

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

WEDNESDAY, October 8th, 2025, AT 4:00 P.M.

801 Texas Ave., City Bldg. 3, El Paso, Texas
Basement, Thorman Conference Room

Minutes

Members Present: (5)

District 1 – Ben Wilbanks
District 4 – Benjamin Avalos
District 5 – Luis Terrazas
District 7 – Marcella Carrillo (Chair)
District 8 – Ricardo Bustamante

City Staff Present

Pablo Caballero, Director
Assistant Director, Emigdio Gonzalez
Alondra Navarrete, Office Manager
Ivan Nino, City Representative – Dist. 5
Mike Aguilar, Admin. Secretary – Dist. 5
Deanna Maldonado-Rocha, City
Representative – Dist. 3

Members Absent: (4)

Mayor – Deborah Zuloaga
District 2 – Anna Alemán (Vice-Chair)
District 3 – Michael Adjemian
District 6 – Timothy Haddox

City Attorney – Legal

Jesus Quintanilla, Assistant City Attorney

Public Present

Dan Olivas
Dion Castro
Omar Ochoa
Daniel Martinez
Chris Bastian
Joe Rodriguez

Ivonne Castro
Anel Ochoa
Joe Baeza
Carl Jackson
Wayne Thornton
Angel D. Bocanegra

- **Call to Order**

Marcella Carrillo, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:30 P.M.

Marcella Carrillo, Board Chair, did a roll call.

- **Call to the Public (Parks and Recreation-related, non-agenda items):**

No members of the public were present to discuss items not on this month's meeting agenda.

- **Public Comment (for items on the agenda):**

The following members of the public spoke on items on the Oct. 8th Parks and Recreation Advisory Board agenda:

- Joe Baeza
- Daniel Martinez
- Omar Ochoa

1. **Approval of Minutes:** Of Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting of September 10th, 2025 – Marcella Carrillo, Board Chair

Marcella Carrillo, Board Chair, asked the Board to review the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for September 10th, 2025, minutes and approve them.

Motion by Benjamin Avalos to accept September 10th, 2025, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board minutes as written, seconded by Richard Bustamante.

AYES: Luis Terrazas, Marcella Carrillo, Richard Bustamante, Benjamin Avalos

NAYS:

ABSTAIN: Ben Wilbanks

ABSENT: Deborah Zuloaga, Anna Alemán, Michael Adjemian, Timothy Haddox

Motion passes.

2. **Discussion & Action:** On adoption of staff recommendation to suspend Lucia Hernandez for six (6) months for violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department's Behavior Management Policy. – Grievance Subcommittee Member

Grievance Subcommittee Vice-Chair Ricardo Bustamante provided a brief description of why Lucia Hernandez had been suspended from Wellington Chew Senior Center and explained why the Subcommittee voted to approve the staff-recommended suspension.

Motion by Ricardo Bustamante to accept the staff recommendation of a six (6) month suspension for Ms. Lucia Hernandez, as recommended by the Grievance Subcommittee, seconded by Luis Terrazas.

AYES: Luis Terrazas, Marcella Carrillo, Richard Bustamante, Benjamin Avalos, Ben Wilbanks

NAYS:

ABSENT: Deborah Zuloaga, Anna Alemán, Michael Adjemian, Timothy Haddox

Motion passes.

3. **Discussion & Action:** On adoption of staff recommendation to suspend Antonio Estrada for six (6) months for violation of the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department's Behavior Management Policy. – Grievance Subcommittee Member

Grievance Subcommittee Vice-Chair Ricardo Bustamante provided a brief description of why Antonio Estrada had been suspended from Pavo Real Senior Center and explained why the Subcommittee voted to approve the staff-recommended suspension.

Motion by Ricardo Bustamante to accept the staff recommendation of a six (6) month suspension for Mr. Antonio Estrada, as recommended by the Grievance Subcommittee, seconded by Marcella Carrillo.

AYES: Luis Terrazas, Marcella Carrillo, Richard Bustamante, Benjamin Avalos, Ben Wilbanks

NAYS:

ABSENT: Deborah Zuloaga, Anna Alemán, Michael Adjemian, Timothy Haddox

Motion passes.

4. **Discussion & Action:** On recommendation to rename Fortaleza Park (14800 Tierra Fortaleza Ave., El Paso, TX, 79938) to Trotter Memorial Park

Carl Jackson, Applicant, addressed the Board to discuss details of the Park Naming application that he submitted to rename Fortaleza Park (14800 Tierra Fortaleza Ave., El Paso, TX 79938) to Trotter Memorial Park.

Ivan Nino, City Representative for District 5, addressed the Board alongside a PowerPoint presentation, further reiterating the importance of this park renaming.

Motion by Marcella Carrillo to accept the renaming of Fortaleza Park (14800 Tierra Fortaleza Ave., El Paso, TX 79938) to Trotter Memorial Park, seconded by Benjamin Avalos.

AYES: Luis Terrazas, Marcella Carrillo, Richard Bustamante, Benjamin Avalos, Ben Wilbanks

NAYS:

ABSENT: Deborah Zuloaga, Anna Alemán, Michael Adjemian, Timothy Haddox

Motion passes.

5. **Discussion & Action:** On recommendation to rename the Eastside Sports Complex (14380 Montwood Dr., El Paso, TX, 79938) to the Richard A. Castro - Eastside Sports Complex

Dan Olivas, Applicant, addressed the Board alongside a PowerPoint presentation to discuss the details of the Park Naming application he submitted, petitioning the renaming of the Eastside Sports Complex (14380 Montwood Dr., El Paso, TX, 79938) to the Richard A. Castro - Eastside Sports Complex.

Ivan Nino, City Representative for District 5, addressed the Board to express the importance of this park renaming.

Ricardo Bustamante, Board member, expressed his support for this application, highlighting Richard A. Castro's contributions to the El Paso community. Board members further discussed and expressed support for this renaming application.

Motion by Marcella Carrillo to accept the renaming of the Eastside Sports Complex (14380 Montwood Dr., El Paso, TX, 79938) to the Richard A. Castro - Eastside Sports Complex, seconded by Benjamin Avalos.

AYES: Luis Terrazas, Marcella Carrillo, Richard Bustamante, Benjamin Avalos, Ben Wilbanks
NAYS:

ABSENT: Deborah Zuloaga, Anna Alemán, Michael Adjemian, Timothy Haddox

Motion passes.

- **Adjournment:** 5:08 p.m.