



ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING

DATE: Thursday, October 25, 2018
TIME: 7:05 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, Commissioners Pondok, Chen, Robbins and Alexander
Staff: Amy Wooldridge, Recreation and Park Director

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of September 13, 2018 Regular Meeting were approved as presented.
M/S - Commissioner Robbins / Commissioner Pondok
All who attended meeting in favor with a 4-0 vote.

WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

REPORTS FROM THE RECREATION AND PARK DIRECTOR

ARPD Director Amy Wooldridge gave report. See Exhibit 1.

Commission Discussion:

- Chair Limoges: Complimented Ed Kallas for his detailed and thoughtful email clarification on Next Door of what Pickleball is, how it got started and how it is played. Also asked what happens to the bike path from Jean Sweeney Open Space Park to Constitution? Answer: As part of the construction of the trail segment along Ralph Appezato Memorial Parkway, Public Works is adding a protected two way bike lane along Atlantic Ave. between Constitution and Webster. This project will be done late next year. In the meantime, bicycles will need to follow basic rules of the road. There are also interim bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements on the Sherman Street side being installed.
- Commissioner Chen: Inquired about the progress of Alameda Point Gym restroom. Director Amy Wooldridge explained that due to the high cost of installing utilities in addition to the restroom itself, that the budget is not enough and so they are presently looking at other options and solutions.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Chair Limoges: Attended one public session on the public pathways. Interesting to listen to the various sides. Volunteered at the Bike for the Parks. Compliments to the Friends of the Parks Foundation, which puts on a good event and brings funds into the parks.
- Commissioner Pondok: Attended Bike for the Parks and said it was great event. He likes the improved pathways and basketball court at Littlejohn and also has noticed the increase in park usage at Franklin Park in the morning.
- Commissioner Alexander: Complimented staff at the Bike for the Parks. Had a nice chat with

the teens. Attended the pathway walk, very interesting and also attended one of the input meetings. Read her “Alameda at Play” book and did her own tour of some of the parks. Walked Woodstock Park and noticed there are no available basketball courts. Thanked Amy for getting Krusi Park approved.

- Commissioner Chen: Bikes with friends around the island on Saturdays and complimented the Park Maintenance for keeping up parks so well.
- Commissioner Robbins: Rode in Bike for the Parks. Noticed some portions along the Estuary are in very poor condition. Can that be looked at to improve their condition? Director Amy Wooldridge: Will look into it as these are mostly privately owned/managed. Connected with a number of tennis people – how they can raise funds to build more Pickleball courts. On Nov. 9 is speaking with the Kiwanis Club and will use an updated presentation, including a “Call to Action” to think about how they can help.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Commissioner Alexander asked if they were still going to tour of the parks in Alameda. Director Amy Wooldridge: Yes, she will schedule.

NEW BUSINESS

7-A Presentation on Measure FF from the East Bay Regional Park District
East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) Legislative Assistant Lisa Baldinger gave presentation.

Measure FF extends existing funding that maintains and improves public access, natural habitat and visitor use facilities in parks:

- Alameda Point: Sea level rise prevention, operations including police services and wildlife management.
- Crab Cove: Extended to full year operation, shoreline work and work for a portion of the beach that needs to be a more natural filtration system. Additional services for programming and ongoing programs.
- Also funds 3 categories that cover all parks: Access to parks, wild fire management, water 40% natural resource enhancement projects such as 50% watershed, new bottle fillers, etc. 10% is board identified priorities.

Commission Discussion:

- Commissioner Robbins: Asked how much funding will go to Alameda? Answer: 7 million to the future Alameda Point Park and Crown Ceach.
- Limoges said it would be great to have a joint meeting with the commission and board members of EBRPD. Answer: There is presently a joint meeting with two city council members and two EBRPD board representatives which is an opportunity to discuss collaboration and issues. The Recreation and Park Commissioners could attend that meeting and give input.

7-B Presentation on Inclusive Playgrounds from the Commission on Disability
Susan Deutsch, Commissioner on the Commission on Disability gave the presentation.

- Shared information about the Tatum’s Garden Park, in Salinas, CA, which is an inclusive playground for children and adults with all types of disability with the importance of valuing all people.

Commission Discussion:

- Chair Limoges: Are there any liability issues? Answer: Rubberized playground surface is fully ADA compliant and the best safety surface. This would be under the City's liability just like any other playground. Chair Limoges: Good to have elements at all parks for children with disabilities.
- Commissioner Robbins: Confirmed the new Littlejohn Park playground would have rubberized surface instead of sand. Answer: Yes and as new playgrounds are built, they either have full or partial rubberized surfacing.

7-C Review and Recommend Adoption of 2019 Recreation and Park User Fee Schedule

ARPD Director Amy Wooldridge gave the report for the proposed 2019 fees which included the User Fee background, ARPD Cost Recovery Model which include several free programs and the revised and new fees for 2019.

- Changes to existing fees included increasing fees to athletic field use for youth nonprofit leagues, bocce ball courts, commercial live film shoots, small picnic areas, youth programs, cancellation fee and decreasing the number of minimum large group cleaning fee from 150 to 75.
- New proposed fees include school picnic fees, private fee based program fee, active military personnel discount for rentals and a public boat launch facility event permit fee.

Commission Discussion:

- Chair Limoges and Commissioner Robbins suggested looking at a small fee or donation for enrollment at Mastick Senior Center next year.
- Commissioners had questions and requested the following information about field use. Several asked to receive more information about what the fee would be to fully cover costs, the amount paid annually per group and the cost per participant. Director Wooldridge will research the requests and amend the item.

Chair Limoges made a Motion to recommend Alameda youth field fees at \$5 / hour and within 90 days to receive a staff report on the youth athletic field fees.

M/S Chair Limoges / Commissioner Robbins

All present in favor with 4-0 vote / 1 recused - Commissioner Pondok recused himself

Commissioner Pondok made a Motion to accept the 2019 Recreation and Park User Fee Schedule as presented with amending the school picnic fee name to the school picnic clean-up fee and increasing the active military discount to 10% and to receive a staff report with more details and discussion on fees before the next user fee schedule.

M/S Commissioner Pondok / Commissioner Alexander

All present in favor with 5-0 vote.

Speaker: Tim Wilhelm, Boy Scoutmaster of Troop 78, said the scouts are collectively working on their Citizenship and Community Merit Badge and some are working on their Communication Merit Badge.

Speaker: Luke (last name not identified) from Boy Scout Troop 78 made a suggestion to have a map to show all the parks. Director Amy Wooldridge said there is a map in the Recreation Guide and online and encouraged everyone to look at it and explore the various parks.

Commissioner Alexander shared with the troop that there is a little park with a bench named Scout Park on Otis Drive and Park Street.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA: None discussed.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, November 8, 2018

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Limoges made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor with a 5 – 0 vote.

Chair Limoges adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

ARPD Director's Report
10/25/18

Mastick Senior Center

- The men's bathroom and the fascia were painted last week. Additional interior painting scheduled for mid-December.
- Gearing up for the Annual Holiday Art Boutique schedule for Tuesday, December 4.
- Ed Kallas, Recreation Supervisor I is presenting at the Rotary Club on October 30.
- Jackie Krause, Recreation Manager and Victoria Williams, Resource Specialist for Paratransit are presenting at Littlejohn Commons on Wednesday, October 31 to discuss paratransit options at this senior housing complex.
- Pickleball is very popular and Commissioners are encourage to stop by for visit or play on a Saturday morning in Lincoln Park.
- The Fashion Show was a success on September 20 and over \$1,800 net profit was generated and will be invested back into programs.
- Bocce Ball is really popular on Thursday afternoon... nice group plays weekly (another opportunity to visit).

Parks Maintenance

- Repaved and striped basketball courts at Godfrey and Littlejohn Parks
- Currently repaving all asphalt walkways at Littlejohn Park
- Littlejohn and Godfrey Recreation Centers were recently painted on the outside of the main buildings.
- Woodstock Park Recreation Center interior was painted.
- Parks are being heavily used by the public. It seems to have increased over the last couple years. Staff is working to find balance between use and over-use especially with regards to the public. This impacts noise for neighbors, daily uses by schools, parent groups, etc. and greatly increases the level of maintenance.

Recreation Services

- 18th Annual Teen Haunted House: October 26-28 at South Shore Center. Over 65 teens have volunteered in this year's event. The theme this year is Wild West Ghost Town. Come down and check it out if you dare!!!!
- Fall adult softball is coming to an end and playoffs have begun.
- Mayor's Tree Lighting Celebration is on Saturday, December 8 at City Hall starting at 4:30pm,
- 13th Annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest is underway. This year's entries will be in office on Tuesday, October 30th. Make sure you come by the ARPD office to vote or you can vote on-line.
- 39th Annual Holiday Boutique take place on November 3rd and 4th at the DeWitt O'Club from 10-4. Proceeds benefit the Leisure Club Program.

- Working on expanding our marketing plan of the benefits and programs offered by ARPD, both through social media and traditional marketing.

Projects

Sweeney Park

- Grand opening is Sat., December 15 from 10am – noon. There will be music, food, play and gratitude.
- Working to schedule one more volunteer clean-up day for the undeveloped areas of the park before it opens.
- City Council approved a budget authorization for \$1.1 million to file for Immediate Possession of some remaining parcels on the southern edge of the park. Once that goes through the legal process, then we can open up the gates at 8th Street, Wood Street and also St. Charles.
- There will be remaining areas that are fenced off for safety reasons.

Krusi Park Recreation Center

- City Council approved the Romtec building contract on Oct. 6. The overall schedule goal is to have it completed before the start of the 2019 school year so that we can have RAP and Tiny Tots programs for next year.

Public Access Pathways Project – Fernside and Eastshore

- Over the last two months, the City released an independent feasibility study that offers recommendations for each of these six pathways, convened a public walk to engage the community with around 75 participants, held two public meetings each with over 50 participants, gathered data from an online survey with 494 participants, and met individually with adjacent property owners and community members.
- Our public input process was designed to gather community input regarding what is possible at each of the six access points, including what should be maintained for public access and options on how it should be improved. Throughout this process, we heard a lot of questions from the community about encroachments and public access. The City wants to be able to answer those questions and over the next two months, is doing further legal review before taking a recommendation to the Recreation and Parks Commission and City Council in early 2019. This recommendation will incorporate the community feedback received and the legal review.