



ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Thursday, June 14, 2018
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: Chair Limoges, Vice Chair Tilos and Commissioner Pondok
Excused Absence: Commissioner Chen
Unexcused Absence: Commissioner Carter
Staff: Amy Wooldridge, Recreation and Park Director
Assistant City Attorney: Michael Roush

Director Amy Wooldridge:

- Thanked Vice Chair Tilos for his service and commitment to the Recreation and Park Commission and said it has been an honor to work with him.
- Welcomed Commissioner Chris Pondok who introduced himself.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of May 10, 2018 Regular Meeting were approved as presented.
M/S / Vice Chair Tilos / Commissioner Pondok / 3 in favor.

WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- Commissioners agreed to hear New Business item 7-A after Unfinished Business item 6-A

REPORTS FROM THE RECREATION AND PARK DIRECTOR

Alameda Recreation and Park Department (ARPD), Director Amy Wooldridge gave the report. See Exhibit 1.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Chair Limoges: Concerned about a food truck parked at Washington Park every night from about 5 PM to 7PM. Questioned if it is permitted. Staff will follow up. Attended Site A Ground Breaking ceremony. Also attended Haight School Renaming Committee which confirmed how complex the naming process is.
- Vice Chair Tilos: Thanked everyone for his opportunity to serve as a Commissioner, especially Director Amy Wooldridge and previous Commissioner Bill Delaney, who helped him grow as a Commissioner and Chair. Also thanked Chair Limoges for his leadership and Dorothy Freeman for her encouragement. Encouraged the Commission going forward to see all points of view, advocate for the non-athletes and be open to hearing the unpopular view. Will continue to support the parks.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6-A Receive City Attorney Report on Recreation and Park Commission Votes Between April 2017 and April 2018.

City Attorney Michael Roush presented the memo. The only vote in concern was the Athletic Facility Allocation vote because 2 Commissioners had to recuse themselves and only 3 Commissioners could vote. The previous policy is still in place and will continue until the Commission is fully appointed and then will revisit the Allocation Policy with the new Commission in September.

NEW BUSINESS

7-A Review and Comment on the Design for the Alameda Shipways Park Plan

- Jim Bensman, architect from IMA Design presented plan and Linda Barrera, City of Alameda Planner answered questions.
- Park plan is positioned along SF Bay Trail, along estuary, existing marinas and Business Park. Important for transportation.
- Linear parks connect on either side of buildings to park.
- Working with SF Bay Trail to get this on their radar.
- Plan is a nod to history of ship building to honor and represent crane ways and welding platform.
- Proposing a picnic and BBQ area, large open lawn that steps down to a promenade, children's play area that pay homage to ship building with custom ship structure plus mounding, logs and rocks, kayak storage lockers (will be able to stores 16 kayaks or stand up paddleboards) and a pier with an accessible kayak launch. This launch also serves as a water shuttle stop. Seating along piers and interpretive signage with a theme on each pier and binoculars. Restroom available for the public and a private restroom for marina.
- Above sea level rise and 100 year flood levels.
- Reviewed planting plan and site amenities.

Commissioner Comments:

- Commissioner Pondok: Asked about the location of public parking for the park users. Response: Public parking available in lot to the west. Pondok: It's a bit of a hike to get to picnic area from public parking.
- Vice Chair Tilos & Chair Limoges: Suggested option to put BBQ area on public parking side and consider adding a restroom closer to BBQ area and with BBQ area farther from parking.
- Vice Chair Tilos: Concerned about the parking and access to the park for the public vs. private. Also concerned about the maintenance responsibility of the park. Response: Homeowner's Association will maintain and there will be maintenance conditions for approval as well as a maintenance agreement with city to ensure standards are in place. This gives city the right but not obligation that it's maintained to our standards.
- Commissioner Limoges: Consider either small plot gardens and/or some urban orchard trees. Nice to have some plantings recognize the agricultural history of the island. Likes that design is welcoming to the public.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6-B Review and Discuss City Facility Naming Policy and Criteria for Naming City Facilities

- ARPD Director Amy Wooldridge gave report which included the 2016 City Council adopted policy for naming city property, facilities and streets and the official naming list which was revised 4/21/2003. The Recreation and Park Commission can put together a list of names, which would next be approved by the Historic Advisory Board and then the City Council.

Commissioner Discussion:

- Chair Limoges: Do a social media campaign with some type of incentive to help generate names and provide current street list categories and examples as a starting point.
- Vice Chair Tilos: Naming rights for parks can help generate funding for maintenance. Provide some guidance on topics for names rather than a free for all, completely open ended. Would be great to bring back other names that have been renamed such as Buena Vista or Chipman.
- Other categories that would go well with parks:
 - Coaches & athletes
 - Service groups
 - Natural features
 - Historical features, such as from Neptune Beach roller coaster

6-C Review City Facility Naming Policy and Discuss Process for Renaming Jackson Park

- ARPD Director Amy Wooldridge gave report which included the history of Jackson Park and the renaming process for renaming the park.

Commissioner Discussion:

- Commissioner Limoges: An idea on another potential middle ground based on letter about Julius Kahn Park in San Francisco. Consider a plaque that explains the history of President Jackson in a frank, evidenced based way. Educate the public to the history.
- Commissioner Pondok: First we need to develop a clear process to rename a facility. What was process that was used to rename Atlantic Ave. to Ralph Appezato Memorial Parkway.
- Commissioner Tilos: Is it the responsibility for Commission to reach out and see if there's public interest to rename a park or is it the responsibility of the person requesting. What is financial impact of changing the name and who will fund it?
- Assistant City Attorney Roush: Suggested to put on agenda, invite Mr. Shabazz, notice adjacent neighborhood and post on social media.
- Commissioner Pondok: Putting it on the agenda provides a good space for public process and input. Still wants to see a more detailed and formal renaming process. Director Wooldridge: Naming Policy is managed by Community Development and approved by Council and she will bring that feedback to them.

6-D Update on Jean Sweeney Open Space Park

- ARPD Director Amy Wooldridge gave the update on the park construction. Phase 1, the Cross Alameda Trail is completed. Phase 2, a natural playground, parking lot, restroom, open lawn, large picnic pavilion and smaller picnic areas are planned for completion in October 2018. Phase 3 and 4 that includes the community garden, demonstration gardens, parking lot, restroom,

outdoor classroom, a playground, walking and bike trails. No construction funding yet for these phases and staff will be applying for grant funding.

- Speaker Dorothy Freeman of Jean Sweeney Open Space Park Fund: They have the drone video of the work that has been done in the park and will hopefully be uploaded to the website, sweeneyopenspacepark.org in the next few weeks.

Commission Discussion:

- Chair Limoges: Asked about the congested section between Constitution and Webster. Answer: The transportation department has been working on a solution for the problem and will go out to bid before the end of this year as part of the Cross Alameda Trail project along Ralph Appezatto Memorial Parkway. Commended Director Amy Wooldridge for the quick response with the public's questions and interest on social media.
- Commissioner Pondok: Will the fence that separates the business park be coming down? Answer: The fence will remain as requested by the business park since there are loading docks that could present a safety issue if children wandered into there.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA: None discussed

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, July 12, 2018

ADJOURNMENT: Vice Chair Tilos made a motion to adjourn.

M/S / Vice Chair Tilos / Chair Pondok

All in favor with a 3 – 0 vote.

Chair Limoges adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Mastick Senior Center

- The National Senior Health and Fitness Day event was a success with over 100 people attending and over 20 vendors.
- Paul Hunt, local attorney, provided an Estate Planning Workshop on June 5, and we received a nice note with the following quote, "We had a wonderful time, and it was one of the biggest crowds we've ever had!" He presents at the College of Alameda, Library, etc.
- The Mastick Senior Center Advisory Board is busy with maintenance projects, updating the Code of Conduct and their fundraising activities.

Parks Maintenance

- Field renovation work, topdress, aerate and seeding, at Bayport Park soccer and baseball outfield and starting soon at Atlantic and Main Street fields
- Completing fire break weed control at Sweeney Park, Estuary Park and all unimproved/passive parks
- Dealing with an irrigation problem at Alameda Point Multi-purpose Field with a broken pump and line break.
- Cleaned up landscape at Towata Park
- Hired a Park Maintenance Worker II, Andrew Eck, who worked previously at San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department. He's bringing a wealth of expertise and energy to the team.
- The parks are well used! Park usage has increased exponentially over the last year or so. We've seen a significant increase which impacts maintenance and the Park Monitor staff and budgets.

Recreation Services

- Summer is here! Programs started today.
- ARPD hired or re-hired over 100 staff just for the youth and teen summer programs.
- Registration is going really well. Swim lessons, teens and Washington WOW are full with Godfrey WOW nearly full.
- We have two summer interns from Alameda High School and Bishop O'Dowd.
- Picnic rentals have increased greatly and we added new areas. Also implementing a new signage system so it's very clear to residents which areas are reserved.

Administrative

- Welcome our new Commissioner, Chris Pondok. We have two remaining seats and the Mayor is making recommendations at the next Council meeting.
- Thank you to our three Commissioners who are moving on: Marianne Carter, Bill Delaney, Ruben Tilos.

Projects

Sweeney Park

- Construction is continuing well and over the next month, they will be placing boulders and logs, installing play equipment and the picnic pavilion, and laying asphalt.
- ARPD will schedule two to three facilitated walks through Sweeney Park in July through September.

Krusi Park Recreation Center

- Finalizing our plans for a state pre-bid building with Romtec. It will look like the approved plan and final contract will go to City Council in September. We will still need to bid out other site work.

Corica Park

- **Friday, June 15 at 5:00pm:** South Course ribbon cutting event and then the course opens for public play on June 22.
- **Friday, June 22 at dark:** Starlight Movies in the Park at the Alameda Point Multi-Purpose Field. Playing *Despicable Me 3*

Public Access Pathways Project – Fernside and Eastshore

- Will post the Feasibility Study for the public to review in mid to late July and include community input meeting dates as well as an online survey and facilitated walks.