



ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Thursday, April 14, 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 Alexander, Vice Chair Robbins, Commissioner Navarro and Commissioner Nguyen, Commissioner Jones
Staff: (Teleconference via Zoom) Alameda Recreation and Park Department (ARPD) Director Amy Wooldridge

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Alexander moved to accept the minutes of March 10, 2022 Regular Meeting as presented.
M/S Vice Chair Robbins / Commissioner Navarro. All present in favor with 4 ayes via roll call vote.
Commissioner Nguyen unable to vote due to technical difficulties.

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

- Written Communication - none
- Oral Communication - none

REPORT FROM THE RECREATION AND PARK DIRECTOR - ARPD Director Amy Wooldridge gave the report. See exhibit 1.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Nguyen: Spent time at Jean Sweeney Park, commented on the efficiency of the garbage cans. Visited the Godfrey volleyball court and is looking forward to playing volleyball on it.
- Commissioner Navarro: Sad that she missed the Waterfront Park Grand Opening as she was out of town. Has been talking to the public and trying to find ideas to get the East End Dog Park going. Said she hopes people would stop using Lincoln Park as a dog park and letting their dogs be off leash there.
- Commissioner Jones: Moved last month from the East End to the West End so doesn't have much to report. Has been taking her dog to the dog park by the Ferry Building which is fantastic with plenty of parking and space.
- Vice Chair Robbins: Agreed to represent ARPD in behalf of the Recreation and Park Commission to speak at the City Council Meeting for the budget workshop May 10 and 12. Attended the opening of the Waterfront Park and said it was fantastic. Shout out to Rhythmix and West End Arts District for amazing performances. Noticed there is a lack of shade structures

at the Waterfront Park and spoke to the architect who said they would try to add them in phase 2. In charge of the Home Town Hero's Float at the 4th of July Parade and is open for volunteers to help. Will be one of the judges for the Sandcastle contest on June 11, 2022. Attended the Association of Environmental Planners Conference in Yosemite and was talking to different planners around the country who were impressed with Alameda changing one of our park's name to represent the Chochenyo people.

- Chair Alexander: Attended the Waterfront Park Grand Opening and said it was fabulous; entertainment and food trucks were wonderful, great to see the public riding scooters and bikes, commended staff on their hard work. Interested in seeing the 70th Anniversary of the T-shirt league rebooted this year and would like to see some type of celebration in honor of the 70 years and encouraged kids to come out for the t-shirt league. Has seen a lot of Volleyball games at Tillman Park on the weekends, soccer at Ritler Park and girls softball is back at Krusi along with the over 65 men who are practicing at Krusi. Dropped by Chochenyo Park and it looks like the kids and parents are enjoying the new playground. Good to see the merry-go-round back at Franklin. Noticed more dogs running loose off leash in the parks which is an issue and hopes there will be a solution soon.

AGENDA ITEMS

6-A Introduce Morace McKay, Mastick Senior Center Recreation Supervisor II.

Director Wooldridge introduced Morace McKay and complimented him on a job well done. Morace shared his background with the Commission and is happy and excited to be a part of the ARPD team and said Mastick Senior Center has something for everyone.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Dog Park update, Eagle Scout Solar Panel Walk cost and design review and approval

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: May 16, 2022 - Special RPC Meeting (May 12, 2022 RPC Regular Meeting was cancelled).

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn

M/S Commissioner Navarro / Commissioner Jones

Motion carried by the following voice vote: All in favor with a 5 ayes via roll call vote.

Chair Alexander adjourned the meeting at 8 PM.

04/14/2022 ARPD Director's Report

Presented by Recreation and Park Director Amy Wooldridge

Recreation Services

- The Alameda Youth Committee, a youth leadership development group, is planning and facilitating a carnival for elementary aged youth on Saturday, April 30. The group of 30+ active AYC members is excited to plan fun games and prizes for kids.
- The Emma Hood Swim Center has been down for several weeks which has affected swim lessons, lap swim and local youth aquatics groups. Group swim lessons are beginning again in April/May.
- Adult Softball season is underway. ARPD is offering Coed, Men's and Women's Leagues. Adult basketball season begins in April.
- ALAMEDA SPRING SHINGDIG- Saturday April 16th from 12pm – 3pm at Alameda Point Gym & Multi-purpose Field. Games, arts & crafts, community organizations, demonstrations/performances, jumpers, and food. Advance registration for all summer swim lessons at the event.
- Register is now open for the 70th year of the free Summer Park Baseball League. ARPD is once again proud to team up with the Alameda Elk's Lodge #1015 to present our FREE Recreational Baseball Program, for children who've completed kindergarten through fifth grades.
- Friends of the Park Foundation is once again inviting you to participate in Play for the Parks – Golfun & Dinner on Monday, May 23. Shotgun start begins at 1 pm and post dinner and auction at 6 pm at Harrison Center in Lincoln Park. Cost is \$125 for both or \$40 for Dinner only. Sign up at www.alamedaparks.org
- ARPD is facing a significant staffing shortage for summer programs and is actively hiring. Please let everyone know!
- Registration is open for the Fourth of July Parade entries. The Alameda business community has responded well to our request for sponsorships. A significant amount of work goes into coordinating this event, especially as the first time for ARPD, so a huge shout out to Recreation Manager Patrick Russi for his hard work to make this year's parade the best it's ever been.

Mastick Senior Center

- We welcomed the return of Hula 1 and 2 in the month of March. We had a demonstration class today April 14th, 2022 with 18 participants in attendance.
- The AARP Smart Driver Refresher Course restarted in the month of March. The first class had a turnout of 12 members. This was the first class back since the pandemic.
- The Mastick Organic Garden's irrigation project to replace the old watering system will happen on April 25th, 2022. The organic garden has harvested and distributed 17,279 bags of fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs since April of 2014.
- The AARP tax program has been extended to April 26th, 2022. To date, volunteers have logged 399 hours for the month of March and 476 tax participants' returns have been completed to date.
- Movie Matinee will be returning to Mastick Senior Center in May 2022.
- Mastick is still seeking additional fitness instructors for three days of the week. We are currently in conversations with a few potential candidates.
- We are also looking for instructors to start a multi-level hiking group for the Mastick members.

Success story from Connections and Senior Resources case manager Shawn Minter:

- A 57-year-old female that lives in Alameda with her husband needed financial assistance. Both have health conditions and need more income to meet their financial obligations. They also needed assistance with finding a part-time job. The Case Manager helped the senior develop a resume and

posted it on several temporary job sites. The client was notified and got an interview with The City of Oakland Senior Access Program; she is now working 20 hours per week doing administrative duties.

Park Maintenance

- Converted the sand at the Tillman Park playground to wood chips which is ADA accessible and an improvement to sanitation and public health
- Placed logs from the two downed oak trees throughout Lincoln Park
- Re-installed the merry-go-round at Franklin Park
- Volleyball net was installed at Godfrey Park for all to use
- Held a volunteer tree planting at Tillman Park and planted 20 trees
- We have hired three new full-time Gardeners
- Continuing to improve sports field maintenance such as pitching mounds, aeration, top dressing, and re-seeding
- We installed three picnic tables at Bayport Park with a shade structure to follow. Benches were installed inside the playground fenced area.
- Godfrey Recreation Center renovation is now complete and open to the public

Administration / Projects

- Alameda Point Waterfront Park Grand Opening was a huge success with hundreds of people attending. Lots of accolades and happy people at the event.
- The 1st Annual Storytelling & Drumming Festival that took place on Saturday, March 19th was a success. 240 community members came out to support the event.
- Reached agreement on high level lease terms with Alameda Swimming Pool Association. Finalizing draft agreement which will go to City Council for approval.
- Alameda Landing Waterfront Park is opening within the next two months
- City-wide we are starting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging work with the Seed Collaborative.
- Civil engineer design of four connectors to the Cross Alameda Trail within Sweeney Park (two north and two south)
- Update on Recreation Facilities approved project list:
 - o BMX feasibility study
 - o Met with skateboarders to discuss process and ideas for skate park improvements
 - o Installing the LED lights at the Leydecker Park tennis courts on 4/19-4/20. Washington Park and Krusi Park LED lighting replacement are next.
 - o Soliciting bids for the re-surfacing of the pickleball courts (Lincoln) and tennis courts (Washington, Krusi and Franklin).
- FY 22-23 Budget Workshops with City Council are on 5/10 and 5/12. The City Manager's recommended budget includes the following for ARPD:
 - o \$250,000 – Asphalt pathway paving in parks
 - o \$230,000 – Adding a Recreation Services Manager (including benefit costs)
 - o \$179,000 – Re-allocate expenses from the Alameda Point Community Facilities District (CFD) so 40% of Parks Maintenance budget is funded by the CFD and 60% is funded by the General Fund
 - o \$663,000 – Increasing both expenditures (supplies and part-time staff) and revenues to offset costs based on expanding programs during the pandemic recovery.