



ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Thursday, October 14, 2021
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, Commissioner Navarro, Commissioner Jones
Absent: Vice Chair Robbins and Commissioner Nguyen
Staff: (Teleconference via Zoom) Alameda Recreation and Park Department (ARPD) Director Amy Wooldridge

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Alexander moved to accept the minutes of September 9, 2021 Regular Meeting as presented. M/S Commissioner Navarro / Commissioner Jones. All present in favor with 3 ayes via roll call vote.

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

- Written Communication: none
- Oral Communication:
 - Speaker Clifton Linton, Member of Alameda Aquatic Masters Board of Directors introduced himself and gave appreciation for the aquatics programs in the City of Alameda as it is such a benefit to the community and additional pool time has increased the number of people using the aquatics programs.

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

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Navarro: Re-visited all the proposed East End dog sites and looked at the sites again after hearing the public comments at the last Recreation and Park Commission meeting in September.
- Commissioner Jones: Attended a private event at the new Krusi Recreation Center and said the center is beautiful. Gave a shout out to Chair Alexander for providing the history of Krusi Park to the attendees.
- Chair Alexander: The event in October was to celebrate the bench dedication to Bob Rhodes and Barry Weiss. Great event and the turnout was a tribute to the importance to the parks in Alameda. Visited Seaplane Lagoon to watch the progress of the new park, visited Lincoln Park to see the impressive new fence and walked Jean Sweeney Park to get a sense of the land that belongs to the park and complemented the ARPD staff for their creative fall programs.

AGENDA ITEMS

6-A Review and Recommend the Recreation and Parks Department 2022 Annual User Fee Schedule

ARPD Director Wooldridge gave the presentation on the 2022 User Fee Report which included the ARPD Cost Recovery Model, current 2021 fees, proposed 2022 fees and Comparison Study.

6-A Public Comments

- Speaker Clifton Linton, Alameda Resident: Thank you for clarifying the fee schedule. Everything looks affordable. Question, why is there difference between the fees for renting Emma Hood and Encinal High School pool? Answer from Director Wooldridge: Encinal High has been renovated and is an improved facility.
- Speaker Morgan Bellinger, Alameda Resident: Commented on the aquatics fees for access to the pools and lessons and asked why ARPD wouldn't do a membership fee at the beginning of the year similar to other private Alameda aquatic programs? Answer from Director Wooldridge: ARPD does not have a membership model and the goal is to keep the programs equitable.

6-A Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Navarro: Happy that ARPD is addressing and increasing non-resident tennis lesson fees as our fees are much cheaper than other places.
- Chair Alexander: Agrees with the User Fee changes. Asked if ARPD still has scholarships for the programs? Answer from Director Wooldridge: Yes.
- Commissioner Jones: Thanked Director Wooldridge for all her hard work.

6-A Motion

Commissioner Navarro moved to accept the Recreation and Park Department 2022 Annual User Fee Schedule as presented to be adopted by City Council.

M/S Commissioner Navarro / Commissioner Jones

All present in favor with 3 ayes via roll call vote.

6-B Review and Recommend Chochenyo Park Play Area Final Design

ARPD Director Wooldridge gave the presentation on the final design for Chochenyo Park play area which included the new location, nature based circular design by Tyler Velten with a community gathering space. The design includes a concrete ramp to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

6-B Public Comments

- Speaker Meredith Hoskin, Alameda Resident: Thanked everyone for doing the play area project and agrees with approving the final design.

- Speaker Morgan Bellinger, Alameda Resident: Excited to see the new play area and his 5-year-old daughter would like to see the destination of the train to be Mexico or Unicorn Lane.
- Speaker Amy L., Alameda Resident: Are the benches in the park that the City is providing a possibility for bench sponsorship and can that money go to further playground build out? Answer from Director Wooldridge: Yes, there is a possibility for bench sponsorship and no for the money going to the playground build out as the bench sponsorship is at cost to purchase and install the benches and not a money making revenue for ARPD.

6-B Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Navarro: Excited to see the park become activated with the play area.
- Chair Alexander: Excited to see the play area come to final fruition.
- Commissioner Jones: Asked if the play area will be fenced in? Answer from Director Wooldridge: There was a lot of discussion previously and ultimately settled on the proposed location without a fence, however; a fence could always be added in the future if there are safety concerns.

6-B Motion

Commissioner Navarro moved to accept the Chochenyo Park Play Area Final Design as presented.

M/S Commissioner Navarro / Commissioner Jones

All present in favor with 3 ayes via roll call vote.

6-C Discuss Commissioner Assignments to Observe Parks and Programs

Director Amy Wooldridge proposed that item 6-C be tabled as there are two Commissioners not present and would be best to have the discussion with all 5 Commissioners.

6-C Motion

Chair Alexander moved to table item 6-C

M/S Chair Alexander / Commissioner Navarro

All present in favor with 3 ayes via roll call vote.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

- Athletic Facility Allocation Proposal
- Interpretive Signage for Chochenyo Park
- Review and Recommend Locations for Lawn Conversion to Drought Tolerant Landscape in Parks

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: November 11, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn

M/S Commissioner Navarro / Commissioner Jones

Motion carried by the following voice vote: All in favor with a 3 ayes via roll call vote.

Chair Alexander adjourned the meeting at 8:16PM.

10/14/2021 ARPD Director's Report

Presented by Recreation and Park Director Amy Wooldridge

Recreation Services

- Alameda Youth Committee (AYC) has successfully reimagined the Teen Haunted House this year and will create and distribute Halloween goodie bags to local pre-schools, convalescent homes and RAP sites on October 28. There 45 teens enrolled this year. They are also creating a new Teen Club program since the drop-in Underground Teen Center is not yet open.
- We completed fall and winter gym and field allocations for local non-profit sports organization and schools. There is very high demand for these facilities.
- ARPD Aquatics 2021- swim lessons are completely filled for the Fall Session.
- The Pool Pumpkin Party is on October 24 starting at 1:30pm. Already 350 people have registered to receive a pumpkin, some crafts and some exercise.
- All RAP sites will participate in the annual pumpkin decorating contest. Be ready to vote for your favorite creation starting October 26. Voting will be available online.
- Alameda Holiday Boutique is November 6 & 7 at the Officers' Club from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Admission is free and it's a great way to support local artists and crafters, including Mastick Senior Center artists.

Mastick Senior Center

- Hybrid Lunch Program: Now serving approximately 9 people in our dining room with an additional 24 picking up a packaged "grab and go" lunch. The food is now being delivered in catering pans and staff and volunteers are preparing the "grab and go" packaged lunches, as well as heating and serving folks in the dining room. Lunch Program participation is greater now than before the pandemic closure.
- For the period of July – September 30, 2021, membership is at 2,235.
- About 90% of classes/programs have returned at reduced capacity. More to return in January.
- MSCAB approved funding for an additional two years for the case/care management (Senior Connections) contract with Alameda Family Services.

Park Maintenance

- Renovating sports fields at Lincoln, Godfrey, Tillman, and Harrington Parks
- Encinal High School students are volunteering in parks picking up trash
- Completed landscaping drought tolerant plants and drip irrigation at the Grand Street Boat Ramp as well as replaced the boat dock and gangway on the southeast side. We've received lots of positive feedback from the community. Working on BCDC permit for the dock replacement on the northwest side. Big shout out to park maintenance staff who did all of the landscape work.
- Moving forward with hiring two gardeners to fill vacancies and promoted Cesar Venegas to Maintenance Worker I. More staff will be hired when two new parks open to the public at Alameda Landing and Alameda Point early next year
- Installed smart irrigation clocks at Multipurpose Field, Woodstock Park and Lincoln Park. Scheduling more locations at Franklin, Tillman and Littlejohn Parks. This will save approximately 15% of water costs because it tracks weather and reduces irrigation when it's not needed.
- Conducting a safety training audit and implementing additional trainings as identified\.

Administration / Projects

- Alameda Point Gymnasium floor renovation is complete and includes a new center court ARPD logo. In addition to basketball and volleyball lines, we added three pickleball courts for indoor play during the winter with portable nets.
- The Dog Park community survey is available on the website and social media. We are getting a good response and it will be open for a couple more weeks.
- There is a grand opening of the mosaic gateway columns at Jean Sweeney Open Space Park on Friday, Oct. 22 at 5:30pm at the park near Constitution Ave.