

ZNA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Umlauf Sculpture Garden

July 12, 2021 **5:30 p.m. (plus 3 addendums)**

Attending: Bill Bunch, Bill Neale, Bobby Rigney, Gary Hamilton, Dave Piper, Bruce Wiland

Guests: Lorraine Atherton

Old Business:

1. Approval of minutes of June 7 ExCom meeting . Bill Bunch moves, Bruce 2nd, unanimous with Bill Neale absent.
2. Treasurer and Membership report (Bruce)
3. Parks & Environment report and discussion (Bill Bunch) Discussion/report on where we are following initial community meeting.
 - Related topics, including (a) stakeholder process (b) ZNA sponsored walking and biking tours in the park to engage neighbors with both ZNA and the Zilker plan process,
 - Alcohol at the renovated Barton Springs concession stand, the Zilker Cafe
5. ANC business update (Bobby Rigney)

New Business:

1. Discussion of appropriate memorial for Pat Cramer and thank you for Megan Paul,
2. Discussion of steps for filling vacancies
3. Land Development Code updates (including 2700 S. Lamar, Sterzing/Toomey, Brodie Oaks and new 1625 South Lamar (at Evergreen)
4. Discussion of July 26th general meeting agenda and location
5. Heather/Lamar water problem update (Bruce)
6. Dougherty arts update/recap (Bill Bunch)
7. BSEACD Board opening announcement
8. Discussion of heritage tree and storm water enforcement problems due to construction

Addendum # 1-- Email vote on July 14, 2021 to authorize \$525 to rent Umlauf's covered outdoor area for July 26 general meeting

Dave Piper moves that the ExComm authorizes \$525 to rent the outside covered area at Umlauf Sculpture Garden for the July 26 general meeting. Bill Bunch 2nd.

Motion passes 5-1 with Dave Piper, Bill Bunch, Gary Hamilton, Robin Rather, and Bobby Rigney voting YES. Bruce Wiland voted NO.

Addendum #2-- Email vote on July 15, 2021 to bring the following resolution before the general membership regarding alcohol sales at the Zilker Cafe in Zilker Park

Bruce Wiland moves for the resolution, Bobby Rigney 2nd. Dave Piper, Bobby Rigney, Gary Hamilton, Bruce Wiland, Robin Rather, Bill Neale, and Bill Bunch vote YES. Passed unanimously.

WHEREAS, For many people, Zilker Park is an oasis from the stresses of urban life; and

WHEREAS, Austin residents are fortunate to have such a vast, centrally located green space where they can engage in different recreational activities like swimming, jogging, hiking, and frisbee; and

WHEREAS, Authorizing the sale of alcohol at the Zilker Cafe potentially risks degrading this oasis by increasing conflict between park users; by increasing safety risks in areas nearest the café, including the pool and playscape; and by treating this unique oasis as just another location to go grab beer or wine, with the resulting need for additional parking; and

WHEREAS, Removing the prohibition on alcohol sales would require a greater presence of law enforcement to enforce public safety in the park, which has been inadequately addressed in the past; and

WHEREAS, The sale of alcohol would also cause an increase in drunk driving, which is especially dangerous when exiting the park onto a busy stretch of road that includes a bike lane, and it would compete with sales from established bars and restaurants on Restaurant Row; and

WHEREAS, At least six members of the Parks and Recreation Board are on record as being opposed to a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for alcohol sales at Zilker Cafe; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the general membership of the Zilker Neighborhood Association respectfully urge the Planning Commission to vote against the CUP that would allow for the sale of alcohol at the Zilker Cafe.

Addendum #3--- Zoom vote on July 25, 2021 to spend \$3,000 on a contract with Land Steward, Inc. for a Zilker Park analysis and proposal to "rewild" some areas.

Attending: Gary Hamilton, Bill Neale, Bill Bunch, Robin Rather, Bruce Wiland, Dave Piper

Guest: Gail Rothe

Discussion about entering into a contract with Land Steward, Inc. to perform an analysis of Zilker Park for the potential of habitat restoration/rewilding in various areas. (See contract below.)

Gary Hamilton moves, Robin Rather 2nd: The ZNA shall spend \$3,000 towards the contract with Land Steward. Additional monies that may be raised will be used repay the ZNA. Bill Bunch will sign the contract as Executive Director of Save Our Springs Alliance.

Motion passes 4-2 with Gary Hamilton, Bill Neale, Bill Bunch, and Robin Rather voting yes.

Bruce Wiland and Dave Piper voted no.

Land Steward.net

landsteward.net • landsteward@gmail.com

Zilker Park Managed Rewilding Master Plan Proposal

July 18, 2021

SITE LOCATION 2100 Barton Springs Rd., Austin, Texas 78746. Approximately 350 acres.

GOALS Per the Zilker Metropolitan Park Master Plan: protect, enhance, and restore land and waterscapes, educate the public, and champion best practices in green design, planning, and land management.

PLANNING STEPS

1) Information Gathering Incorporate data provided by the Zilker Park Natural Resource Inventory (Siglo Group) and the Zilker Botanical Gardens Master Plan (Asakura Robinson). Research historical vegetation and review public feedback. Conduct on-site assessments to determine which areas have rewilding potential. Determination will be based on soil types, soil health, existing/ emerging vegetation, aspect, slope, drainage, critical features, and proximity to various recreational uses and circulation.

2) Concept Development Use the information to create a base map for an illustrative conceptual plan. Map out potential rewilding zones to decrease mowing and increase the percentage of late-succession ecosystem regeneration. This cover type is most effective in sinking carbon, enhancing wildlife habitat, cooling microclimate, and green infrastructure. Examples are dense woodlands, forests, and tallgrass prairies. However, more transitional vegetation types will be suggested to increase the aesthetic and the overall wildlife and pollinator diversity. Create an image bank to visualize and explain the rewilding concept and potential vegetation cover types.

4) Workshop and Revisions Review the proposed rewilding areas and images with PARD and SOS. **7) Rewilding Master Plan** Pending final approval, incorporate the edited conceptual illustrative plan into a Master Plan narrative. Assemble a booklet that outlines the project, the information gathered, and describes each recommended rewilding area. Define what is meant by rewilding and provide examples: outline how the rewilding will be achieved and managed, what materials will be required, and approximate time frames.

Professional Fee \$9500

Costs, such as prints, digital services, and postage incurred during work on the project will be billed as reimbursables. Additional services not detailed in this proposal will be billed at \$90 per hour following a written request. Work will begin with receipt of a 20% downpayment. The final invoice will be sent pending completion of the work.

Agreed upon and signed by

Print Your Name Title

Signature Date