



BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

June 11, 2012

5:30 p.m., 10th Floor Conference Room
2 Civic Center Plaza, El Paso, TX

MINUTES

Members Present: 6

James Tolbert, Jennifer Barr-Ardovino, Frederick Caldwell, Theresa Welch Fordham, Ralph Cloud, Deanna De La Cruz

Members Absent: 2

David Turner, Melissa Ann Luna

Member Vacancies: 1

Staff Present: Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director, Marci Tuck, Open Space, Trails and Parks Coordinator, Richard Garcia, Park Planning and Development Manager, Liza Ramirez-Tobias, Capital Assets Manager, Stewart Ed, General Services Director, Joel McKnight, Deputy Director General Services, Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant

1. **Agenda Item #1.** Meeting Called to Order
James Tolbert, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m.
 2. **Agenda Item #2.** Approval of Minutes: May 14, 2012
Motion by Jennifer Barr-Ardovino to approve minutes as written. Second by Theresa Welch Fordham. 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 Calendar and Newsletter
Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, highlighted the calendar and newsletter included in the agenda packet. She reported on the coming summer events including swim lessons and Club Rec.
 5. **Agenda Item #5.** Subcommittees:
Parks Naming Subcommittee
 - a. Discussion and Action: Recommend Naming Franklin Hills Park at 1100 Franklin Hills as Linda Daw Hudson Park
- Theresa Welch Fordham, Park Naming Subcommittee member, reported that the subcommittee recommends naming the Franklin Hills Park as Linda Daw Hudson Park.

Melanie Hoover, Linda Hudson's daughter, addressed the board and gave a brief biography and accomplishments of her mother, including involvement in Junior League and the City of El Paso Midnight Basketball program.

Marci Tuck, Open Space, Trails and Parks Coordinator, presented a powerpoint of the proposed park and its amenities.

Motion by Theresa Welch Fordham to forward a recommendation to City Council to name the park located at 1100 Franklin Hills as Linda Daw Hudson Park. Second by Jennifer Barr-Ardovino. Motion carried (unanimous).

6. Agenda Item #6. Discussion and Action: Proposed Amendments to El Paso City Code 13.24 (City Parks and Recreation Areas)

Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, reviewed the proposed amendments to El Paso City Code 13.24 which were discussed at the previous meeting.

Discussion ensued on issues of interest to members, including piñatas. Permits, litter and enforcement were issues, and Joel McKnight, Deputy Director General Services, reported that wire used to hang piñatas caused damage to trees, and stated that it is potentially dangerous for users to climb trees and hang items from limbs.

6:08 p.m. Frederick Caldwell arrived

Motion by Jennifer Barr-Ardovino to review the wording regarding piñatas. Second by Deanna De La Cruz. Motion carried (unanimous).

James Tolbert expressed concerns on model airplanes in the park. Richard Garcia reported that some enthusiasts utilized PSB property near Painted Dunes. On page 8 section 13.24.070, dangerous amusements are addressed, but can be accommodated in areas designated for the use.

Motion by Jennifer Barr-Ardovino to approve the ordinance with changes as discussed. Second by Frederick Caldwell. Motion carried (unanimous).

7. Agenda Item #7. Discussion and Action: Proposed Revisions to Park Design and Construction Standards

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director, presented the Board with a powerpoint outlining some of the proposed revisions.

City staff have been involved in the draft, including Joel McKnight and Richard Garcia.

Discussion ensued. Jennifer Barr-Ardovino expressed interest in best practice methods from other cities, and reclamation seeding. Rain water harvesting, artificial turf, and irrigation design also of interest.

No action taken.

8. Agenda Item #8. Presentation and Discussion: Park Pond Construction Drawings

Richard Garcia, Park Planning and Development Manager, gave a powerpoint presentation on the upcoming park pond construction.

9. Agenda Item #9. Discussion and Information: Proposed FY13 Operating Budget

Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, reviewed the Proposed FY13 Operating Budget.

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10. Agenda Item #10. Discussion and Information: Proposed Bond Projects
Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, reviewed the Parks and Recreation projects that were approved by Council on May 24, 2012 for the bond.
11. Agenda Item #11. Discussion and Action: Subcommittee Assignments (as needed)
None
12. Agenda Item #12. Discussion: Identify Items for Future Agendas
 - Update on Blackie Chesher
13. Agenda Item #13. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant