



## PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

November 18, 2019

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

### Minutes

#### Members Present: (5)

District 1 – Martin Morgades  
District 3- Edward Frausto (Vice Chair)  
District 4 – Julia Smith (Chair)  
District 6 – Sandra Olivar  
District 7 – Sylvia Carreon

#### Members Absent: (4)

Mayor – Vacant  
District 2- Anna Alemán  
District 5- Christa J Madero  
District 8 – Vacant

#### City Staff Present

Tracy Novak, Director  
Joe Rodriguez, Assistant Director  
Rocio Rivas, Board Recording Secretary  
Emigdio Gonzalez, Park Area Supervisor  
Hawk Scott, Recreation Program Mgr  
Esperanza Yee, Recreation Program Supervisor  
Joseph Gaines, Park User Representative  
Rudy Vegas, Sports & Rec Coordinator  
George Ledesma, Recreational Leader  
Genieve Torrez, Recreation Leader  
Jessica Ibarra, Recreation Leader  
Erick Alarcon, Recreation Leader  
Gloria Venzor, Project Manager

#### City Attorney – Legal

Van Williamson, Assistant City Attorney

#### Public Present

Mario Luna  
Chamber Jacet

1. Agenda Item #1. Meeting Called to Order  
Julia Smith, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Agenda Item #2. Approval of Minutes: September 9, 2019  
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, with Martin Morgades abstaining).*

3. Agenda Item #3. **Introduction: New Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member-**

Julia Smith (Chair), Introduced and welcomed Mr. Martin A. Morgades to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Mr. Martin A. Morgades introduced himself and addressed to the Board as to why he decided to join. All other Board members and Staff present introduced themselves individually.

4. Agenda Item #4. **Call to the Public (for items not on the agenda):**

No one at this meeting.

5. Agenda Item #5. **Discussion and Action:** TPWD Grant Application-Modesto Gomez Park Improvements. Gloria Venzor, Parks Planning & Development Manager

Gloria Venzor addressed the Board with a detailed presentation detailing the information concerning the grant for Modesto Gomez Park. Questions were asked by Board members and answered.

*Motion by Sandra Olivar, in support of the Grant application to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for funding. Seconded by Sylvia Carreon, Motion carried. (unanimous)*

6. Agenda Item #6. **Subcommittees: Discussion and Action:**

- **Discussion and Action:** Subcommittee Assignments (as needed)

Julia Smith, Chair, addressed the board, Tree Subcommittee, Park Naming and Grievance Subcommittee's have a vacancies.

*Motion by Sandra Olivar to nominate Edward Frausto to move as Vice Chair and add Martin Morgades as a member to Park Naming subcommittee. Seconded by Sylvia Carreon, Motion carried. (unanimous).*

*Point of Order by Tracy Novak to postpone the nomination for the Tree Subcommittee, Board agreed.*

*Motion by Julia Smith to nominate Sandra Olivar as a member to the Grievance Subcommittee. Seconded by Sylvia Carreon, Motion carried. (unanimous)*

- a. **Discussion and Action:** Adoption of staff recommendation to suspend Rev. Lenae Rasmussen for three (3) years for violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department's Behavior Management Policy.

Tracy Novak, Director, addressed the Board concerning Rev. Lenae Rasmussen. Tracy Novak stated an email was received by Board Secretary at 4:17 pm today. The email states Ms. Rasmussen will not be able to attend and is requesting a possible move for the adoption of suspension to December.

Sylvia Carreon, addressed the board as the Chair of the Grievance Subcommittee with concerns of postponing the adoption on the Agenda item. Ms Carreon recommends to the Board to adopt the suspension due to the fact that Ms. Rasmussen had the opportunity to appear today and decided not to.

*The board discussed additional details before making a final decision.*

*Motion by Sylvia Carreon to finalize and uphold the three (3) years suspension. Seconded by Edward Frausto, Motion carried. (unanimous) No Appeal for Ms. Rasmussen.*

*At 6:08 pm Rudy Vega, George Ledesma, and Erick Alarcon left the meeting.*

- b. **Discussion and Action:** Amendment of Grievance Minutes for meeting that was held on June 26, 2019. Rehearing of Grievance regarding Mario Luna.

Tracy Novak, Director, addressed the board with details over the original Grievance meeting that took place on June 26, 2019, stated the minutes from the meeting needed to be amended. The minutes did not reflect where Mr. Mario Luna was verbally told about his next step for a final appeal.

Rocio Rivas, Board Secretary, played the audio for the meeting that was held on June 26, 2019. The Board heard the audio of Sylvia Carreon stating to Mr. Mario Luna his options for a final appeal.

*Motion by Sandra Olivar to amend the minutes as written. Seconded by Julia Smith. Motion carried. (unanimous with Martin Morgades abstaining)*

Tracy Novak, Director, addressed the board asking if they would like to rehear the Grievance meeting that took place on June 26, 2019.

*Point of Order by Julia Smith, The Board will hear Mr. Mario Luna speak of his concerns, however, the Board will not rehear the original Grievance notice of Suspension.*

Mr. Mario Luna addressed the board for three (3) minutes with his concerns over the Grievance appeal process to the board. Questions were asked and a conversation ensued.

*At 6:21 pm Hawk Scott, Joseph Gaines, and Esperanza Yee left the meeting.*

*At 6:23 pm Mr. Mario Luna and his guest Chamber Jacet left the meeting.*

7. Agenda Item #7. **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  
Nothing to discuss on this item.
- d. Parks and Recreation Construction Projects List  
Nothing to discuss on this item

8. Agenda Item #8. **Update:** Director's Comments

Joe Rodriguez, Assistant Director, addressed the Board and invited the Board to the Winterfest. He also gave the details of the event for this upcoming weekend. Questions were asked and answered.

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

Nothing to discuss this item at this time.

*Motion by Edward Frausto to adjourn the meeting. Approved (unanimous)*

10. Adjournment – 6:31 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Rocio Rivas, Board Recording Secretary