meeting. Seconded by Christa Madera. Motioned carried (unanimously).

6. Agenda Item #6 **Discussion and Action:** Park Naming Guidelines Update-Joel McKnight

Joel McKnight, Assistant Director:

Action for recommendations to go to City Council with proposed changes to current policy.

Mr. McKnight provided a detailed powerpoint presentation, listing the changes and explaining the reasons why the update to the Park Naming Policy was necessary. He ended with a request that the Parks Board recommend the changes to City Council.

Motion by Sylvia Carreon to proceed with proposed recommendations to City Council. Seconded by Sandra Olivar. Motioned carried (unanimously).

At 6:56 pm Mr. Mario Luna walked in.

Previous Agenda Item #3- Call to the Public was not heard by Mr. Luna and he would like to address the board.

Agenda Item#3- Mr. Luna, Public Comment-addressed the board about concerns he had in clearing his name due to a previous grievance. Mr. Luna spoke for three minutes.

7. Agenda Item #7. **Subcommittees: Discussion and Action:**

- a. **Discussion and Action:** Subcommittee Assignments (as needed)
- b. **Discussion and Action:** Pending Subcommittee Recommendations (as needed)

No action needed on either of these items.

8. Agenda Item #8. **Reports on Recent Activity**

- a. Recent City Council Agenda Items List
Nothing to discuss on this item
- b. Upcoming Committee Meetings List Open Space Advisory Board
Nothing to discuss on this item
- c. Land Acquisition List – None
- d. Parks and Recreation Construction Projects List-Nothing to discuss on this item

9. Agenda Item #9. **Update:** Director's Comments – Tracy Novak, Director

City Council is currently reviewing the budget and we have two additional meetings left. One will be tomorrow and August 20th before they will adopt the budget for the next fiscal year. The Department is expecting additional funding for two sports complexes, to ensure we have

dedicated staff and resources for those locations. We have already demonstrated success when we were given additional funds at Eastside Sports Complex; where we have premier quality level staff and fields. In the future, we would like to receive additional funding for the northeast Joey Barraza and Vino Memorial Park and Marty Robbins Complex.

10. Agenda Item #10. **Discussion:** Identify Items for Future Agendas

Nothing to discuss regarding this item.

Motion by Julia Smith, Chair to adjourn. Approved unanimously.

11. Adjournment – 7:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Rocio Rivas, Board Recording Secretary