



**ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING**

DATE: Thursday, March 12, 2026
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.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Radez, Vice Chair Swartz, Commissioner Robbins

Absent: Commissioner Alexander, Commissioner Burney

Staff: Director Justin Long, Assistant Director Matt Nowlen, Office Assistant Donna Conde

Chair Radez stated the following: Members of the public may speak for three minutes regarding any matter not on the agenda. Commissioners, however, will not respond to comment or answer questions. The City welcomes speakers providing public comment, but please be advised this is a limited public forum. As such, speakers must stay on topic if speaking to a particular agenda item, and if speaking during non-agenda public comment, they must address matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the City. If speakers fail to follow these rules, they will be warned, and if they continue to disregard the rules, their opportunity to speak will be ended.

2. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

- Written comment about Littlejohn Park from Andrey Shmakov and Robyn Beckwith (attached).

3. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Director Long gave the Director Report (attached).

4. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

- Chair Radez: Visited Lincoln Park with son just prior to the meeting, observed idyllic setting of people playing on courts, fields, and playground; felt pride to be part of the commission.
- Vice Chair Swartz: Looks forward to time at Franklin Park for son's Tee-ball, appreciated ARPD programs on AUSD non-school days. Commented on Littlejohn field access. Director Long clarified there are multiple locations through 30-foot open sections of the temporary fencing. It has been communicated to the public that the field is free to use when not in use by Little League.
- Commissioner Robbins: Used the tennis facilities and commented on their excellent condition.

5. MINUTES

Chair Radez motioned to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2026 Regular Meeting as presented.

M/S Chair Radez / Vice Chair Swartz. All who were present at the February 12, 2026 meeting were in favor with three ayes via roll call vote.

6. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

6-A Recommendation to approve the updated Banner Policy and approve the proposed Storage Unit Policy.

Director Long presented an update on the Banner Policy including display duration, size, and locations. He provided an overview of the Storage Unit Policy.

Public Comment

- None.

Commissioner Comment

- Chair Radez: Asked about the plan for key management and the storage units. Director Long answered that he will discuss with Joseph Carroll, Recreation Supervisor, who oversees the program, and likely, locks will be issued so both the user and ARPD have keys.
- Vice Chair Swartz: Asked about feedback from user groups. Director Long responded that almost all user groups thought the storage unit policy was reasonable.
- Commissioner Robbins: None.

MOTION

Commissioner Robbins motioned to approve the Banner Policy and Storage Unit Policy.

M/S Commissioner Robbins / Vice Chair Swartz

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

7. NEXT MEETING

7-A Next Regular Meeting is April 9, 2026

7-B Possible Agenda Items for the Next Meeting:

- Memorial Amenity Policy

8. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Swartz motioned to adjourn the meeting.

M/S Vice Chair Swartz / Commissioner Robbins. All present in favor with three ayes via roll call vote.

Chair Radez adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

03/12/2026 ARPD Director's Report

Presented by Recreation and Parks Director Justin Long

Upcoming Citywide Community Events:

- **Volunteer Coastal Cleanup**, every second Saturday of the month (**March 14** and ongoing) 10:00 AM, Seaplane Lagoon. Bring gloves and a bag. Organized by Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda (CASA)
- **5th Annual Storytelling & Drumming Festival**, Sat., **March 14**, 12:00 PM-3:30 PM, Mastick Senior Center. Join us for music, stories, puppetry, and crafts. Everyone welcome!
- **National Take a Walk in the Park Day** is **March 30!** Get outside, enjoy our local parks!
- **10th Annual Youth Career & Job Fair**, Wed., **April 1**, 1:00 PM-5:30 PM, Encinal High.
- **5th Annual Spring Shindig**, Sat., **April 18**, AP Gym. Celebrate Earth Day with us! This free event offers educational activities, community organizations, and fun for all!
- **Alameda Home Electrification Fair and Alameda Bike Festival**, Sat., **May 2**, 11:30 AM-2:30 PM, Ruby Bridges Elementary. All are welcome to this free community event!
- **12th Annual Play for the Parks GOLFUN & Dinner**, Mon., **May 18**, Corica Park. Support Alameda Parks and enjoy a fun day on the golf course! Visit alamedaparks.org to register.

Upcoming Recreation Events and Activities:

- **Community Rec** - games, crafts, and program information on Wed., 3:30 PM–5:00 PM.
 - **March 18** - Tillman Park
 - **April 1** - Sweeney Park
 - **April 15** – Littlejohn
 - **April 29** - Whale Park
- **Starlight Movies in the Park** features “Honey, I Shrunk the Kids”, Fri., **May 8**, Crown Memorial Beach, Event begins 6:30 PM. Movie begins 8:15 PM. Bring chairs and blankets!
- **National Kids to Parks Day**, Sat., **May 16**, 9:30 AM-2:00 PM, Sweeney Park. Enjoy class demonstrations, crafts, and games! Bring your family and friends!
- **Alameda Walks Series**, Saturdays, 9:00 AM. Visit our website for meeting locations.
 - **May 16** - Harbor Bay
 - **May 23** - Gold Coast

Project Updates:

- Aquatic Center – out for bid, numbers due back in April
- Estuary Park – construction ongoing with completion at end of 2026
- Sweeney Trail Connectors – construction starting on north side of the park

Aquatics (Encinal Swim Center):

- **Swim Lessons for all ages!** Registration is open for Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced classes! Swim sessions are offered on Sundays, visit our website for details.

Youth:

- **Upcoming camps offered during AUSD's non-school days:**
 - **Day in the Park**, Mon., **March 16**, Krusi Park, 8:00 AM-5:30 PM. This one-day camp includes a dinosaur exhibit and fossil dig!
 - **Spring Break Camps**, Mon.–Fri., **April 13 - 17**. Spring Vacation Camp is offered at Harrison Center and other special interest programs at various locations.

Tween/Teen:

- **Career Prep: Job Fairs & Resumes**, Thurs., **March 26**, Alameda Boys & Girls Club (1900 Third St.). Workshop designed to help teens feel confident in taking first steps into the working world. Facilitated by Alameda Free Library and ARPD.

- **Teens Teaching Tech**, Thursdays, **March 26 & April 9**, 4:00 PM, Mastick Senior Center. Support seniors with their electronic devices, helping them stay connected and informed.
- ARPD facilitates the **Queer Teen Alameda Center (QTAC) Program** at the Underground Teen Center, Vet's Building, Fridays at 6:00 PM. (alamedapride.com)
- Register for **summer volunteer programs** and earn community service hours!
 - **Every Act Matters**, assist with events such as Spring Shindig, Movie Nights, Sandcastle Contest, July 4th Parade, and Community Recreation!
 - **Operation Green Sweep**, Mondays & Fridays, **June 22 - July 24**. Help make our community cleaner, greener, and more beautiful!
 - **Jr. Leader Program**, Monday - Friday, **July 6 - 31**, 8:00 AM–5:30 PM. Build leadership skills, gain experience, and prepare for future jobs with ARPD!
- ARPD is actively interviewing potential part-time employees for the summer program – please visit our website to apply!

Sports:

Youth Programs at AP Gym

- **After-School Pickleball** for middle schoolers, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
- **Homeschool P.E.** for K-5th graders, Wednesdays & Fridays, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
- **Spring Break Camps**, Mon.-Fri., **April 13 – 17** during AUSD non-school days

Adult Programs (advanced registration required)

- **Open Gym**, Sundays, 6:00PM-10:00PM, AP Gym. Practice skills, enjoy friendly games!
- **Tennis** – Private and group sessions available
- **Indoor Pickleball** – Fridays, 9:30AM-12:00PM, AP Gym
- **Indoor Roller Skating** – Wednesdays, 9:00PM-10:30PM, AP Gym
- **Spring Softball Leagues** - registration has closed. Games begin the week of April 6!

Mastick Programs & Information:

- **Line Dancing Level 1**, Wednesdays, **April 1-29**, 9:15 AM, Social Hall. Step-by-step instruction for beginners. Come activate your body and mind with music!
- **How to Get Help w/ Health Care Costs**, Tues., **April 14**, 10:00 AM, Media Room. Review the Medicare program - eligibility, application processes, and benefits.
- **Stained Glass & Mosaic** – spaces are filling up quickly for spring and summer sessions! Visit our website to register! Class designed for beginner and intermediate skill levels.

Mastick Highlights:

- Mastick members toured the **Guide Dogs for the Blind campus in San Rafael** followed by lunch in Sausalito on Mon., March 9. It was a wonderful trip for all who participated.

Parks:

- **Littlejohn Park** – work is ongoing to convert the site for expanded Little League use, including safety upgrades and ADA improvements.
- In February, Park Maintenance Staff participated in **Chainsaw Safety Training** and an **Electric Mower Demonstration**.
- **Lincoln Park** – on Thurs., February 19, after recent heavy rains, an oak tree located in between the two playgrounds began to lean and uproot requiring immediate removal.
- **Leydecker Park** – on Sat., February 21, Rotary Club, CASA, and 100K Trees for Humanity partnered with ARPD and planted 22 trees near the playground and ballfield.
- **Jean Sweeney Open Space Park** – irrigation system has been converted to align with our Smart Clock system, consistent with the system used at most other parks.
- We are recruiting for a full-time **Gardener** position. The application deadline is Sunday, **March 29** at 5:00 PM. Visit the City website to apply.