



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

August 13, 2018

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

Minutes

Members Present: (5)

District 3 – Edward Frausto
District 4 – Julia Smith
District 5 – Theresa Welch Fordham (Vice Chair)
District 7 – Sylvia Carreon
District 8 – Simon Chandler (Chair)

Members Absent: (4)

Mayor – Adrienne Moody
District 1 – Romaree Friedman Herbert
District 2 – David J. Ochoa
District 6 – Sandra Olivar

City Staff Present

Tracy Novak, Director
Elsa Ramirez, Board Recording Secretary
Joel McKnight, Assistant Director - **Absent**
Joe Rodriguez, Interim Assistant Director
Andrea Schiechl, Recreation Programs Manager-Sports
Steve Lunsford, Park Superintendent

City Attorney – Legal

Leslie Jean-Pierre, Assistant City Attorney

R. Scott Gilliland, Architect, Capital Improvements Dept.
Sam Surtees, Project Manager, ABACUS

Public Present

None

1. Agenda Item #1. Meeting Called to Order
Simon Chandler, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:52 p.m.
2. Agenda Item #2. Approval of Minutes: July 9, 2018
Simon Chandler, Chair, asked the Board members if they had time to review the minutes and approve.

*Motion by Theresa Welch Fordham 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)
None
4. Agenda Item #4. **Discussion:** Presentation on Recreation Centers to be built – R. Scott Gilliland, Architect, Capital Improvements Department

R. Scott Gilliland, Architect, Capital Improvements Department, made a presentation to the Board on this item.

A discussion was held with Board on this item.

5. **Agenda Item #5. Update and Discussion:** Tournament updates – Andrea Schiechl, Recreation Programs Manager-Sports

Andrea Schiechl, Recreation Programs Manager-Sports, made a presentation to the Board on this item.

A discussion was held with Board on this item.

6. **Agenda Item #6. Update and Discussion:** Park Maintenance Activities – Steve Lunsford, Park Maintenance Superintendent

Steve Lunsford was absent and item will be moved to next Board meeting.

7. **Subcommittees:**

a. **Discussion and Action:** Subcommittee Assignments (as needed)

b. **Discussion and Action:** Adoption of staff recommendation to suspend Mr. Juan Carlos Cordova for six (6) months for violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department's Behavior Management Policy at the Multipurpose Recreation Center.

Sylvia Carreon, Board member, gave the Board a brief summary of the Grievance Subcommittee Meeting on this incident and the Subcommittee's recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Motion by Theresa Welch-Fordham to accept the Grievance Subcommittee's recommendation for this Special Needs person to reduce Mr. Juan Carlos Cordova's suspension to three (3) months, seconded by Julia Smith. Motion carried (unanimous).

c. **Discussion and Action:** Adoption of staff recommendation to suspend Mr. Jairshyno Venegas for six (6) months for violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department's Behavior Management Policy at the Blackie Chesher Softball Complex.

Sylvia Carreon, Board member, gave the Board a brief summary of the Grievance Subcommittee Meeting on this incident and the Subcommittee's recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Motion by Theresa Welch-Fordham to accept the Grievance Subcommittee's recommendation to keep the six (6) month suspension for Mr. Jairshyno Venegas, seconded by Julia Smith. Motion carried (unanimous).

Jairshyno Venegas voiced his concern with the other person suspended on this incident.

Tracy Novak, Director, mentioned to Mr. Venegas to make an appointment with Andrea Schiechl upon returning to voice his concerns so she can resolve. Mr. Novak let Mr. Venegas know that we have to follow procedures and once he brought his concerns to Ms. Schiechl's attention she could follow through on those concerns for resolution.

Point of Order: Theresa Welch-Fordham would like the accusations made by appellant of a gun threat by other person suspended towards Mr. Jairshyno Venegas investigated. The Police Department should be notified of this situation.

Tracy Novak, Director, let Theresa Welch-Fordham know that this is why he addressed Jairshyno Venegas to make an appointment with Andrea Schiechl in order to let her know what concerns he may have upon returning.

8. Agenda Item #8. **Reports on Recent Activity**

- a. Recent City Council Agenda Items List
- b. Upcoming Committee Meetings List
- c. Land Acquisition List - None
- d. Parks and Recreation Construction Projects List

No questions from Board on these items.

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

None

Sylvia Carreon, Board member, suggested a Park Patrol now that the Parks and Recreation Department will be increasing in size within the next couple of years so there would be less vandalisms towards parks.

Tracy Novak, Director, invited the Board to a ribbon cutting for the opening of the Futsal courts at Boys Club Park tomorrow at 6:30 p.m. located at 6th and Campbell.

10. Adjournment – 6:48 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Elsa Ramirez, Board Recording Secretary