



## BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

July 14, 2014

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

### MINUTES

Members Present: 9

Mayor – Jennifer Barr-Ardovino  
District 1 – David Turner  
District 2 – Adam Gurrola  
District 3 – Deanna A. De La Cruz  
District 4 – Roy Gilyard  
District 5 – Theresa Welch Fordham  
District 6 – Francoise A. Feliberti  
District 7 – Sylvia Carreon  
District 8 – Ana P. Roush

Members Absent: 0

City Staff Present:

Parks & Recreation

Tracy Novak, Director  
Paula Powell, Interim Assistant Director  
Laura Garcia, Business Manager  
Marc Tuck, Open Space, Trails and Parks Coordinator  
Veronica Myers, Recreation Manager  
Ricardo Armendariz, Recreation Center Director  
Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant

General Services

Victor Rivera, Facilities Manager Superintendent

City Attorney

Lauren Ferris, Assistant City Attorney

Public in Attendance:

Darin, Loraine and Brandon Mina (Parents & minor child, Brandon)

1. Agenda Item #1. Meeting Called to Order  
David Turner, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.
2. Agenda Item #2. Approval of Minutes: May 12, 2014  
Motion by Adam Gurrola to approve minutes as written. Second by Sylvia Carreon.  
Motion carried (unanimous).
3. Agenda Item #3. Call to the Public (for items not on the agenda)  
None

4. Agenda Item #4. Parks and Recreation Poster – National Parks and Recreation Month

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director, highlighted the events for July, The National Parks and Recreation Month. The theme is “Out is In” focusing on outdoor activities.

Veronica Myers, Recreation Manager, explained the “Four Corners Volleyball Tournament” which is basically played in the different elements (water, sand, mud and indoors).

Marci Tuck, Open Space, Trails and Parks Coordinator, explained new event; Hike and Learn on a paved trail in the Northwest upper valley along the Rio Grande. It will also feature a speaker on the culture and ecology of the Rio Grande River.

Jennifer Barr-Ardovino commented on problems she was having reaching the Parks Department (new phone number 212-0092). She also recommended posting hiking events on MeetUp.com.

5. Agenda Item #5. Update and Discussion: General Services Park Maintenance Activities – Victor Rivera, Facilities Manager Superintendent

Victor Rivera, Facilities Manager Superintendent, reported on the following items:

- Plumbing updates
- Veteran’s closure – working on updating plumbing (month closure) changing to PVC
- San Juan – Finished painting inside and out (2 1/2 weeks completed)
- Biggest challenge is roofing – minor issues

6. Agenda Item #6. Subcommittee:

a. Park Naming Subcommittee

1. Discussion and Action: Recommendation to Rename Eastwood Park located at 3110 Parkwood Street to “Bobby Fuller Four” Park

Theresa Welch Fordham, Chairperson for the Park Naming Subcommittee, reported that the subcommittee’s recommendation was to not recommend renaming Eastwood Park located at 3110 Parkwood Street to the Bobby Fuller Four Park. She also mentioned that after the subcommittee’s meeting, the applicant informed the Chair and staff that they wish to withdraw the request.

Motion by Jennifer Barr-Ardovino to take no action on the park naming. Theresa Welch Fordham second the motion. Motion carried (8 Ayes, 1 Nay – Adam Gurrola).

Motion by Jennifer Barr-Ardovino to reconsider this motion. Adam Gurrola second. Motion carried (unanimous).

Motion by Sylvia Carreon to uphold the Park Naming Subcommittee’s recommendation to not rename Eastwood Park located at 3110 Parkwood Street to “Bobby Fuller Four” Park. Theresa Welch Fordham second the motion. Motion carried (unanimous).

b. Grievance Subcommittee

1. Discussion and Action: Appeal of Suspension: Brandon Mina for 1 Year for Violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department’s Behavior Management Policy

Sylvia Carreon, acting Chair for the Grievance Subcommittee, reported that the subcommittee’s recommendation was to uphold the suspension.

Veronica Myers, Recreation Manager, stated that Brandon Mina shoved and punched another teenager. The incident was recorded on surveillance and viewed by Richardo Armendariz (Recreation Center Director), Veronica Myers and Brandon’s parents. Mr. Armendariz also stated

there was more than one incident of Brandon striking, chasing or bullying other youths. Both Brandon and parents were counseled on the behavior. The offense of being physical and striking other youths in open gym is not acceptable.

Mrs. Mina denies her son was striking another youth and states this was only horseplay between two friends. She acknowledges her son has made bad choices but feels this one year suspension is too severe.

Mrs. Francoise Feliberti states that in her opinion the one year suspension is too harsh but agrees that his actions have to stop.

Adam Gurrola advised the youth to take this as a learning experience and realize that his actions have consequences.

Chair David Turner reminded the Board that they have the option of reducing the suspension.

Deanna De La Cruz, reiterated that actions do have consequences. She explained to Brandon that his behavior is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. Staff and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board have to consider the safety of all patrons of Park facilities.

Motion by Adam Gurrola to accept the Grievance Subcommittee's recommendation to uphold the 1 year suspension of Brandon Mina for violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department's Behavior Management Policy. Second by Ana Roush. Motion carried (8 Ayes, 1 Nay- Feliberti).

7. Agenda Item #7. Discussion and Action: Review Board of Parks and Recreation By-Laws: Article IX – Subcommittee, To Change Number of Appointed Members – Lauren Ferris, Assistant City Attorney

Lauren Ferris, Assistant City Attorney, reviewed the Board of Parks and Recreation By-Laws. She stated that by increasing the number of members to 5 would actually constitute a quorum of the Board. You can not change the number of members pursuant to city ordinance.

Discussion ensued on attendance, on what constitutes a quorum, times, and venues of the subcommittees meetings.

Motion by Jennifer Barr-Ardovino to take no action. Second by Adam Gurrola. Motion carried (unanimous).

*Francoise Feliberti leaves 6:30 p.m.*

8. Agenda Item #8. Discussion and Action: Parks and Recreation Park Naming Guidelines – Marci Tuck, Open Space, Trails and Parks Coordinator.

Marci Tuck, Open Space, Trails and Parks Coordinator, explained the memorandum included in the packet and reviewed the current guidelines.

Discussion ensued on the definition of "Outstanding Individual."

Motion by Deanna De La Cruz to take no action and leave Park Naming Guidelines as is. Second by Roy Gilyard. Motion carried (6 Ayes, 2 Nays).

9. Agenda Item #9. Update and Discussion: Youth Scholarship Report – Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director, presented the Board with an update on the Youth Scholarships.

No discussion.

10. Agenda Item #10. Presentation and Discussion: El Paso Bond Overview Advisory Committee (BOAC) Meeting Held on May 15, 2014 – Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director, reviewed the Bond Overview Advisory Committee (BOAC) meeting held on May 15, 2014. Mr. Novak also reminded Board members that the information for City meetings is available on the City's website.

No discussion.

11. Agenda Item #11. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Appreciation Event at Southwest University Park – Tracy Novak, Park and Recreation Director

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director, invited the members to visit the Southwest University Ball Park. The Department offered each member a ticket to the July 25, 2014 game, seating will be in the new baseball luxury suite. Tickets available by contacting Maggie Binkley.

12. Agenda Item #12 Presentation and discussion: Presentation of the Proposed FY15 Parks and Recreation Department Budget – Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director, presented the Board with the Proposed FY15 Parks and Recreation Department Budget. He reviewed the increase in fees, services, and funding with no reductions in programs. Mr. Novak informed the Board they will be notified of all budget hearings and updates, as they become available. The Budget presentations can also be viewed on City 15 and the city's website.

Theresa Welch Fordham requested clarification on Funds by Division, reduction in Aquatics. Laura Garcia, Business Manager, explained the increase in the budget for Aquatics which actually increases more than the reduction indicates.

Discussion ensued on Chelsea Pool and the budget for General Services. Game fields are impacted in the General Services budget.

*Roy Gilyard leaves 7:45 p.m.*

13. Agenda Item #13 Reports on Recent Activity

- a. Recent City Council Agenda Items List
- b. Upcoming Committee Meetings List
- c. Land Acquisition List
- d. Parks and Recreation Construction Projects List

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director, stated the reports on recent activity referenced above are included in the packet and are also public record on the city's website.

14. Agenda Item #14 Subcommittee Assignments (as needed)

The following issues were discussed:

- Controversial meetings to be conducted in the vicinity of park location
- Notification of meetings
- Neighborhood Association input at meetings
- Grievance Subcommittee planning and scheduling
- Venues for subcommittee meetings

Motion by Theresa Welch Fordham to keep the guidelines and process of scheduling subcommittees at the discretion of the Parks and Recreation Department. Second by Sylvia Carreon. Motion carried (unanimous).

15. Agenda Item #15 Discussion: Identify Items for Future Agendas

- Review of the Sports Penalty Matrix

16. Adjournment - 8:10 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant