



ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Thursday, December 9, 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 Jones and Commissioner Navarro

Absent: Commissioner Nguyen

Staff: (Teleconference via Zoom) Alameda Recreation and Park Department (ARPD) Director Amy Wooldridge

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Alexander moved to accept the minutes of November 18, 2021 Special Meeting as presented. M/S Vice Chair Robbins / Commissioner Jones. All present in favor with 4 ayes via roll call vote.

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

- Written Communication: none
- Oral Communication
 - Speaker Cyndy Johnsen: Would like to know the status and timeline of Jean Sweeney Open Space Park north and south entry points, adding bollards to the Cross Alameda Trail through the park and consider planting native oak trees along the northeastern border of the park.
 - Speaker Betsy Mathieson: Would like to know when the pathway replacement, improved lighting and tree plantings will be completed in Chochenyo Park and requested the garbage cans that are open be covered.

REPORT FROM THE RECREATION AND PARK DIRECTOR - ARPD Director Amy Wooldridge gave the report. See exhibit 1.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Navarro: Visited Alameda Point parks; very exciting to see the progress.
- Commissioner Jones: Visited dog park sites and said all three are beautiful.
- Vice Chair Robbins: Also visited Alameda Point parks along with the Encinal boat launch and commented on how spectacular and beautiful that area turned out. Attended a meeting about the expanding the tennis courts and/or the pickleball courts and is hoping to bring some information back to the Commission by February 2022.
- Chair Alexander: Visited the dog park sites, including the possible fourth site, observed the

ARPD staff safely walking the afterschool kids to their sites, commented on the variety of sports going on at Tillman Park and how nice it is to see the playgrounds being used and full.

AGENDA ITEMS

6-A Review Results of the East End/Bay Farm Island Dog Park Survey and Consider Recommendation

ARPD Director Wooldridge gave presentation which included the city-wide survey, types of dog parks preferred, potential dog park locations at Krusi Park, Towata Park and Leydecker Park, and a fourth potential dog park location on Bay Farm Island southwest of the ferry terminal.

6-A Public Comments

- Speaker Walt Jacobs: Opposed to Leydecker Park as a dog park as it is too close to Temple Israel due to noise and parking. Would like to see a dog park in a business park area.
- Speaker Dawn Jaeger: Opposed to Leydecker due to the parking and noise for Bay Farm Community Churches and urges the fourth area by the ferry to be approved for the new dog park.
- Speaker Grant Scully: Opposed to Leydecker for a dog park as it is already a busy area with too many cars. In favor of the fourth area for a dog park.
- Speaker Michelle Anderson: Likes the Leydecker Park area and also the new fourth option for a dog park.

6-A Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Navarro: Has a dog and would be interested to see what could be done to make the fourth option a possible site and would like to explore it more.
- Chair Alexander: Opposed to having a dog park at Krusi, Towata and Leydecker Parks. Would like to explore the fourth option as a possibility. In favor of having a dog park on Bay Farm Island.
- Vice Chair Robbins: Likes the new fourth option because agrees that the residential concerns of Leydecker, Krusi and Towata Parks are valid reasons to not have a dog park there.
- Commissioner Jones: Likes the new fourth option and wants to go visit the site.

6-A Motion

Vice Chair Robbins motioned that we have staff do further research on the fourth proposed location and also gather any other comments that might come in about the three current parks and come back to the Commission with another presentation before making a decision to move forward.

M/S Vice Chair Robbins / Commissioner Navarro

All present in favor with 4 ayes via roll call vote.

6-B Establish Naming Criteria for Alameda Landing Waterfront Park Located at the End of 5th Street Near Mitchell Avenue

ARPD Director Wooldridge gave the presentation which included the four-step process of naming parks, the location, design and history of Alameda Landing Waterfront Park.

6-B Public Comments

- Speaker Crystal Faith Cajilog: The naming process should reflect Alameda's values for diversity, equity and inclusion and well as the historical and geographical character of our city. Suggestions: Park being near water, water has always been a means of getting people from one place to another and the piers are landing areas of people. A good name to reflect immigration and the diversity of Alameda.

6-B Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Navarro: Honored that we are the first group to start the naming process. Would like to see the uniqueness of the pier and cultural connection with the water.
- Vice Chair Robbins: Thanked Director Wooldridge for the detailed history of the location. Would like to discuss and come back with a list. Likes the name Pier Front Park.
- Chair Alexander: Thinks the history is interesting and hopes it will be reflected in what we tell the public. Thinks they should have one or two choices for the criteria to start with as this is a learning process. Prefers non-naval air-based criteria for this park.
- Commissioner Jones: Is there a timeline? Director Wooldridge: No, however we have parks that are open or opening soon and need names.

6-B Motion

Commissioner Navarro motioned the naming criteria for the Alameda Landing Waterfront Park be the uniqueness of the park's location on the pier and estuary with an intersection with diversity and cultural significance in Alameda.

M/S Commissioner Navarro / Vice-Chair Robbins
All present in favor with 4 ayes via roll call vote.

6-C Establish Naming Criteria for Alameda Point Neighborhood park, Located on Coronado Avenue between Ardent Way and Main Street

ARPD Director Wooldridge gave the presentation which included the the location, design and history of Alameda Point Neighborhood park.

6-C Public Comments - None

6-C Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Navarro: Her family fondly refers to it as whale playground but is an opportunity to add maritime history. The playground was designed with an aquatics theme.
- Vice Chair Robbins: Would like the shellmounds to be in consideration for naming the park. Also likes maritime and aquatics for the criteria.

- Chair Alexander: Agrees that shellmound should be considered, but also the history of the whale and the Naval Air base, something new and refreshing.

6-C Motion

- Commissioner Navarro motioned the naming criteria for the Alameda Point Neighborhood Park be the history of naval maritime, natural landscape and wildlife at Alameda Point
- M/S Vice-Chair Robbins / Commissioner Navarro
- All present in favor with 4 ayes via roll call vote.

6-D Establish Naming Criteria for Alameda Point Waterfront Park, Located at the Corner of Ferry Point Near Ralph Appezato Memorial Parkway

ARPD Director Wooldridge gave the presentation which included the location, design and history of Alameda Point Waterfront Park.

6-D Public Comments

Speaker Betsy Mathieson: Hopes that aviation and sea planes are included in the naming process of the parks at Alameda Point.

6-D Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Navarro: The runways and aviation aspect of the base would be good for the criteria. Theme of aviation which could include notable aviators; noteworthy aviation history of Alameda also is a good criteria for the park.
- Chair Alexander: Criteria could be something with the base, runways and shell mound.
- Vice Chair Robbins: Historical Alameda aviation or aviation related name, like Runway Park.
- Commissioner Jones: Aviation museum is close by as well which would be inclusive of a talking point.

6-D Motion

- Commissioner Navarro motioned the naming criteria for the Alameda Point Waterfront Park be aviation including Alameda history, people and park features.
- M/S Commissioner Navarro / Commissioner Jones
- All present in favor with 4 ayes via roll call vote.

6-E Establish Naming Criteria for Alameda Marina Park. Located on the Alameda/Oakland Estuary Near Clement Avenue Between Grand Street and Willow Street

ARPD Director Wooldridge gave the presentation which included the location, design and history of Alameda Marina Park.

6-E Public Comments - None

6-E Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Navarro: Site specific, related to Marina, the working history of the site and the shipyards.

- Chair Alexander: Shipyards, site specific.
- Vice Chair Robbins: Maritime shipyards relating to Alameda.
- Commissioner Jones: Special place for her as she lives across the street from the park and is looking forward to seeing the end result.

6-E Motion

- Vice Chair Robbins motioned the naming criteria for Alameda Marina Park be a reflection and history of working waterfront shipyards
- M/S Vice-Chair Robbins / Commissioner Navarro
- All present in favor with 4 ayes via roll call vote.

6-F Nominate and Vote on Recreation and Parks Commission Chair and Vice-Chair

6-F Motion #1 Chair

- Vice Chair Robbins nominated Chair Alexander to remain Chair of the Recreation and Park Commission until at least June 30th 2022
- M/S Vice-Chair Robbins / Commissioner Navarro
- All present in favor with 4 ayes via roll call vote.

6-F Motion #2 Vice Chair

- Commissioner Navarro nominated Vice Chair Robbins to remain Vice Chair of the Recreation and Park Commission until at least June 30th 2022
- M/S Commissioner Navarro / Commissioner Jones
- All present in favor with 4 ayes roll call vote

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Athletic Facility Allocation Policy, Pickleball and Tennis Court options, Alameda Park Improvement Survey Results, Dog Park Location at Harbor Bay Business Park

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: January 13, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn

M/S Commissioner Navarro / Commissioner Jones

Motion carried by the following voice vote: All in favor with a 4 ayes via roll call vote.

Chair Alexander adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM.

12/09/2021 ARPD Director's Report

Presented by Recreation and Park Director Amy Wooldridge

Recreation Services

- Summer Programming has begun to prepare for 2022
- Limited spaces are left for Santa Home and Virtual Visits and Winter Vacation Camp.
- Breakfast with Santa is sold out.
- Winter STEM, Sports and Drama Camps still have availability for both vacation weeks with extended care.
- January swim lessons registration to begin on December 18th

Mastick Senior Center

- Public Works replaced the HVAC unit at the Mastick Senior Center Social Hall with a new unit that properly filters the air so the Social Hall can be a citywide fresh air and cooling center.

Park Maintenance

- Continuing to install smart irrigation clocks – about three per month for reduced water usage.
- Beginning to renovate baseball/softball infields and soccer fields now that seasons are over. Now through February. Note that this is basic annual maintenance but some fields still need complete overhaul which costs up to \$1 million per field.
- Godfrey Park Recreation Center renovation is delayed because contractor found significant dry rot. Will address that issue and open later in 2022.
- Littlejohn Recreation Center rebuild from the fire is moving along and nearing completion on design. Making adjustments to open up the interior space and make it more usable plus add storage. Need to stay within parameters of insurance claim.

Administration / Projects

- Follow up on how tennis balls are recycled. Some are reused for dogs and for many, the rubber is separated from the felt and ground up to be used in tennis court resurfacing, equestrian footing and research is being done for more applications.
- Staff has been meeting with ASPA members to negotiate lease terms with a focus on safety, equity and accessibility. The next step will be a high-level discussion of the lease terms as part of the regular open City Council agenda in February 2022.
- Local residents are spearheading an effort to create a Pride in the Park event in October 2022. ARPD is collaborating with this executive committee which includes DABA. The event will include a variety of events throughout the weekend with one goal to support businesses both on Park Street and Webster Street.