



ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Thursday, March 9, 2017
TIME: 7:01 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

**Minutes of February 9, 2017 Regular Meeting were approved by all who attended the meeting.
M/S/C Vice Chair Limoges / Commissioner Carter
All present and who attended the February 9, 2017 Regular Meeting in favor with 4 – 0 vote**

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

Director Amy Wooldridge provided Commissioners with the Alameda Recreation and Park Department (ARPD) policy regarding hanging banners in the parks as requested. Director Wooldridge stated that she reminded staff to be more proactive in taking the banners down after the required 45 days. Chair Tilos requested to have the policy put on the agenda for the next meeting so the Commissioners would have time to review the policies.

Commissioner Delaney received an email from an Alameda resident who was concerned to whether the original Krusi Park Recreation Center design and public input was being considered and adhered to. Director Amy Wooldridge clarified that the Recreation and Park Commission saw the initial sample design and the final detailed design will be presented to the Recreation Commission for approval after the contractor is awarded.

NEW BUSINESS

4-A Approve Letter of Support to the California Transportation Commission for the Cross Alameda Trail Project Through Jean Sweeney Open Space Park

ARPD Director Amy Wooldridge gave an update regarding the current situation of the grant funding for the Cross Alameda Trail (CAT) and provided a revised letter to give a second option for the Commissioners to sign that was more customized to the Commission rather than the standard letter sent to the community. The construction portion of the grant funding for the CAT, from the Active Transportation Program, is in jeopardy with possible loss of funding if the City only receives a 6-month extension and does not have adequate time to complete the public bid process including Council contract approval. The City of Alameda is requesting that the California Transportation Commission (CTC), grant a 9 month extension for the Cross Alameda Trail Project at its March 16, 2017 Los Angeles meeting. Director Amy Wooldridge and City of Alameda Mayor Trish Spencer will be attending the CTC meeting.

Commissioner Carter made a motion that the Recreation and Parks Commission approve signing the revised letter to the California Transportation Commission.

M/S/C Commissioner Carter / Vice Chair Delaney

All present in favor with a 4 – 0 vote.

All Recreation and Park Commissioners signed the revised letter.

4-B Report on Child & Youth Services from Christina Bailey, Recreation Services Specialist

Christina Bailey, Recreation Services Specialist, gave a report on the ARPD child and youth services. Christina gave information about the 6 months to Pre K programs which include Wee Play, Preschool Programs, and Summer Camps; the Kindergarten through 5th grade Recreation Afterschool Program, (RAP), the Parks and Playgrounds Program and the non-school day programs, TGIF & Days in the Park; the Kindergarten through 5th grade summer programs that include Day Camp, Parks and Playgrounds, field trips, and World of Wonder, (WOW). Christina also gave information about special events she is responsible for such as the February Dance Party for girls and their fathers or other role models, April Splash into Spring Egg Scramble and the December Breakfast with Santa. Christina shared the follow up success of the Godfrey Playground renovation that was done in 2016 in which Vice Chair Delaney cut the ribbon in June on the Grand Opening. The park has become busier as the kids are enjoying the new play structure. The new fence is now up with the Friends of the Park sign on the fence.

Commissioner Limoges was impressed with Christina's work and said her ability to balance all the programs at once is absolutely wonderful. He asked about the scholarship program and requested a copy of the information for the scholarship program that ARPD offers for Commissioner Carter and himself.

Commissioner Carter said great presentation and asked Christina how she has seen it change over the last 10 years and going forward what is Christina's vision or dream for the programs she runs? Christina said the Rap program has grown and that is exciting. She also noticed there is not as many young people applying for jobs which makes staffing a challenge. Christina said that her wish is that everybody who comes through our programs would have a great time and tell another person.

Chair Tilos said he has watched the ARPD events grow and become better and it makes him proud to be on the Recreation and Park Commission because of all the programs we provide. He mentioned the ARPD Summer Camp Expo on April 1, 2017.

Vice Chair Delaney applauded Christina and said her coordination of the programs is phenomenal, that the staff at ARPD is a true treasure and it is quite amazing what they accomplish. Vice Chair Delaney said Friends of the Park is pleased to be able to sponsor the ARPD programs.

Director Amy Wooldridge said she is impressed with Christina's work and said that she always goes above and beyond. It is because of her that the programs keep growing.

REPORTS

A. Recreation Commission Reports

Commissioner Limoges and Director Wooldridge met with Jennifer Ott to discuss the upcoming parks at Alameda Point. On March 28, 2017 he will be taking a tour with Jennifer Ott to look at the parks. The Piece and Kindness Community Project will be unveiling the puzzle pieces at the Veterans Building on March 17, 2017 which he will attend. He also visited Littlejohn Park and talked to many people, of whom requested to have the lines on the basketball court relined. Commissioner Limoges will be going to the Lincoln Parks' Pickleball classes. He will be following up with Commissioner Carter about the scholarship programs for ARPD.

Vice Chair Delaney attended the February 27, 2017 Planning Board meeting to see the Catellus presentation for the Alameda Landing Waterfront plan which includes eight acres of open space and parks. He would like to have Catellus do a presentation for the Recreation and Park Commission.

Commissioner Carter brought 20 puzzle pieces to a group of mostly senior citizens to get them involved by coloring the pieces.

Chair Tilos went to the Encinal Boat Launch and said it was heavily utilized by mostly fishermen, bicyclists and people walking dogs. He noticed the tennis courts are still bare 6 months after the Soccer Clubs approval to make the conversion to field space and wants to follow up with the soccer club. Chair Tilos also went to Longfellow Parks' tennis courts which he noticed some roots coming through and cracking the pavement. He also noticed tree roots coming up at the entrance to the park which will eventually be a safety hazard. He said it was good to see kids playing basketball. Chair Tilos also visited Washington Park tennis courts and saw a sign saying that Court 6 is closed during competitive play due to the home runs that are hit into the courts. He said this is unfortunate as it takes away a court for play and perhaps putting some netting up around the tennis court during games would be a solution. Former Councilmember Tony Daysog submitted written communication to Chair Tilos asking about the possibility of LED lights in the courts. Director Woolridge said that ARPD has researched LED lights for tennis courts and found they do not have the technology yet for athletic fields and courts.

B. Friends of the Park Report (FOTP)

Vice Chair Delaney said the Friends of the Park Board was excited about their new brand which will launch April 1, 2017 and he will share the new logo and webpage at the next meeting. The Bike for the Park event will be September 30, 2017 and they are currently recruiting sponsors. The Play for the Park Golf Tournament dinner and auction will take place either the end of September or beginning of October 2017. FOTP will be attending the April 11, 2017 Rotary Club Meeting regarding the donation to Woodstock Park.

C. Recreation and Parks Director Report by Director Amy Wooldridge

- Administrative
 - Interviews for the Recreation registration software program were completed. The goal of the new software program is to go live in early 2018.
 - ARPD is working on the 2-year Budget which will come to the Recreation and Park Commission for recommendation.
 - There is one opening for a Recreation and Parks Commissioner in which Mindi Chen was interviewed and recommended by Mayor Trish Spencer. The City Council will vote on final approval at her March 21, 2017 meeting.
- Parks
 - The ball fields and soccer fields have dried out, been improved and seeded. They are now almost ready for use for the leagues to get back on the fields.
 - The Park maintenance had to pump water out of a few playgrounds where it was ponding due to the heavy rains. The Parks Maintenance will be cleaning out all drains to improve the drainage system.
- Recreation Services
 - Alameda Point Gym floor will be repaired next week. One court is currently down due to moisture below the floor.
 - The Piece and Kindness Campaign had over 1,000 pieces turned in. The unveiling will be 7pm at the Veterans' Building on Friday, March 17, 2017.
 - ARPD is still hiring for the summer and specifically looking to hire more aquatics staff.
- Projects
 - Estuary Park is back in the field for construction after a long delay due to the rain.
 - Sweeney Park
 - Anticipating both CAT and Phase A to be under construction at the same time this summer.
 - Operation Dignity is doing a great job on case management services with some initial successes. Commissioner Carter was able to get Operation Dignity a \$700.00 donation.
 - Krusi Park

- The detailed design is about to go to Plan Check for city departments. It is still on target to go out to bid this spring.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA: Hanging banner policy, 2 year budget review and approval, invite Catellus to come do a presentation on the Waterfront and written or verbal update from the Alameda Soccer Club regarding the tennis courts.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, April 13, 2016

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Tilos adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.