



ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Thursday, December 8, 2022
TIME: 7:00 p.m. Called to Order
PLACE: City Hall Council Chambers

A video recording of the meeting may be viewed at <https://alameda.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>
The following are action minutes in keeping with the Sunshine Ordinance 2-91.17.

ROLL CALL

Present: (Teleconference via Zoom), Chair Navarro, Vice Chair Alexander, Commissioner Robbins, Commissioner Nguyen and Commissioner Jones.

Staff: (Teleconference via Zoom) Alameda Recreation and Park Department (ARPD) Director Amy Wooldridge

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chair Alexander moved to accept the minutes of November 10, 2022 Regular Meeting as presented.

M/S Vice Chair Alexander / Commissioner Robbins. All present in favor with 5 ayes via roll call vote.

WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (For topics not on the agenda)

- Written Communication – Director Wooldridge read a letter from Cynthia Bonta. See Exhibit 1 – Public Comment Bohol Circle Immigrant Park Letter
- Oral Communication – none

REPORT FROM THE RECREATION AND PARK DIRECTOR

- Director Amy Wooldridge gave the Director report. See Exhibit 2.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Vice Chair Alexander: Attended the ribbon cutting opening of the new Lincoln Park playground and said it was fabulous. Enjoyed seeing the kids so excited. Thanked Park Manager Matt Nowlen and his staff for getting the job done quickly. Stopped by Mastick Senior Center to say hi to the staff. Went by Towata Park and noticed the park sign is in need of repair. Shared there were many residents asking why there was no Tree Lighting Ceremony this year and asked if it was a possibility to have a multicultural event such as Christmas around the year. Response by Director Wooldridge: The Community Events were reimagined this year to remove events that are not inclusive which included the Christmas Tree Lighting and the Easter Egg Hunt. Encouraged the public to speak at a Recreation and Park meeting or contact her with concerns.
- Chair Navarro: Attended the ribbon cutting opening of the new Lincoln Park playground and said it was great to see all the people in attendance. Visited Bohol Circle Immigrant Park and said it is really fantastic with a great play structure and balance beam and a maze that her kids enjoyed playing on.

AGENDA ITEMS

6-A Review and Approve the City of Alameda Park Prioritization Plan for FY2023-24

Director Wooldridge gave the presentation of the park priority list of staff recommendations which included the resources, funding, previous priorities, equity, public safety and the projects in progress.

Public Comments

- Speaker Kristin Fairfield, Alameda Tennis Coalition: Interested in all the great projects. There is a need more tennis courts as the tennis community is growing. Looking towards the future, is there a possibility of using the College of Alameda tennis courts?
- Speaker Joe Stack: In favor of the Encinal Campground opportunity as the campground is unique and provides many benefits.

Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Nguyen: Appreciates Director Wooldridge for putting together the priority matrix list. Would like to have more information on the campground. Where are the shade structures going at Jean Sweeney Park? Response by Director Wooldridge: The Jean Sweeney Park shade structure will cover the entire sand pit area as it gets hot. Encinal campground is a previously Navy run campground on the water where people could camp and kayak.
- Commissioner Jones: How does ARPD determine what trees get planted and the location? Response from Director Wooldridge: The Park staff determines and plants the tree and location. The City of Alameda is in the beginning of creating an urban forest plan including trees that are appropriate for Alameda parks and streets. The public is encouraged to participate.
- Commissioner Robbins: Preferences on the list are the Aquatic Park, pathway repair, Skateboard Park expansion and the BMX Facility. Asked what is entailed in a feasibility study for the BMX Park that it will cost \$750,000? Response from Director Wooldridge: The feasibility study was completed and notes there is a road that goes through the proposed BMX Park site which breaks it into two separate areas. Will need to have architect who is knowledgeable about BMX design consider what is feasible. The \$750,000 is a rough estimate of full build-out cost including design of the BMX Park.
- Vice Chair Alexander: Thanked Amy and staff for putting together the wonderful list. It helps the public to see how many projects are in progress. Likes the campground idea. Would also like to have more access to the Encinal High School tennis courts on the weekends when they are not being used if possible. Asked if there is a list to show the order of which playgrounds will be updated. Response by Director Wooldridge: Yes, there is a list that staff developed internally a few years ago that is based on how old the playgrounds were, the state of repairs needed and considers equity of where playground improvements are located. Will bring it as an agenda item to the commission.
- Chair Navarro: There is a need for more tennis/pickleball courts. A joint use strategy with the HS or college would be a good option. Asked if a project is on the list, does that mean the project is happening? Is Estuary Park funded? Response by Director Wooldridge: Yes, the list is for projects happening in the next year to year and a half. Yes, the Estuary Park project is funded. Taking on a joint use agreement for the tennis courts would involve resurfacing the courts at the college or Encinal High School as the courts are in need of repair and would also involve ongoing

maintenance.

6-A Motion

Vice Chair Alexander motioned to approve the City of Alameda park priority list for FY 2023-24
M/S Vice Chair Alexander / Commissioner Robbins
All present in favor with 5 ayes via roll call vote.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

- Presentation on draft concept for Clement/Tilden project and dog park option.
- City of Alameda Transportation Program Plan for Seniors and People with Disabilities.
- Review playground priority replacement list for next 5 years.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: Next meeting is a Regular meeting on Thursday, January 12, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Navarro adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM.

From: cynthiabonta@comcast.net
To: [Amy Wooldridge](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Guest List for January 21 Grand Opening - Bohol Circle Immigrant Park
Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 9:47:41 PM

Please convey our thanks and deep appreciation to the City of Alameda Recreation and Park Commission: Ms. Adrienne Alexander, Chair; Mr. Eric Robbins, Vice Chair; Ms. Philly Jones; Ms. Tara Navarro; and Ms. Alice Nguyen for a well thought out and carefully carried out process of naming our parks in 2022.

Naming one after Bohol Circle, an organization of Filipino immigrants founded in 1936 during the Depression to preserve their human dignity both in life and in death is to recognize the enduring belief newcomers held unwaveringly in the promise of a better life in America through hard work, perseverance, and trust.

Bohol Circle Immigrant Park will show that the City of Alameda, its residents, welcome and acknowledge the immigrant character of its community and the contributions they make to the social, economic, and political prosperity of life in Alameda.

We are overjoyed with the honor of this naming and take on the responsibility of uplifting the power and beauty of diversity.

We look forward with excitement and celebration to the Grand Opening Program and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to be held on January 21, 2023. [<bottom>](#)

12/08/2022 ARPD Director's Report

Presented by Recreation and Park Director Amy Wooldridge

Recreation Services

- Santa Visits still have a few openings for live visits and more for virtual visits. Santa will come and personally either in person or via zoom talk with children and give each participant a special treat.
- The finals for the Hoop Shoot, sponsored by the Elks, are Friday, December 16th with awards on Tuesday, December 20 at 4:30 pm in front of ELKS Lodge,
- Mobile Recreation has been thriving and is now offered twice a month at the Alameda Housing Authority's Esperanza Village.
- Aquatics programs have been challenged with ongoing issues with the heaters at both high school swim centers. This has resulted in the cancellation of swim lessons, user groups, lap swim and more.

Mastick Senior Center

- On November 23rd, Mastick staff gave out 75 Thanksgiving meals courtesy of Christ Church along with their daily lunch provided by Spectrum to Mastick Senior Center participants. The participants we happy to receive two meals going into the long holiday.
- Ping Pong / Table Tennis numbers continue to grow at Mastick Senior Center. To accommodate the volume of players and skill levels, we now have two days each week with longer hours.
- The parking lot lights are being replaced for increased visibility and safety of our participants.
- The lawn is being replaced with drought tolerant, pollinator plants and will completed soon. This is the first of many ornamental lawn replacements occurring at ARPD parks and facilities. We collaborated with the Alameda Backyard Growers who created plant templates for us and it's been very helpful!
- We are doing more rentals at Mastick Senior Center which recently included the American Contract Bridge League tournament and the Pacific Coast Region National Model Railroad Association.

Park Maintenance

- The Bayport Park shade structure next to the new playground is being installed this week.
- Soon, we are replacing the stage and seat walls at Harrison Center at Lincoln Park.
- Bohol Circle Immigrant Park Phase 1 is open! This new park is already a hit with the community and includes a playground, game tables, picnic area, fish cleaning station and open concrete area over the original pier. The sections not yet open include the remaining half of the park, the boat dock, and paddle board/kayak storage lockers.
- Volunteers, including Steve Sorensen, are working on repairs of back stop at Krusi Park. Thank you!

Administration

- Staff is working to increase safety measures at Alameda Point Gym. We have implemented site improvements and procedural changes, particularly with large tournaments. We are finalizing an agreement to install safety padding throughout the gym and anticipate that will be completed in early 2023.
- Community Events:

- o **Breakfast with Santa** – Dec. 10 from 10:00am – 12:00p at the O' Club.
- o **Adult Cornhole Tournament** – Dec. 17 at Alameda Point Gym.
- o **Snowman Family Swim** – Saturday January 7th at Emma Hood Swim Center. Come have fun at the pool during the winter months: Food, Games, crafts, contests & more!
- o **Annual Rose Pruning at Lincoln Park** – Jan. 21 from 10:00am – 1:00pm. East Bay Rose Society members will provide a rose pruning demonstration. Learn to prune like an expert by practicing your skills on the roses at Lincoln Park.
- o **Bohol Circle Immigrant Park Grand Opening** – Jan. 21 from 2:00pm – 4:00pm. We are celebrating Filipino culture with music and dance performances by Bohol Circle members plus food, DJ music and information as well as a ribbon cutting ceremony.
- o **Storytelling and Drumming Festival** – Feb. 4 from 1:00pm – 4:30pm at Mastick Senior Center. Discover and delight in storytellers, puppetry, poetry and drumming from around the world at this free event for the entire community.
- o **Family Snowball Dance Party** – Friday, February 10 at the O' Club from 6:00 - 8:30 pm.