



ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Thursday, December 8, 2016
TIME: 7:02 p.m. Called to Order
PLACE: City Hall Council Chambers

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Ruben Tilos, Vice Chair Delaney, and Commissioners Ron Limoges
Absent: Commissioner Adam Trujillo
Staff: Amy Wooldridge, Recreation Director

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Minutes of November 10, 2016 Regular Meeting were approved by all who attended the meeting.
M/C/S Vice Chair Delaney / Commissioner Limoges
All present and who attended the November 10, 2016 Regular Meeting in favor with 3 – 0 vote**

NEW BUSINESS

4-A Receive Report on the Homeless Action Plan Related to Jean Sweeney Open Space Park

Recreation and Park Director, Amy Wooldridge, gave the report and update on the Homeless Action Plan related to Jean Sweeney Open Space Park (JSOSP), which included the survey results, case management services and the homeless action plan. City Staff, Alameda Point Collaborative, Operation Dignity and SSHRB held a community meeting on September 27, 2016 to gather input from the neighbors that live by the Jean Sweeney Open Space Park of which approximately 80 attended along with people from the current homeless encampments. Mayor Trish Spencer, Councilmember Ezzy Ashcraft and Vice Chair Delaney also attended. It was a good turn out and was an emotional but a productive and respectful meeting. The initial survey showed that 33 individuals, of which 5 reported being veterans, are currently residing at the JSOSP and all but 3 expressed interest in Case Management Services. All reported being interested in housing. The ongoing case management services include a one-year agreement with Operation Dignity for 20 hours a week and 2 outreach workers and a case manager operation in 4 hour shifts. The Homeless Action Plan Budget is \$242,242.00 which is funded by the General Fund and includes the Operation Dignity contract plus clearing brush and installing temporary solar lights to improve safety and discourage encampments.

Chair Tilos asked about the size of the encampments. Director Wooldridge said it depends on the area; most are tents and tarps with a few built structures. Chair Tilos said it sounds like a good solution for right now and may not be as much of a problem once the park is built. Chair Tilos also asked if there are any other sources for funding from the county or Grant funding on which Director Wooldridge said not at this time.

Vice Chair Delaney was concerned if we have the programs and facilities to take care of more people

whether more homeless would come to Alameda because we build a reputation of having good programs. Vice Chair Delaney also asked if the City Council requested any other measurements at the December 6th meeting. Director Wooldridge said yes, the staff is requested to bring back a status report every 6 months to the City Council. Vice Chair Delaney applauded Director Wooldridge's efforts for taking on this large project.

Commissioner Limoges said it seems like a modest investment right now but if the issue isn't managed then it could become a larger problem, especially as resources become stretched. Overall it is good that the City is taking on the homeless issue. He expressed concern about the homeless that are sleeping every night at Crown Beach. Director Wooldridge said that she would let Operation Dignity know so they could also post flyers at Crown Beach to let the homeless know where to get help. Commissioner Limoges inquired if there was to be a decision to put a sanctioned tent city on the old camp ground at Alameda Point, who would make that decision. Director Wooldridge said that would need to be a policy decision by the City Council.

REPORTS

A. Recreation Commission Reports

Vice Chair Delaney attended the City Council meeting on December 6th where they gave recognition to Doug Siden, East Bay Regional Park District long time board member representing the City of Alameda. Mr. Delaney said he was one of the most dedicated individuals he knew and it was a very rewarding evening. Vice Chair Delaney also attended the Woodstock Park neighborhood meeting on December 1st. He said there were many wonderful people who were happy about the Woodstock Park design and he commended Recreation Services Specialist Dennis McDaniels for doing a good job. The Alameda Rotary Club donated \$30,000 to the playground renovation project at Woodstock Park.

Commissioner Limoges attended the retirement event for Director Doug Siden at the Dunsmuir estate and was astonished about the 60 years of dedication and service of the two retirees.

Chair Tilos attended the Mayors' Tree Lighting Ceremony and said it was a great event and that the children really enjoyed the free glow sticks that were handed out. He thanked ARPD for putting on such a great event.

B. Friends of the Park Report (FOTP)

FOTP are currently talking to another potential member to serve on the board as treasurer. The FOTP has up to approximately \$122,000 in their account that has already been earmarked for playground equipment, the Krusi Park memorial and various programs. FOTP just received a significant donation from Silicon Valley Bank and feels they are making wonderful progress in obtaining money for the organization, especially due to their connection with ARPD.

C. Recreation and Parks Director Report

The City Council appointed Marianne Carter at their meeting on December 6th as the new Recreation Commissioner who will attend the January 12, 2017 meeting.

The Trust for Public lands is a nonprofit organization who are working on Park mapping projects. The overlay shows residential areas that have a park within a 10 minute walk in purple. Almost all of the City of Alameda showed up purple, emphasizing what a comprehensive park system we have.

This weekend, December 10th, the Breakfast with Santa event was full with 160 participants. The Mayors Tree Lighting Ceremony was a big success. There are still a few spots for Santa home visits as well as the Winter Wonderland Camps. The Jungle Safari Dance Party for girls and their Fathers or their other significant role models is on February 10, 2017.

Mastick Senior Center just hired a full time custodian. Mastick Senior Center's sing along with Santa and the ABC preschool children went well and was fun. Alameda Band had their event last Friday with 125 people attending. Alameda Chorus is performing at no charge this Friday at the Veterans' Building.

Estuary Park construction is continuing with delays due to rain. Jean Sweeney construction drawings are nearing completion. Cross Alameda Trail has been delayed due to final hurdles with the Caltrans grant. Krusi Park Recreation Center is in design with Group4 with the intention to go out to bid for construction in April.

Woodstock Park neighbors liked the new plans for playground which include 6 slides, a zip line, a huge net, a spinner, and a new tot play area. The goal is to bring the plans to this Commission in February for approval. Commissioner Delaney attended the meeting and was concerned that the outside lights were not on in that area. Director Wooldridge said she would follow up on that.

Chair Tilos asked for any updates on Golf Course. Director Wooldridge said August/September 2017 was the goal for completion of the South Course construction.

Commissioner Delaney asked about the memorial structure at Krusi. Director Wooldridge said she assisted Alameda resident Cindy Miner Kapelke, who is in charge of the project, with recommendations for contractors as their previous contractor was unable to do the project.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

1. Welcoming the new Recreation Commissioner Marianne Carter
2. Updates on Estuary Park, Jean Sweeney Open Space Park and/or Cross Alameda Trail
3. Recreation Services Specialist to talk about their programs
4. Goals for the Recreation Commission in 2017

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, January 12, 2017

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Tilos adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.