

**ALAMEDA GOLF COMMISSION
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING**

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

1 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jones called the special meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. in Room 360, City Hall, 2263 Santa Clara Ave, Alameda, CA 94501

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Lynn Jones, Vice Chair Ed Downing, Commissioner Clifford Tong, Commissioner Lily Boris, Commissioner Hamill Serrant

Absent: None

Staff: Recreation and Parks Director Justin Long, Recreation and Parks (Acting) Assistant Director Matt Nowlen

2 NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Speaker Diane Hughes: Captain of Alameda Women's Golf Club (AWGC), formed in 1929. Shared AWGC history and valuable social network. Expressed concern regarding tee time bookings. Requested support from the Golf Commission and City of Alameda. (Written comment attached.)

Speaker Peggy Marcenaro: Alameda Niners Golf Club President. Expressed concern regarding tee time scheduling. Requested support from the Golf Commission and City of Alameda. (Written comment attached.)

Speaker Jan Peyrot: 90 years old. Explained how golf keeps her physically, mentally and socially healthy through exercise and companionship.

Speaker Pam Curtis: Active in AWGC, Niners Club, and Alameda Junior Golf. Commented that Greenway Golf is not supportive of the clubs.

Speaker Emily Gorin (online): AWGC member. Concerned that golf course operator is increasingly unresponsive to needs of local golf community and AWGC. Alarmed at cancelled dates that were mutually agreed upon with the golf course operator. Emphasized that AWGC has been a reliable revenue stream for the golf course and restaurant, however their loyalty is not valued. Remarked that AWGC is a vital part of the Alameda community and felt the Golf Commission should be made aware of how constituents are being treated.

Speaker Cindy Withrow: AWGC member and board member. Emphasized that AWGC public comments are representative of all members' feelings of being disrespected and restricted to course access by Greenway Golf. Commented on the vital AWGC social, economic, and community network, and mentioned AWGC fundraiser on behalf of Alameda Food Bank. Asked Golf Commission and City for support to ensure AWGC has a stable presence at Corica Park.

Speaker Mary-Jo Knight: AWGC member. Commented that the AWGC community provides

critical support to the health and well-being of women getting older. Commented that the social welfare network of Alameda residents is being impacted.

Speaker Jane Sullwold: AWGC member and former Golf Commission member. Participated on citizens' committee that interviewed golf companies, had recommended Greenway Golf, so was shocked by the abrupt schedule changes.

Speaker Claudia Leed: Thanked Mayor Ashcraft for serving the community. Stated that the golf course operator is violating the lease by treating clubs in a discriminatory manner. Encouraged the Golf Commission and City to be guardians of the course as it is a public asset.

Speaker Claire Loud: Thanked Mayor Ashcraft, Golf Commission, and Director Long. Advocated for the community to have continued access to the Corica Golf Course which comprises 333 acres of Alameda's 400 acres of public recreational space. Commented that lack of communication between the golf course operator and clubs has had an impact.

3 COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Jones: Welcomed Mayor Ashcraft. Introduced and welcomed two new golf commissioners, Lily Boris and Hamill Serrant. Mentioned that it would be Vice Chair Downing's last meeting and thanked him for his dedication to serving since 2015. Commented that the Junior Golf Club is entirely supported by women's golf club volunteers. Emphasized the generational connections that depend on one another, build the golf community and unite the broader community.

Vice Chair Downing: Stated that he is leaving the Golf Commission with gratitude for having a very meaningful experience and with regret for leaving when the situation could be better.

Commissioner Tong: Appreciated and agreed with ideas expressed in public comment. Suggested getting regular feedback from the golf community to identify operating constraints and creative ways to address mutual goals.

Commissioner Boris: Acknowledged speakers' unique perspectives and stated that their comments are of great value and will be reviewed.

Commissioner Serrant: Thanked speakers and looks forward to understanding how the Golf Commission's role can work towards a solution between the golf course operator and clubs.

Mayor Ashcraft: Thanked speakers for their compelling stories and asked if the men's golf clubs have had similar experiences to which Chair Jones replied yes. Discussed working toward a solution. Expressed pride in the Golf Commission and appreciation for the meeting invitation.

4 MINUTES

4-A Minutes of March 11, 2025, were approved unanimously.

5 REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

5-A Facility and Renovation Report by Greenway Golf

No report was given by a representative (present or online).

5-B Jim's on the Course Restaurant Report

No report was given by a representative (present or online).

5-C Recreation and Parks Director Report

Director Long gave the Director Report (attached).

6 NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS – July 8, 2025

**Facility and Renovation Report by Greenway Golf
Jim's on the Course Restaurant Report
Recreation and Parks Director Report**

7 ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Downing motioned to adjourn the meeting.

M/S Vice Chair Downing / Commissioner Tong. All present in favor with five ayes.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:57 p.m.

The agenda for the special meeting was posted 12 days in advance in compliance with the Alameda Sunshine Ordinance, which also complies with the 72-hour requirement of the Brown Act.

**GOLF COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
5-21-2025**

Item 2: Non-Agenda Public Comment

- My name is Diane Hughes, I have been captain of Alameda Women's Golf Club for 12 or 13 years, maybe longer.
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- AWGC was formed in 1929 and is excitedly planning its Centennial.
- **Let me tell you a little about our great club.**
- This club is composed of 106 members mostly senior women who are retired
- This club has been there to support golf in Alameda during good and bad economic times and when the courses were in poor condition or not available for play
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- Golf is an activity that keeps us on our feet and healthy (at least half of our members walk the course).
- Additionally, the club keeps us all connected with a very strong social bond
 - The deep and lasting relationships built among its members allows for help in times of need such as when a member or a member's spouse becomes ill, is dying, or has other life challenges. For instance
 - Jane Sullwold had a stroke in January and without hesitation a group of club members organized themselves to help Jane and Bob get through the unfortunate event.
 - Without the friendships and networks built through the club, this critical support network would not exist

- We have delivered between 35 and 50 golfers to the Alameda course just about every Thursday morning for 96 years.
 - Without staff assistance
 - We print our own scorecards, score our own tournaments
 - The operator only needs to collect green fees
 - Prior course management has welcomed our reliable play and even encouraged us to *increase* our membership.
 - Now we feel very unwelcome.
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- In mid April, we learned that an NCGA tournament had been booked over our usual tee times – and no one told us. If we hadn't stumbled on the double booking by accident 40 ladies would have showed up to golf. That NCGA tournament was open for registration back in January, so they had months to tell us.
 - Then the following week a “mistake” was made, and the tee sheet was opened to public booking during our tee times, again no one told us.
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 - After all the fuss, we were given a list of seven Thursday dates so far this year where events have been booked over our usual tee times, and we understand there could be more dates lost. We have been able to move some play days to Metro or Monarch and Greenway did cooperate with moving two major tournament days to later tee times. Tomorrow, we have been booked over, and we are simply cancelling club golf.

- August 7 is still not resolved. They booked an event over us, there are open tee times behind the event, but for some reason they won't explain, they are not letting us move the club tee times to follow the event.
- The Mens' clubs and the Niners are all experiencing the same disruptions.
- We are really attempting to work with Greenway but are finding it very frustrating. Reasonable requests are being denied, instead we are encouraged to take our club off site.
- The course is owned by Alameda and is one of its largest park venues.
- **We are asking for any support the Commission or City can provide to ensure our 100 year club continues to thrive and play golf at Corica Park.**

Golf Commission meeting May 21st. Hello, Thank you for your time this evening.

I'm Peggy Marcenaro. I've been an Alameda resident since 1983.

I'm currently the President of the Alameda Niners Golf Club. I've been the President for 3 years and a member since 2018.

The club has been at Corica Park since 1972. We play every Monday except holidays when we play on Tuesdays for 11 months of the year. We currently have 54 members in the club.

Recently the club received a disturbing notification from Greenway Management that 9 of our previously scheduled Mondays would not be possible for play due to the rescheduling of other tournaments on these Mondays. This was in addition to 2 other dates that we already knew about.

That is a cancellation of 23% of our play dates.

No other play options were offered to our club. When I asked about other solutions such as a later start time, play on the North course, Tuesday play, or a reverse shogun. The response I received was that no further club days would be added this year.

We are currently working with Metropolitan and Redwood Canyon GC to reschedule these bumped Mondays. But we find that the number of members playing will be 30% lower than when we play in Alameda. That means that our members are not getting in a day of golf that week.

Last year we were notified when planning 2024 that there were 9 Mondays that were not available due to prior tournaments being scheduled. We were able rescheduled 8 of these at Metropolitan GC.

Prior to last year, I've never heard of the Niners being bumped from their scheduled Mondays for the 53 years that they've supported Corica Park until Greenway Management took over the running of the course.

One last item I'd like to make the commission aware of is that the 9 hole golf rate was taken away when Greenway Management took over. We have several players who are only capable of playing 9 holes, but now have to pay the 18 hole rate, plus the \$22 cart rate to play. They now have to pay double to play 9 holes.

This is upsetting since this Monday morning of golf is a source of exercise, plus social and mental interaction for these players. We have had a few members quit or move to an Associate status with 1 play day a month due to this extra cost.

We hope that the Commission and City will look into these issues and offer solutions to support the Monday play of the Alameda Niners Golf Club at Corica Park. Thank you

5/21/2025 ARPD Director's Report
Presented by Recreation and Park Director Justin Long

Upcoming Citywide Community Events:

- **Alameda Walks: Gold Coast Neighborhood Walk**, Saturday, **May 24**, 9:00 AM–10:15 AM. Led by Dennis Evanosky. Meet at Franklin Park, 1432 San Antonio Ave.
- **Rhythmix Rising Seas with Batey Tambo**, Saturday, **May 31**, 1:00 PM–4:00PM, Seaplane Lagoon Promenade. Enjoy live music, dance, and theater on Alameda's waterfront. Visit www.rhythmix.org for details.

Upcoming Recreation Events and Activities:

- **57th Annual Sandcastle & Sand Sculpture Contest**, Saturday, **June 21**, 9:00 AM–1:00 PM, Robert Crown Memorial State Beach. Join us for this wonderful community event! Sponsored by ARPD, East Bay Regional Park District, Alameda Youth Committee, and Bayview Women's Club.
- **48th Annual July 4th Parade**, Friday, 10:00 AM. Currently seeking sponsors, parade participants, volunteers, cars and drivers! Visit our website for more information.

Recreation Programs:

The **2025 Summer Activity Guide** is available in the community, and registration is filling up! ARPD offers over **1,400** different program opportunities for families to choose from this summer. With a wide variety of activities covering many exciting topics, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Currently, over **12,000** individuals have already taken the opportunity to enroll! To register for programs, or if you'd like more information, please visit our website. Don't miss out!

Recreation Highlights:

- **ARPD Recruitment and Outreach Efforts in March/April:**
 - ARPD attended the Alameda Youth Career & Job Fair at Encinal Jr. Sr. High School, Cal State East Bay Government and Public Service Career and Internship Fair, and Bishop O'Dowd High School Career Day
 - Over **300** applicants for summer positions throughout ARPD
 - Over **70** youth volunteers to assist with summer programming
- The **Alameda Spring Shindig** held in honor of Earth Day took place on Saturday, **April 19**, at the AP Gym & Multi-purpose Field. Approximately **3,000** community members attended the "Superhero" themed event and visited over **100** booths featuring local organizations and businesses, city departments and family fun activities. We appreciate everyone involved in celebrating Earth Day with us!
- The **11th Annual Play for the Parks Golf Tournament** took place on Monday, **May 19** at Corica Park with dinner and an auction at Harrison Center, Lincoln Park. Thank you to Alameda Friends of the Parks for their ongoing support!

Aquatics (all programs take place at Encinal Swim Center):

- All summer CAMPS, SPECIAL CLASSES, and LESSONS are open for registration.

Youth:

- **Youth Summer Camps** are filling up quickly! STEAM at Leydecker Park features exciting themes such as Harry Potter, Disney, and Star Wars! All Sports Camp at AP Gym highlights fun activities such as basketball, flag football, archery, and dodgeball! Hidden Cove, Trails End, and WOW Summer Camps have spots left, sign up soon!
- The **Parks & Playground Program** will be offered this summer, Monday–Friday, 12:00 PM–5:00 PM, **June 16 - August 8** at Lincoln, Sweeney, Tillman, and Washington Parks. This FREE drop-in program provides arts, crafts, cooking, drama, games, and special activities for kindergarten - 5th graders. Note: Parents and caregivers are required to stay with their children throughout the activity.

Tween/Teen:

- **Operation Green Sweep Summer Program** is seeking teens interested in beautifying our parks while earning community service hours. Meets on Mondays and Fridays, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM, **June 23 – July 25**, in front of the Veteran's Memorial Building, 2203 Central Ave. Visit our website or contact Ashley Cendejas, acendejas@alamedaca.gov, for more information.
- Register for **Teen Summer Day Trips!** Destinations include Indoor Skydiving, Laser Tag, Quarry Park Adventure, Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, Six Flags Discovery Kingdom and a 3-night camping trip at Lake Del Valle in Livermore!
- ARPD hosts the **LGBTQ+ Teen Center** for 6th-12th graders at the Underground Teen Center, Veterans Memorial Building, 2203 Central Ave., every second Friday of the month, 6:00 PM–9:00 PM. For more information about this program, visit www.alamedapride.com

Sports:

- **Current Youth Offerings:**
 - **After School Pickleball Classes** held Tuesdays of each month, 4:00 PM–5:30 PM, Alameda Point Gym. ARPD provides equipment and transportation from the Underground Teen Center for 6th–8th graders.
 - **Homeschool PE Program** is offered to children (grades K-5th) Wednesday and Friday mornings, 9:00 AM–12:00 PM at the Alameda Point Gym. This program teaches basketball, soccer, dodgeball, pickleball, and various fun activities.
- **Current Adult Offerings:**
 - A total of nine **Adult Softball Spring/Summer Leagues** have started for COED, Men's, and Women's Leagues.
 - Friday morning **Drop-in Pickleball** continues at Alameda Point Gym, 1101 West Redline Ave.
 - ARPD **Adult Pickleball and Tennis Classes** continue to be offered throughout the spring and summer at various locations. All skill levels welcome!

Mastick Upcoming Events and Programs:

- **Kayaking for Seniors**, Friday, **June 6**, 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM, launch from Grand St. Marina. Tour Seaplane Lagoon, observe marine life, navy vessels, and bay views!

Mastick Senior Center Highlights:

- The **Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon** honored over **100** volunteers on Thursday, **April 17** in the Social Hall. The theme of this special celebration was “Hats Off to Our Volunteers”!
- Mastick volunteers logged almost **17,000** volunteer hours in education, recreation, social services, social events and fundraising programs for the 2024 calendar year!

Mastick Statistics (March & April):

- This tax season, the **AARP Tax-Aide Program** assisted a total of **812** taxpayers, with an emphasis on individuals aged 50+ with low to moderate income.
- Number of birthday greeting cards sent to members: **766**
- Number of new members: **257**
- Total lunch meals served: **2,482**

Leisure Club:

- **Leisure Club Talent Show**, Thursday, **June 26**, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM, Harrison Center/Lincoln Park, 1450 High St. Enjoy exciting performances by Leisure Club Program participants! Contact Morace McKay, Recreation Manager, at mmckay@alamedaca.gov or 510-747-7510 for details.

Parks:

- Estuary Park scoreboards installation is complete. Thank you to “Alameda Friends of the Parks” for their generosity and support!
- Tree removals in March/April:
 - Lincoln Park Playground was closed for a week during the removal of a diseased tree. Several replacement trees have been planted.
 - An unhealthy Magnolia tree at Chochenyo Park has been removed and replaced by a young Magnolia tree.
- On Saturday, March 29, 100K Trees for Humanity and ARPD teamed up for a successful community tree-planting event at Main St. Linear Park. 50 new trees were planted with the help of 100 enthusiastic volunteers and staff. The event was made possible thanks to a generous grant from PG & E for 100K Trees for Humanity. It was a fantastic day of teamwork and community spirit!

- 10 trees were planted in celebration of Earth Day at the Spring Shindig. The trees (five English Hornbeams and five Horse Chestnuts) were planted at the AP Multi-purpose Field. Special thanks to the teen volunteers who dedicated their time and hard work that day!
- Leydecker Softball Field lights have been converted to energy-efficient LED fixtures reducing costs and improving sustainability.
- The landscape surrounding Leydecker Recreation Center has been revitalized. Existing vegetation was removed and replaced with new drought-tolerant shrubs, plants, and trees – including four red maples, two crape myrtles and one redbud – and finished with fresh mulch.

Staff Recognition:

- Congratulations to **Jose Ledesma** on his well-earned promotion to Park Maintenance Worker III! Since joining ARPD, Jose has consistently shown a strong work ethic and leadership. Over the past year and a half, he stepped up as Acting Park Maintenance Worker II during a departmental vacancy, demonstrating initiative and the ability to lead by example. Jose also mentors staff, sharing his knowledge and experience to support the team. His diligence and professionalism make him an invaluable asset to ARPD. Well done, Jose!
- We would like to recognize **Jessica Vizcaino**, ARPD Gardener, for her outstanding work and dedication. She is known for her reliability, attention to detail, and positive attitude — qualities that make her both a pleasure to work with and a valued member of the team. Before joining ARPD, Jessica operated her own residential gardening business, giving her a unique and practical perspective on landscape care. She continues to grow in her role, taking initiative and actively seeking opportunities to expand her skills and knowledge. Thank you for all that you do, Jessica!