



ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Thursday, May 13, 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, Vice Chair Robbins, Commissioner Navarro, Commissioner Jones and Commissioner Nguyen
Staff: (Teleconference via Zoom) Alameda Recreation and Park Department (ARPD) Director Amy Wooldridge

Chair Alexander welcomed the new Commissioners. Director Wooldridge introduced Commissioner Philly Jones and Commissioner Alice Nguyen.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Alexander moved to accept the minutes of April 13, 2021 Regular Meeting as presented.
M/S Commissioner Navarro / Vice Chair Robbins. All present in favor with 5 ayes via roll call vote.

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

- Written Communication:
 - Tom Krysiak regarding Parcel 4
 - Peggy Macintosh Cecchettini regarding appreciation for ARPD
 - Tiffany Knuckles regarding Peralta Community College
- Oral Communication: none

REPORTS FROM THE RECREATION AND PARK DIRECTOR

ARPD Director Amy Wooldridge gave the report. See Exhibit 1

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Chair Alexander: Attended the Krusi Park tree planting. Happy to see that one of the softball diamonds at Krusi Park has its own girl's softball scoreboard now. Commended Alameda residents for continuing to social distance and wear masks. Concerned about the kids skateboards in the tennis courts and the dogs being off leash in the parks as both are not allowed. Shared that the 3rd Sunday in May is the national "Take your kids to the playground day".
- Commissioner Navarro: Gave a shout out to the Tiny Tot program and staff as her kids have enjoyed the program. Visited the East Shore Memorial and said it was spectacular.
- Vice Chair Robbins: Starting to play the game of Pickleball. Looking forward to discussing the budget tonight.
- Commissioner Nguyen: Visited Parcel 4 and thought it was a good area to do improvements on. Visited Shoreline Park where a lot of people were having picnics while social distancing.

- Commissioner Jones: Visited Krusi Park where there was a lot of activity going on, said the park looks fantastic. Visits Jean Sweeney Open Space Park frequently which she said was beautiful and a great use of land. Asked about the future extension of the park. ARPD Director Wooldridge answered that there are 2 more phases, one on the western side which will include gardens and another playground and phase C which is in the middle area which will be a quieter area with grassland and trails.

AGENDA ITEMS

6-A Report on the Recreation and Parks Department FY 2021-23 Budget

ARPD Director Wooldridge gave presentation which included the ARPD Organizational Chart, a description and budgets for Park Maintenance, Recreation Services and Mastick Senior Center divisions, Capital Improvement Program and additional projects. Public Works Project Manager Mike Billington gave report on the facilities capital replacement and maintenance for 2021-23 and for a 12-year plan which included background, preparation, replacement findings, city wide capital replacement, replacement schedule, facilities improvement and maintenance.

6-A Public Comments

- Speaker Ruth Abbe, Community Action for Sustainable Alameda: Encouraged the Commission to indicate to the City Council the importance and priority of moving forward with DePave Park and to ask for funding for the feasibility study that would make the park potentially eligible for other types of grants in the future.
- Speaker Betsy Mathieson: Would like to see Chochenyo Park added to the budget to replace the four missing palm trees, replace lighting, replace the trash cans without lids to trash cans with lids, maintenance to the bandstand and to add a part time employee to water the new trees.

6-A Commissioner Comments

- Chair Alexander: Parks budget is valuable and workable. We have a good park system and liked what Director Wooldridge said in her report about ARPD providing high quality parks and programs which enhance the quality of life in Alameda.
- Vice Chair Robbins: ARPD budget needs to be increased to accomplish the many community requests and projects. It is a good budget for what was presented, concerned with what will happen in the next 10 years to fund the needs of the community. Asked the Commissioners to think of ways to support ARPD for the future growth.
- Commissioner Navarro: Shared to obtain further funding, we would make a supportive motion as a Commission to the City Council in support of a bond measure or a parcel tax for a funding source. Agreed to be the spokesperson to speak in support of the Recreation and Park Commission to the City Council.
- Commissioner Nguyen: Supportive of all the great projects and also looking forward to coming up with a long term plan to fund them.

6-A MOTION

Vice Chair Robbins motion to accept the Recreation and Parks Department FY 2021-23 Budget as proposed and approve that Commissioner Navarro speak on behalf of the Recreation and Park Commission at the City Council meeting in support of the budget.

M/S Vice Chair Robbins / Commissioner Navarro

Chair Alexander proposed a friendly amendment to the motion to request that the City Council funds the additional projects and look into other revenue sources such as a bond.

Vice Chair Robbins and Commissioner Navarro accepted the proposed friendly amendment.

All present in favor with 5 ayes via roll call vote.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

- Presentation on projects for the Peralta Colleges, specifically College of Alameda
- Interpretive Signage Design for Chochenyo Park
- Review and Discuss Proposal of BMX Park at Alameda Point
- Reimagine Community Events
- Partnerships with AUSD
 - JUAs
 - Which teams use what facilities
 - Shared blacktops and playgrounds

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: June 10, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn

M/S Commissioner Jones / Commissioner Nguyen

Motion carried by the following voice vote: All in favor with a 5 ayes via roll call vote.

Chair Alexander adjourned the meeting at 9:15 PM

EXHIBIT 1

05/13/2021 ARPD Director's Report

Presented by Recreation and Park Director Amy Wooldridge

Recreation Services

- RAP after school programs are open for registration for the spring session to finish out the school year. RAP registration for school year 2021-22 information will be posted on the ARPD website by May 21.
- Had a successful Earth Day tree planting at Krusi Park with over 20 volunteers. The group was able to plant 18 trees on Saturday April 24. Big shout out to Parks maintenance for setting this up so efficiently
- Celebrate Independence Day the Alameda Way! Includes:
 - Porch of July, a citywide decorating and porch music contest. Register now at the City website. A map will be available before the weekend of July 4 so everyone can walk, ride and stroll around town to enjoy the festivities. Wear your patriotic colors, shop and eat local at our many Alameda businesses!
 - All American Move night with live music prior to start of Movie will take place at Multi-purpose Field Sunday July 4th. Local band, Barefoot Quales, starts at 6:45 pm. The movie, *Onward*, will begin around 8:15pm.
- Adult Softball started with a shorter 6-week season. There are eight leagues including women's, coed, and men's.
- Aquatics is still thriving at this time and continuing programs all day at Emma Hood Swim Center and evenings/weekends at Encinal Swim Center. May 15 is National Water Safety Day and we're celebrating with goodies and offering a free parent/caregiver water safety online training. More details on our website.
- Teen Activate is a new program that provided outdoor activities and sports once per week for teens. It was a great success.
- Summer in person offerings from ARPD are available for registration which include Day Camp, Tenderfoot, WOW, Teen Adventures, Aquatics and a variety of camps and classes.

Mastick Senior Center

- We had a soft-launch for outdoor table tennis in front of Mastick Senior Center and are expanding promotion.
- The Pickleball Tournament was a success and staff anticipates offering another fall tournament.
- The Mastick Senior Center Thrift Shop is reopening June 1st. The shop will be open to the public on Tuesdays and will accept donations on Thursdays. The County Health re-opening plan will be posted and all safety precautions will be strictly adhered to. This is an important fundraiser for Mastick Senior Center and also provides a location for people of all income levels to purchase clothes and other items.
- We have hosted successful vaccination clinics and are continuing through May. These are by reservation and are serving hundreds of seniors and people with disabilities.
- The Mastick Senior Center Advisory Board will conduct its general membership meeting via Zoom on May 21st, including approving their budget and holding board elections.

- Recently, the lunch program served 38 seniors. The average daily participation has been 30 which is greater than pre-COVID numbers. Per a recent survey, more than half prefer to continue with the grab and go option than dining onsite when the option is available.
- Zoom classes are continuing with strong attendance.

Park Maintenance

- At Encinal Boat Launch Facility, trash cans were addressed to ensure all have lids to avoid sea gull issues and No Parking signage was installed along the driveway.
- Repairs were made on the Lincoln Park pickleball court and bocce ball courts.
- Water main line repairs were completed at Neptune Park and Main Street Linear Park
- Replacing the Lincoln Park baseball field fence along right field, starting June 7th and lasting two weeks. The replacement fence will be a 10-foot chain link fence plus 40-foot sports netting on top. The total height of the safety barrier will now be ten feet taller and extend farther toward Fernside for added safety. Each resident is responsible for reinstalling their personal access gates from residences into the park and the department will work closely with neighbors to approve location and gate design. We are also working with neighbors to ensure temporary fencing is installed as each section is being replaced and noticing neighbors so children and dogs remain inside for the 1-2 days while the section behind their house is replaced.
- The Bayport Park playground replacement will be completed by early June.
- The Chochenyo Park Creating Our Future art installation was removed on schedule and returned to the artists. The new park sign will be installed in June.
- The memorial at Eastshore and Central Ave. that was approved by the Recreation and Parks Commission in April was installed.

Administration / Projects

- There was a major structural fire at Littlejohn Park Recreation Center. Fortunately, it did not extend to any other neighborhood structures. Public Works is coordinating the rebuild of the center and to date, it has been cleaned out and abated. This center was the location of both ARPD programs as well as Ala Costa after school and summer programs for youth with developmental disabilities. ARPD is coordinating with Ala Costa to provide park space and restrooms so they can still hold limited in-person summer programming in the park. The schedule to reopen the building is not yet determined and Public Works, ARPD and Ala Costa are working closely together toward that goal.
- Alameda Landing Waterfront Park – This 4.5-acre park is located west of Target in Alameda Landing. The eastern half of the park off of 5th Street will be completed toward the end of 2021 and includes the picnic area, playground and large open courtyard area. The second half will be completed by June 2022, including the dock for non-motorized watercraft launching, fitness equipment and a bicycle/pedestrian Bay Trail connection.
- City Aquatic Center – The community input process and conceptual design were completed in February 2020. The intention at that time was to fund the Aquatic Center by including it in a potential infrastructure bond for November 2022 that the city was considering. Due to the pandemic, that bond did not move forward. There currently is not a funding source for this project which ranges from \$17 million to \$34 million. The higher cost includes an enclosed recreational pool. Both costs are fully inclusive with all contingency and design costs. City staff explored public private partnerships (PPP) funding options, which help control costs but still are estimated to cost over \$1 million per year from the General Fund for 30 years.
- The mosaic column art project installation at Sweeney Park, funded by the Public Art Fund, was completed. The rock spinners will be installed this summer.

