



ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Thursday, February 9, 2017
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 and Marianne Carter

Staff: Amy Wooldridge, Recreation Director

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chair Delaney requested the word “a” be added to page 3 under Mastick Senior Center to read The Leisure Club is going to “a” prom, instead of The Leisure Club is going to prom.

Minutes of January 12, 2017 Regular Meeting were approved by all who attended the meeting with the above change.

M/C/S Commissioner Limoges / Vice Chair Delaney

All present and who attended the January 12, 2017 Regular Meeting in favor with 4 – 0 vote

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

Alameda Recreation and Park Department (ARPD) Director Amy Wooldridge shared a written invitation to the Commissioners from the League of Women Voters to their annual mixer and fundraiser “Meet Your Public Officials” on Thursday March 30th.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Tilos changed the order of the new business to hear 4-B before 4-A which was in agreement of the Commission.

4-B Review and Recommend Woodstock Park Playground Design

Dennis Mc Daniels, ARPD Recreation Services Specialist, gave the presentation on the final Woodstock Park Playground Design. The design is an ocean theme which includes swings, a playground structure, a netted climbing structure and a newly developed playground for ages 2 to 5 year olds. The company, GameTime, was chosen to put together the initial design. The playground will be funded by generous grants from Alameda Rotary and Alameda Friends of the Park Foundation plus development impact fees and the recreation fund to cover the project cost of \$260,000. Vice chair Delaney was very impressed with the design and with Dennis’ work. He asked if the Boys and Girls Club was donating or supporting the project. Dennis said they were not financially supporting the project but they gave a lot of input for the design. Commissioner Carter asked if there is handicap parking access. Dennis said yes, it is located at the end of the cul-de-sac which is about 75 feet from the structure. The playground is also ADA accessible. Commissioner Limoges asked about the safety of playground structures in general. Dennis said all play structures have to meet safety standards. Chair Tilos asked if the charter school kids use the playground during school time. Dennis said yes. Chair

Tilos said it would be nice if the Boys and Girls Club and charter school contributed financially to ARPD as their use adds additional wear to the structure. Dennis agreed and said in the end what is important is that we meet our goal of providing safe places for our Alameda children to play. Chair Tilos commended Dennis' efforts with the themes and said he liked the seal, which gives a sense of pride as it reflects Woodstock's mascot; the Woodstock Seal.

Vice Chair Delaney made a motion that the Recreation and Park Commission approve the design as they were reviewed today and approve their movement to the City Council for approval.

M/C/S Vice Chair Delaney / Commissioner Limoges

All present in favor with a 4 – 0 vote.

4-A Approve the City of Alameda Paratransit Program Plan for Fiscal Year 2017/2018

Transportation Coordinator Gail Payne gave the presentation on the paratransit program which included program changes, budget and the planning process overview. Some of the proposed program changes are to increase the shuttle service frequency, rebrand the shuttles' name to "Alameda Loop", and put bus benches, poles and signs at the shuttle stops. She also introduced the new Paratransit Coordinator Victoria Williams who was welcomed by the Commissioners. Chair Tilos asked if the taxi fare was cheaper than Uber. Commissioner Delaney said Uber doesn't seem to be a significant force in Alameda. Gail Payne said Uber works well when people are short on time and don't mind spending the extra few dollars especially to and from BART. Commissioner Carter said she uses Uber and wonders if the people they surveyed were technology users and asked if there is an application that would better serve the public to let people know where the shuttle is so they can efficiently plan their time. Gail Payne said the survey was done mostly by hardcopy. Commissioner Limoges said AC Transit has on time technology and which makes the busses more accessible. He likes that the shuttle is a smaller in size. Chair Tilos said he likes that the busses in Oakland display the information of when the next bus is coming. Also, we should partner up with our local taxi to use an app to make it more convenient so the public can track where the taxi is and use the local taxi instead of Uber. Commissioner Limoges requested to have Victoria Williams back in the next 6 months to report progress.

Commissioner Limoges made a motion that the Recreation and Parks Commission approve the City of Alameda Paratransit Program Plan for the Fiscal Year 2017 / 2018.

M/C/S Commissioner Limoges / Commissioner Carter

All present in favor with a 4 – 0 vote.

4-C Presentation on Aquatics, Youth and Adult Sports, Fields and Facilities, And Special Events

Presentation by Dennis McDaniels, ARPD Recreation Services Specialist, gave a presentation of his role at ARPD, which included the aquatics programs, youth sports programs and camps, recreational baseball league, adult sports, special events, facilities, facility and field allocation, and special projects. Highlights included the affordability and accessibility of the programs for all ages. Vice Chair Delaney said Dennis is doing a fabulous job in all areas. He also asked if our relationship with the schools have been the same over the last 5 years. Dennis said yes. Once change is that in February 2017, the school district took over the maintenance of the pools. Vice Chair Delaney asked if when groups reserve a facility, does ARPD provide a staff member there. Dennis said yes we provide a staff member that is present through the entire event. Commissioner Carter made the observation that the demand exceeds the availability of the gym usage and asked about relationship and use of the Boys and Girls Club.

Dennis said it is an ongoing challenge with time and access due to the consistency of programming; however, there was a family gym night offered in 2016. Commissioner Carter requested a copy of the current policy of the field allocation and scheduling as she is interested in seeing more youth basketball programs in recreation, especially as part of the summer recreational league. She also complimented Dennis and his staff. Chair Tilos asked if adult leagues pay more. Dennis said yes. Chair Tilos commented maybe we should be charging non-residents more. He would also like to see more non organized sports that are open to less skilled children that are not competitive. Commissioner Limoges commented about the possibility of building another gym in Alameda in the future as a solution. Director Amy Wooldridge said Dennis does a fantastic job managing the various teams and all the pieces of his job and is a valuable member of the ARPD team.

4-D Discussion on Recreation and Parks Commission Priorities for 2017

The Commissioners looked over a list of parks, programs and special events to choose their assignments to commit to and report back at the Recreation and Park Commission.

- Commissioner Limoges chose Lincoln Park, Littlejohn Park, Summer Aquatics Programs, Annual Swim Championships, Sand Castle Contest, Underground Teen Center, Liaison to Alameda Point Parks and to co-create with Commissioner Carter on a donor program for youth scholarships.
- Vice chair Delaney chose Franklin Park, Secret Shopper, Egg Scramble, Mayor's Tree Lighting, Breakfast with Santa and will ask Friends of the Park to assist in attending and report back on their sponsored events such as Starlight Movies.
- Commissioner Carter chose the Annual C-Bone Skate Tournament, Washington Park, RAP, Drop in Play at Alameda Point Gym, Girls in Sports Committee Liaison and to co-create with Commissioner Limoges on a donor program for youth scholarships.
- Chair Tilos chose Encinal Boat Launch, Woodstock Park, Krusi Park, Mastick Senior Center, Cityview Skate Park and the League of Women's Voters.

REPORTS

A. Recreation Commission Reports

Commissioner Limoges visited the Underground Teen Center and attended the Alameda Youth Committee meeting and said it was fun to interact with the teens and was impressed with the program and how the staff interacts with the teens.

B. Friends of the Park Report (FOTP)

The Bike for the Parks date is set for September 30, 2017. The goal is to make the event on the last Saturday of September each year. The Golf for the Parks Tournament will be either September 25 or October 2, 2017.

C. Recreation and Parks Director Report

Parks:

- Park maintenance have been assessing the trees throughout the storms and have done major trimming on some, such as at Godfrey Park, to ensure safety.

Recreation:

- There are 168 couples registered for the Jungle Safari Dance Party for girls and parents, and Commissioners are encouraged to stop by the O' Club this Friday at 6:00pm.
- The AYC Piece and Kindness Campaign have already given out 800 pieces. A video created by teen Kenny Mai was shown.
- The summer preparation is well underway and is getting ready for the Summer EXPO on April 1 at the Main Library from 10 am -1pm, where registration needs can be taken care of in advance.
- ARPD is still looking for quality recreation leaders. Summer applications for jobs are on the website and at the main office.

Mastick Senior Center:

- The dry rot repair work is officially completed.
- A Travel Survey to solicit more user feedback has been completed.
- Mastick Senior Center Advisory Board (MSCAB) Long Range Planning Committee is conducting a member survey.
- The Alameda Family Services Senior Connections update is scheduled for MSCAB, on February 15.

Projects:Sweeney Park

- Cross Alameda Trail (CAT) has been delayed due to bureaucratic issues between Caltrans and Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and is going to the CTC meeting in Los Angeles in March for an approval of a 9-month extension. With this, must award the construction contract by August 30, 2017. The plan is to go out to bid in mid-April as soon as the federal transportation budget is amended and authorized.
- This puts the CAT project phase in line with Phase A of Sweeney Park and will expect both to be under construction late spring/early summer.
- 100% construction documents are in final approval within a week for the whole park project.

Estuary Park

- The rugby field striping will be deleted and one added for universal lacrosse striping, based on participant numbers. There will still be sleeves for rugby goal posts and can paint for rugby.
- Construction stopped for one month in January due to rain and started back on Monday, February 6. Unfortunately, due to the ongoing rain, it will continue to impact the schedule and possibly the budget.

Krusi Park

- ARPD will be taking elevations and specifications of the Krusi Park Recreation Center to a Zoning Administrator hearing which is noticed to neighbors within 300' and then reported out to the Planning Board.
- The pre-fab design was shown. A final design will come to Rec Commission after bids and once a pre-fab contractor is selected but this shows what is anticipated with the specifications in the bid.
- Questions were answered on Krusi Park Gathering Space which is still moving forward and Parks staff is now taking over project management to ensure project completion with the goal to be done by August 2017.

Golf Course

- ARPD is currently working with Greenway Golf to renegotiate their lease, which will allow them to do a more significant renovation of the North Course as well as the Clubhouse. The Golf Commission has discussed their priorities for renovations at the Golf Course.
- Jim's on the Course is finalizing their drawings for the event center and outdoor patio and this will be brought to the Zoning Administrator and reported out to the Planning Board. Once approved by the Planning Board, an amendment to the Concession Agreement will be brought to City Council.

Commissioner Carter asked about putting up banners in parks. Director Amy Wooldridge said it was managed by Pat Russi, Recreation Manager and she will confirm the protocol and report back.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, March 9, 2016

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Tilos adjourned the meeting at 9:22 p.m.