



## PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

February 10, 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 3- Edward Frausto (Vice Chair)  
District 2 - Anna Alemán  
District 4 – Julia Smith (Chair)  
District 6 – Sandra Olivar  
District 7 – Sylvia Carreon

#### Members Absent: (1)

District 5- Vacant  
District 8 – Robert (Bob) Bigney

#### City Staff Present

Joe Rodriguez, Assistant Director  
Joel McKnight, Assistant Director  
Rocio Rivas, Board Recording Secretary  
Wayne Thornton, Public Relations Coordinator  
Rick Isaias, Lead Public Affairs Coordinator  
Daniella Tapia, Youth Activity Specialist  
Hawk Scott, Recreation Programs Manager  
Bettina Olivares, Legislative Aide  
Adrian Fasolino (scorekeeper)  
Jodi Scott, referee  
Enrique Valadez, Programs Manager  
Tim Fulton, Park Superintendent  
Henry Rivera City Rep 7

#### City Attorney – Legal

Sol Cortez, Assistant City Attorney

#### Public Present

Ofelia Mletzk  
Mirna Naylor  
Jose Louis Salas  
Jack Fairall  
Esmeraldo Rivera

#### 1. Agenda Item #1. Meeting Called to Order

Julia Smith, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

*At 5:31pm Anna Aleman enters the meeting*

#### 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 Edward Frausto. Motion carried (unanimous).*

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

No members of the public were present.

*Point of Order, Julia Smith, Chair, the meeting will begin with agenda item number five (5) first, to allow for attendees to arrive for item number four (4).*

4. Agenda Item #4. **Presentation:** Neighborhood Outreach Program After School Program-Joe Rodriguez, Assistant Director

Joe Rodriguez, Assistant Director, addressed the board to introduce Enrique Valadez, Recreation Programs Manager.

Enrique Valadez, addressed the board and presented a PowerPoint presentation to the board.

Board members asked questions and were answered.

*At 5:33 p.m. Anna Aleman, board member arrived.*

*At 5:34 p.m. Additional attendees for agenda item five (5) arrived.*

5. Agenda Item #5. **Presentation:** Zaragoza Rotary Club Award to Wayne Thornton and Joe Rodriguez-Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director

Ofelia Mletzk, President of the Zaragoza Rotary Club, addressed the board, a plaque was given to Wayne Thornton and Joe Rodriguez.

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

*At 6:27 p.m. additional attendees for agenda item five (5) departed.*

6. Agenda Item # 6. **Presentation and Action:** Nutrition Program for Senior Adults-Joe Rodriguez, Assistant Director

Joe Rodriguez, Assistant Director addressed the board and presented a PowerPoint presentation.

Board members asked questions and were answered.

7. Agenda Item #7. **Discussion and Action following recommendations made by Subcommittees:**

- a. **Discussion and Action:** Adoption of Grievance Subcommittee recommendation to suspend Robert Villegas III for six (6) months for violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department's Behavior Management Policy.

Sylvia Carreon, Grievance Subcommittee Chair, addressed the board with details of the grievance incident.

*Point of Order by Sol Cortez, City Assistant Attorney, addressed the board, the board will move forward with voting for what is currently on the agenda as posted for the public.*

Board members commented on agenda item and asked questions and were answered.

Individuals that addressed the board with details concerning the grievance incident:

Joe Rodriguez, Assistant Director

Jodi Scott, referee official

Hawk Scott, Recreation Programs Manager

Board members asked questions and were answered.

*Motion by Edward Frausto to adopt the suspension of Robert Villegas III for six (6) months. Seconded by Julia Smith, Motion carried, with one opposed.*

*At 6:10 p.m. All speakers attendees for item number seven (7) departed.*

- b. **Discussion and Action:** Park Naming Subcommittee recommendation to rename Alameda Community Center, located at 7380 Alameda Ave., El Paso, TX 79915, to Valle Bajo Community Center.

Sandra Olivar, Park Naming Subcommittee Chair, addressed the board with details for the Park Naming Application for renaming Alameda Community Center.

*Motion by Sandra Olivar, to adopt the renaming of Alameda Community Center to Valle Bajo Community Center, seconded by Edward Frausto. Motion carried. (unanimous).*

- c. **Discussion and Action:** Removing the Tree Subcommittee and reforming as Tree Committee by the full Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, to be scheduled quarterly as part of regular agenda. –Joel McKnight, Assistant Director.

Joel McKnight, Assistant Director, addressed the board with details in regards to the Tree Subcommittee.

Sol Cortez, City Assistant Attorney, addressed the board with a recommendation in regards to the Tree Subcommittee.

*At 6:27 p.m. Bettina Olivares departs.*

*Motion by Julia Smith to removing the Tree Subcommittee and reforming as Tree Subcommittee by the full Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Seconded by Martin A. Morgades, Motion carried. (unanimous).*

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

- a. Recent City Council Agenda Items List

- b. Upcoming Committee Meetings List Open Space Advisory Board
- c. Land Acquisition List
- d. Parks and Recreation Construction Projects List

Nothing to discuss on these items

9. Agenda Item #9. **Update:** Director's Comments

Joel McKnight, Assistant Director, addressed the Board with updates and the introduction of a new employee, Tim Fulton, Park Superintendent.

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

Joel McKnight, Assistant Director:

- City Council related items for recommendations.

*Motion by Julia Smith to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Martin A. Morgades. Approved (unanimous)*

11. Adjournment – 6:41 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Rocio Rivas, Board Recording Secretary