



ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Thursday, October 13, 2022
TIME: 7:02 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 Nguyen and Commissioner Jones

Absent: Commissioner Robbins

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Nguyen moved to accept the minutes of September 8, 2022 Regular Meeting as presented.

M/S Commissioner Nguyen / Vice Chair Alexander. All present in favor with 4 ayes via roll call vote.

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 thanked Vice Chair Alexander for the excellent and professional job she did during her time as Chair and expressed her appreciation with a beautiful engraved paperweight.
- Director Amy Wooldridge gave the Director report. See Exhibit 1.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Jones: Concerned about the unhoused people in McKinley Park and asked what the process is regarding unhoused individuals. Answer from Director Wooldridge: The Alameda Homeless hotline is a great place to report concerns.
- Commissioner Nguyen: Visited Estuary Park and was happy to see another volleyball net up. Visited Jean Sweeney Park and enjoyed seeing the drought resistant plants that were added along with the rock structure. Excited to visit the teen Haunted House. Spent time at Littlejohn Park and asked about the Recreation Center building that is still boarded up. Director Wooldridge said there was an incident of arson there and the center is out to bid for construction which should start at the end of January 2023 with the goal of completion before summer 2023 starts.
- Vice Chair Alexander: Went to Lincoln Park to see the progress of the playground and said it looks fabulous so far. Members of the public talked to her about pickleball courts and encouraged ARPD to provide more pickleball courts. Thanked ARPD Juan Aguilar for the great job he is

doing with the Mobile Recreation Van and donated some books to the van. Visited Woodstock Park to see all the windows that were put in and the new paint job on the Recreation Building and was dismayed to see graffiti on the back of the building on the picnic table she and her husband donated. Notified ARPD Park Manager Matt Nowlen who had the graffiti removed. Had a chance to go out on the bay to watch the Blue Angels and found it interesting to see the Navy base and the waterfront parks from a different angle.

- Chair Navarro: Visited the Alameda Point Waterfront Park and enjoyed the new art piece. Was on a ferry today and enjoyed seeing the vantage point of the coastline as you come into Alameda. It's amazing to see the growth of the trees within 1 year. Attended a portion of Pride in the Park and found it fun to see so many different people gathering and enjoying the event.
- Commissioner Robbins: Director Wooldridge read Commissioner Robbins report per his request: Please tell everyone the weekend was spectacular for Alameda Pride. Friday the line to get in to the Fireside was really long outside the front door; I wasn't able to make it in but it looked great. Saturday was extremely organized and the young volunteers who went around picking up trash were a huge help. The music was great, the food trucks were plentiful and the crowds were huge. I was there from 11:50am to 4pm at the gay-straight alliance booth that Wood Middle School procured. The students from Wood Middle School and Encinal High School were professional and great with the public. It was really amazing since it is our first event and cannot wait for next year.

AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Navarro said they would switch item 6-A and 6-B to hear item 6-B first.

6-B Review and Comment on the Active Transportation Plan

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator for the City of Alameda gave the report on the full draft Alameda Active Transportation plan which included walking and biking safety and convenience, project timeline, community engagement, implements of city plans and policies, plan overview, plan organization, vision, goals, designing for pedestrians, pedestrian street typology, pedestrian design matrix, planning for all types of bicyclists, proposed bikeway types, introducing neighborhood greenways, low-stress vision network, bicycle vision network, from slow streets to neighborhood greenways, trails and water crossings and next steps. The 2030 plan implementation includes 31 programs, 31 projects and a low stress backbone network.

Public Comments

- Speaker Dona Fuller: If an association believes they need stop signs or caution signs, how can they achieve that? Would like to make Eastshore a slow street which would slow the traffic down. Answer from Rochelle Wheeler: She works with the city and together they look at issues and complaints. Unfortunately, stop signs are not considered street calming but there are other street calming solutions available.

Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Jones: Thank you for the presentation. Asked if the focus on the avenues was

more than the focus on the streets. Answer from Rochelle Wheeler: The avenues have been tackled. Focus is more on the neighborhood streets.

- Commissioner Nguyen: Great transportation plan. Would the app See Click Fix app be helpful? Answer from Rochelle Wheeler: The transportation plan has their own interactive maps that was created to obtain the initial information. Ongoing, they will be incorporating information through See Click Fix.
- Vice Chair Alexander: Thank you for the presentation. How do we educate bicycle riders to stay in the bike lanes? Answer from Rochelle Wheeler: There is a bike safety education program and opportunities as part of the plan.
- Chair Navarro: Thank you for the presentation. Happy to see bike and pedestrian safety implemented. If the draft is not adopted, can it still be modified or is it all or nothing. Answer from Rochelle Wheeler: The hope is for it to be adopted in some form.

6-A 2023 User Fee Schedule

Director Wooldridge gave the report on the 2023 Annual User Fee Schedule which included background, ARPD cost recovery model, overall program increases, proposed changes to existing fees, new proposed fees and fee comparisons.

Public Comments

- Speaker - none

Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Jones: Great report, looks good.
- Commissioner Nguyen: Appreciates seeing what ARPD fees are in comparison to other cities. What is the food truck fee for? Answer from Director Wooldridge: If ARPD has an event, it is how much we would charge the operator of the food truck to be at the event. The food truck operator would keep all of their proceeds and profits.
- Vice Chair Alexander: Likes what she sees and thanked Director Wooldridge for all her hard work. Thinks ARPD rates are reasonable and comparable with other cities.
- Chair Navarro: Thank you for the report. Are most of the fees generated from residents or nonresidents? Answer from Director Wooldridge: We have a very high level of residential use due to the City of Alameda being an island. Last year ARPD made an adjustment to make sure the non- resident rates are 15% to 20% higher than the resident rates.

6-A Motion

Commissioner Nguyen motioned to approve the fee schedule as presented.

M/S Commissioner Nguyen / Vice Chair Alexander

All present in favor with 4 ayes via roll call vote.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA: Tennis and pickleball rules and regulations, report on BMX study and possibilities for the Encinal campground.

Motion made by Commissioner Nguyen to agendize re-looking at the dog park option on the East End.

M/S Commissioner Nguyen / Commissioner Jones

Motion failed by the following roll call tie vote: 2 ayes: Commissioner Nguyen and Commission Jones.

2 noes: Vice Chair Alexander and Chair Navarro

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: Next meeting is a Regular meeting on Thursday November 10, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Navarro adjourned the meeting at 8:44 PM.

10/13/2022 ARPD Director's Report

Presented by Recreation and Park Director Amy Wooldridge

Recreation Services

- ARPD Aquatics – All activities were cancelled at Emma Hood for the month of September due to a pump repair issue but are now back in session. At Encinal Swim Center, the heater is broken and AUSD anticipates it will take several months before it is replaced. This only affects the large pool which is used for lap swim, AUSD teams and user groups but swim lessons are continuing in the small pool. AUSD is responsible for all maintenance and repair of both swim centers.
- Alameda Point Gymnasium is fully booked this fall, primarily with school and local non-profit youth basketball and volleyball teams.
- Alameda Youth Committee has been working diligently on the Teen Haunted House. The Haunted House theme this year will be Creature Feature Movie & Shows. It will be again down at South Shore Center in the former Carter storefront on October 28-30.
- ARPD staff is conducting their 17th annual pumpkin decorating contest throughout their programs. Everyone will be able to vote on their favorite creation on our website soon!
- We are continuing to seek to hire people, especially on nights and weekends as facility attendants and park ambassadors.

Mastick Senior Center

- Thrift Shop Jewelry Sale, Saturday, October 22, 10:00 a. m. - 1:00 p.m.
Air Force Band Concert, Friday, October 28, 12:00 p.m. A performance by the U.S. Air Force Band of the Golden West, a professional music ensemble! No registration required.
- New evening classes including Fitness with Kendra on Tuesdays from 5pm – 6pm for a full body work out plus Yoga for Bone Health on Tuesdays from 5pm – 6:15pm.

Park Maintenance

- Scout Julia Carvalho earned her Eagle Scout status by painting the park maintenance building at Franklin Park
- Lincoln Park Playground: Parks staff installed the lion and the playground is approximately 50% complete with final completion anticipated by the end of October. We are planning a Grand Opening for November.
- Park tree maintenance is now following a 5-zone schedule similar to Public Works trees in the right of way. This means trees will be maintained per zone and trimmed every five years. Previously, trees were trimmed when deemed necessary by Parks Maintenance staff.
- Our Park Maintenance staff continue to do many improvement projects that make our parks so much better! Staff recently completed installation of a gravel play area with two diggers for children at Longfellow Park in an unused area near the picnic tables and playground. It's one more play amenity for the neighborhood kids to enjoy!
- The Washington Park Tennis Court resurfacing and installation of LED lights is complete
- The Encinal Boat Ramp docks and gangway were installed after being significantly damaged from last year's storm and extensive supply and repair delays.
- Scout Ryan Liu is process of installing the Solar Walk signage along Shoreline Park with the sun sign located near the base of the Bay Farm Bridge and the Neptune planet sign located near the ferry terminal.
- The developer constructing the Alameda Landing Waterfront Park anticipates opening the park later this month. A grand opening will be planned when the dock and second phase open at a later date.

Administration

- Sweeney Park trail connector project that connects 8th St. and Wood St. as well as two northern connectors to the business park at Challenger and Triumph continues to move forward. There was some delay to address soil conditions. The 65% plans will be submitted to City staff by 10/4/22 and construction is anticipated in the first quarter of 2023.
- City Aquatic Center to City Council on 10/18/22
- The Commission's recommended park names for Alameda Point Waterfront and Neighborhood Parks and Alameda Landing Waterfront Park will be before City Council for final approval on November 1, 2022.
- Alameda Pride in the Park was a huge success with an estimated 3,000 people in attendance. There was lots of positive comments and feedback about the event.
- Currently hiring the Recreation Services Manager position. Excellent candidates and anticipate the new staff person will start by the end of this year.
- Working with unhoused individuals in our parks is an ongoing issue. Staff works closely with an internal social services team that includes Community Development, Public Works and Police Department staff. There is a mobile outreach team staffed by Village of Love that connects people with services and two Homeless Liaison Officers.
- Community Events:
 - o Teen Haunted House – Oct. 28 – 30 at South Shore
 - o Pumpkin Patch Pool Party – Oct. 30 at Emma Hood Swim Center
 - o Annual Holiday Boutique – Nov. 5 – 6 at the O' Club