



# MINUTES

## PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, June 7, 2005  
6:00 p.m.  
Memorial Park Senior Center  
1800 Byron Street

### **Members Present**

Yolanda Cordova  
Eileen Karlsruher, Vice Chairman  
Daniel Delahaye  
Cherilyn Dorsey  
Alma Wilson  
Charlotte Johnson  
Brent Sanders  
Jose L. Gutierrez  
Kelly Duke  
Salvador Quintanilla  
Henry Stokes  
Alice Davis  
Mitch Doblado  
Olga Holguin  
Alejandro Sanchez

### **Members Absent**

Bernie Sargent  
Walt Phillips  
Julio Norman  
Robert Gonzales

### **Staff Present**

Dr. Norman C. Merifield  
Linda Martin  
Lucy Martinez  
Joe Rodriguez  
Richard Garcia  
Pete Dunavant

### **Others Present:**

Juan Contreras, P+3

1. **Meeting called to order** by Vice Chairman, Eileen Karlsruher 6:03 p.m.
2. **Motion to approve minutes of May 3, 2005; Motion made by Alejandro Sanchez, seconded by Daniel Delahaye; all in favor motion passed unanimously.**
3. **Petitions & Communications from the Public Sector:**
  - a) Linda Martin, new Administrative Assistant for Parks and Recreation Department was introduced by Dr. Norman Merrifield, Director of Parks and Recreation.
  - b) **Dr. Carolyn Adams, RN, CNAA, BC at UTEP** discussed her pilot program Amigos Unidos Por La Salud, a Diabetes Prevention Pilot to be held at Guillen Middle School and Armijo Recreation Center for the next two years. This program offers Summer Camp for children diagnosed with Diabetes including after school activities with classroom space for teaching, school snacks, use of equipment such as swimming pool, weight room, gym and use of instructors as negotiated. Dr. Adams would like Parks and Recreation to partner with this program and would bring in \$985,073 by Robert Wood Johnson Grant if a sponsor will match the \$500,000. El Paso Del Norte Health Foundation has committed to being a local funder. A letter of commitment is needed from Parks and Recreation Department stating that Parks will be a partner for Robert Wood Johnson local initiative funding partnership. This program pays Parks

to have students at the Recreation Centers. If funded start date is July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 through June 30, 2009. Community Center would not be utilized until January or 2007. **Motion to have Dr. Norman Merrifield, Director of Parks and Recreation write a letter to Robert Wood Johnson Grant offering the support of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board's for the pilot program; seconded by Daniel Delahaye; all in favor, motion passes unanimously**

4. **Special Community Service Recognition: Item Tabled TFN**
5. **Discussion and Action on Transferring funds to Pavo Real Pool Project: Juan Contreras, Program Manager of P+3** discussed allocating \$753,000 from Park contingency fund of the 2000 Quality of Life Program to the Pavo Real improvements. The pool is in need of major renovations , equipment, pool house, actual pool itself. There was a 2.4 million dollar worth of Park contingency fund intended for this type of event. Suggestion made to state the request as relocation of funds from contingency. **Motion to accept the tranfering of funds to Pavo Real Pool Project by Salvador Quintanilla;seconded by Jose Luis Gutierrez, motion passes with 14 in favor and 1 abstain by Henry Stokes.**
6. **Discussion and Action on Combining Budgets of Park Projects by Juan Contreras, Program Manager of P+3:** Juan Contreras discussed the Community Park within a dam on the Westside area known asThree Hills. The majority will be maintained as a desert, natural environment with walking trails. It will also have a recreaton center, parking facilities, pool size soccer field, softball field, a t-ball field, playground structure and a shade pavilion. The only changes were the location of the playground structure and the pavilion. Juan Contreras request that the board approve or recommend the combining of the two projects so when the construction project goes out there will be one general contractor doing both projects. It would make it easier accountablility within the city's accounting system to have one project. **Motion to approve the Combining Budges of the Westside Park Project by Mitch Doblado, seconded by Jose Luis Gutierrez; all in favor; motion passed unanimously.**
7. **Information and Discussion on status of QOL Projects managed P+3:** Juan Contreras, Program Manager of P+3 states there everything is moving forward with the exception of two projects. Pavo Real Project and the Fort Bliss Soccer Complex are not being designed and are under negotiation with the design team at this time. A lease agreement from Fort Bliss is expected. There are 36% of projects under construction at this time.
8. **Information and Discussion on Status of QOL Projects managed by the City of El Paso:** Richard Garcia, Land Manager at Parks and Recreation Department states the improvements such as the Eastside Senior Center kitchen upgrade, new floor, new wall tile, cabinets. There are 5 projects under preliminary design in District 8, Houston Park, Crestmont, Paul Harvey, Modesto and Mundy. Leo Cancellare Pool is an interior rehab project. Bond project provided for a new roof and mechanical system and in February 2004 it included renovation of new interior, pool deck and offices. Mesa

Terrace is a combination of park renovations such as irrigation, picnic tables, benches and addition to the playground. Quality of Life is going to fund the irrigation system and is in the preliminary design phase. Nations Tobin pool roof is under construction along with the Pavo Real pool roof. Ranchos del Sol Park will be under construction in a week. Rio Grande River Park from Fonseca to Yarbrough (Ascarate Park to Shawver Park) TX Dot is funding the majority along with the County and QOL funds. Roger Brown Park will have the backstop paved along with the alley way. The whole pool will be refinished at Shawver Park and will be done August 1st maybe sooner. Sunrise jogging path will be constructed at the end of the summer. Vista Del Valle jogging track and irrigation system will be out to bid very soon and should start the first part of October. Ysleta is a CD project submitted for funding with word coming in the middle of July. Irrigation system is funded and a neighborhood request for a skate park, walking path and picnic units, trees and landscaping. First the new improvements will go in then the irrigation will be placed. CD projects on going are boysclub walkways/final review, Capistrano on final design with a new irrigation system, walking paths, picnic tables, fencing; Caribe Park walking path and trees on final design, Hidden Valley design is ready to start in Sept-Oct., Ruby Coates has a request from Community Development identifying a 3.5 acre parcel for a new park. With the new automated irrigation system the right amount of water that it takes to maintain the turf and trees therefore the water bills will show the difference.

9. **Discussion and Action on 2006 User Fees:** Pete Dunavant, Administrative Analyst for Parks and Recreation Department discussed changes in the user fees being proposed. Memorial Reserve Area has a proposed increase on rental rate about a \$4,000 revenue rate, room in the gym rental rate will increase \$4200 impact, for the senior centers room rentals will have a \$19,000 revenue impact. Club Rec fees from \$35-40, will include two impacts with a fee increase plus increase in the amount of customers. The Community Develop Funding for Club Rec is decreasing so an anticipation increase number of paying participants and that will be a combination of rate effect and also customer effect. Other fees changes include boxing fees, skate park, and the rewrite of the user fee ordinance. As per Dr. Merrifield, Director of Parks and Recreation Department, a proposal was presented to the school board at EPISD/YISD for a comprehensive Park/School Agreement. This will allow the school total use of Park's facilities in exchange for total use of their facilities for no cost unless a particular program on the part of either entity has a cost to bare on the particular organization. More discussion will be held next month on this agreement.

**Motion made to postpone this item until next month made by Yolanda Cordova; seconded by Kelly Duke; motion to approve, all in favor; motion passes unanimously.**

10. **Information and Discussion on Comprehensive Parks Mater Plan Update:** Dr. Norman C. Merrifield, Director of Parks and Recreation Department stated that Halff Associates will be in town the first week of June, 2005. They are still collecting data and meeting with Administrators at City Hall such as engineers, planners, and water utility people. A special meeting will be held with the Sub-committee members to meet with Halff Associates as a group and individually if possible. Next month James E. Carrillo, Vice President, Director of Planning for Halff Associates will be meeting with the City Manager and other City Officials

11. **Information and Discussion on Summer Recreation Programs:** Jose Rodriguez Recreation Service Manager and Sandy Rodriguez Recreation Services Coordinator at Parks and Recreation discussed Healthy Hearts for Parks on Saturday 9:00 am, June 11 at Nation Tobins Park being the 3<sup>rd</sup> walk. Pavo Real will hold Healthy Hearts for Parks walk in July and in August it will be in the Westside. Basketball in the Barrio is Saturday, June 11 . Summer Camp has 23 summer camps throughout the city with over 2000 children enrolled. Also, Armijo Center has a teenage camp with 45 participants. Funds for these programs come from CDBG, user fees, grants and donations from representative. All monies go back to the community. Ms. Rodriguez did a power point presentation showing all the activities that go on at all the recreation centers during the summer.
12. **Other Items of Interest:** None given
13. **Motion to Adjourn made by Eileen Karlsruher, seconded by Daniel Delahaye; all in favor, meeting adjourned unanimously at 8:30 p.m.**