

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

City of Oakland

Wednesday, May 12, 2010, 4:30 P.M.

Lakeside Garden, 666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland, CA



CITY of OAKLAND

OFFICE of PARKS & RECREATION

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was held on Wednesday, May 12, 2010 at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland. Commissioner Taylor convened the meeting at 4:42 p.m. Audree Jones-Taylor, OPR Director conducted the roll call. A quorum was present.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Judy Belcher, Michael Hammock, Howard Matis, Barry Miller, Susan Montauk, Brad Ricards, Jeffrey Taylor, Calvin Wong

Absent: Benjamin Scott

Staff Present: Gail McMillon, Dana Riley, Frederick Morris,

Guests: Melia Henderson, Lee Tempkin, Zoe Turin, Bruce Cobbledick, Michelle Mitchell, Mario Chiodo, David Stein, Joe Haraburda

3. DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the April 14, 2010 meeting.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Taylor entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Montauk; **Seconded by:** Commissioner Matis and Commissioner Hammock, **Abstain:** Commissioner Enabulele **Motion: Approved**

**Comment:** Commissioner Miller commented on the Motion on Item #6-Golf Course from the March 2010 minutes. Commissioner Miller abstained because of concerns from the item. Correction noted and approved with the modification.

4. SPECIAL ORDERS:

None

5. PRAC PENDING LIST:

A. Commissioner Report Update, Commissioner Taylor – Working on report.

6. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. **Informational Report Regarding the Proposed Wonderarium Temporary Art Project On Lake Merritt:**

Dana Riley presented the informational report. Sarah Filley and Yvette Molina, artists who created the Wonderarium, presented a power point presentation and spoke on behalf of the art project. A prototype of the Wonderarium was also shown. Installation of the project is proposed to take place summer 2012 and remain installed for up to twelve months. The Wonderarium has a sphere that is approximately eight feet high. The total height of the Wonderarium is ten feet. The location will be 100 to 150 feet off the Lake Merritt shoreline near Lake Chalet. They have met with Jim Ryugo, PWA, who approved and helped them with the Maintenance Checklist. They met with Kyle Winslow, OPR Boating Staff, about the scientific and educational aspect of the project with the Boating Center. They are doing a lot of research and will look into a glare and reflection off the sphere.

Commissioner Taylor entertained a motion to accept the informational report.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Ricards, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Wong, **Motion:** Unanimously approved to accept the informational report.

**B. Request from North Oakland Community Charter School for the Approval of a Mosaic Design and Permission to Install the Tile Mosaic On the Existing Concrete Playground Retaining Wall in Linden Park.** Frederick Morris, OPR Recreation Sports Supervisor, who is in charge of OPR's pocket parks, presented the staff report. Lee Tempkin, North Oakland Charter School Teacher and Zoe Turin and Melia Henderson, North Oakland Charter School seventh graders, spoke on behalf of the Charter School for approval of the mosaic design and installation of the mosaic tile. The North Oakland Community Charter School located next to Linden Park would like to beautify a short concrete retaining wall surrounding the play structure in Linden Park by building a tile mosaic on the wall incorporating 100 peace themed tiles created by the community. The school has received donations for support of the project. There are currently 98 finished tiles. They will do another 100 tiles in the fall that will be used as replacement tiles. They received unanimous approval from the Public Arts Commission.

Commissioner Taylor entertained a motion to approve the request of a mosaic design and permission to install the tile mosaic on the existing concrete playground retaining wall in Linden Park.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Montauk, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Ricards, **Motion:** Unanimously Passed.

**C. Request from Friends of the Gardens at Lake Merritt for Permission to Fundraise at a Community Event on Sunday, June 6, 2010 at the Lakeside Park Garden Center and Gardens.**

Gail McMillon presented the staff report. Bruce Cobbledick spoke on behalf of the Friends of the Gardens at Lake Merritt. The Office of Parks and Recreation is in partnership with the Friends of the Gardens at Lake Merritt.

(FOGLM) for this event. The FOGLM is a non-profit organization under the Oakland East Bay Garden Center Inc. All profits will go directly to the FOGLM account that is used for garden specific initiatives for the Lakeside Park Gardens.

Commissioner Taylor entertained a motion to approve the request from Friends of the Gardens at Lake Merritt to fundraise at their Community Event at Lakeside Park Garden Center and Gardens.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Ricards, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Hammock, **Motion:** Unanimously Passed.

**D. Request from Oakland Black LGBTQ Pride for Permission to Collect Donations and Have Food and Merchandise Vendors Onsite at Lakeside Park on Sunday, August 1, 2010.**

Gail McMillon presented the staff report. Michelle Mitchell, Director of LGBTQ Pride, spoke on behalf of the organization and event. Proceeds from the collection of donations and vendors will go towards covering the costs incurred from putting on the event and donated to organizations for youth that they serve. The LGBTQ Pride is doing outreach to a group in San Francisco who work with youth. Commissioner Ricards encouraged the organization to make contact with someone within the Office of Parks and Recreation. With this being their first year hosting the event, the LGBTQ Pride is marketing and promoting to people within Oakland. Types of things that will be sold by the vendors will include post cards, other type of cards, jewelry and oils.

Commissioner Taylor entertained a motion to approve the request from Oakland Black LGBTQ for permission to collect donations and have food and merchandise vendors on Sunday, August 1, 2010 at Lakeside Park.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Miller, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Wong, **Motion:** Unanimously Passed.

**E. Informational Report on Proposed Re-Naming of Fox Square Park located at 1900 Rashida Muhammad Street to the Henry J. Kaiser Memorial Park in Response to a Significant Donation from Kaiser Permanente for the Completion and Installation of the 'Remember Them' Monument.**

Audree Jones-Taylor presented the staff report and welcomed Mario Chiodo and the Chamber of Commerce Foundation to Commission for consideration to rename Uptown Park to the Henry J. Kaiser Park. Mario Chiodo has been working on the monument for a number of years. Kaiser Permanente has an interest in supporting the monument project. The informational report will bring those commissioners who aren't aware of the structure information on the monument and will provide the commissioners an up to date report. Mario Chiodo made a presentation on the 'Remember Them' monument and showed a short video. They have raised \$3,200,000 to

launch the project. Kaiser Permanente is raising the remaining \$2,000,000 for a section and the visually impaired wall. There is a curriculum being tested now in schools. The curriculum will go in grades K-8 next school year. David Stein spoke on behalf of the Oakland Rotary Centennial. The Oakland Rotary donated \$100,000 to the educational program as their centennial project. Joe Haraburda, President of the Oakland Chamber of Commerce Foundation, spoke on behalf of the Oakland Chamber of Commerce Foundation. A maintenance fund of \$250,000 will be set aside and put in a reserved account that will be used strictly for the maintenance of the monument and overseen by the Chamber of Commerce Foundation. OPR will come back to the PRAC with a report action item in June; then the item will be placed on Rules to go to Council.

Commissioner Taylor entertained a motion to approve to accept the informational report  
**Moved by:** Commissioner Enabulele; **Seconded by:** Commissioner Hammock, **Motion: Unanimously Passed.**

8. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

9. PRAC COMMITTEE REPORT:

A. Advisory Board Sub-Committee: Commissioner Miller reported that the Advisory Council Report is almost done. They have written something and Commissioner Miller and Commissioner Ricards will have a draft for everyone to take a look at the next meeting in June 2010.

10. ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORTS:

A. Commissioner Belcher reported that she heard if the Moss House was going to be made into a library. Director Jones-Taylor confirmed that the Moss House is not going to be made into a library. Commissioner Belcher also reported that Carmen de la Cruz Recreation Center is planning on having an Advisory Board.

B. Commissioner Taylor reported that he went to the Focus Group meeting at Arroyo Viejo and spoke with the Center Director, Maribel Corral.

C. Commissioner Hammock reported that he went to the OPR Sports Advisory Focus Meeting at the Garden Center in March.

11. CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS:

None

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

13. COUNCIL REFERRALS:

None

14. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A. Three facilities are opened until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – Manzanita, Tassafaronga and Willie Keyes as receiving centers, opened until 1:00 a.m., providing programs and services for extreme at risk youth, Thursday through Saturday. Manzanita has no in & out privileges. When they go out, they cannot come back in. OPR is working with OPD to control the area. Midnight Basketball at Tassafaronga on Fridays.

B. Howard Nathal, from Friends of Parks and Recreation, is active and involved and spending time on Thursday nights at Manzanita working with the youth from a science standpoint that is going well.

C. Focus Meetings are finished April 30<sup>th</sup>. May 1<sup>st</sup> was the Outreach Day where several people, community advisory board members, and the community at large, came out and went to neighborhoods to pass out brochures and door hanger cards that talks about where our recreation facilities were and highlighted programs.

D. On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, OPR assumed the responsibilities of the Dunsmuir Estate. After 20 years, the non-profit did not have any funding to continue to operate the site. The non-profit came to OPR and the City and asked for \$200,000 to sustain them. OPR and the City do not have \$200,000. They were informed early on when the City was taking money from the non-profits, that the City has an enormous debt. They continued to think that were going to get funding. Knowing that funding was not coming out of OPR, we looked at it and in the

interest of the City, decided to take back the operations of the estate. OPR kept three of the key staff. OPR is doing some serious re-birthing of the estate by bringing the grounds and the landscaping up to par. We are booked with weddings. Within a week and a half, OPR has had four bookings. Some issues from the board members were that they were not interested in diversifying the board. Another issue was that about 20% of the board members lived in Oakland. It was recommended that we need to flip it around and change it to 80% of the board members should live in Oakland. They were not interested in changing that.

- E. Intimate Evening will be held at Dunsmuir this year. The date is Friday, July 23, 2010. In the past, the event has been free. This year there will be a major black tie affair for the restoration and operation of Dunsmuir for a small fee of \$25. KBLX Radio Station will be a cosponsor of the event. OPR is in the process of forming a 'Friends of Dunsmuir'. Anne Woodell is helping OPR in this process.
- F. Fourteen areas have been identified as sites to make money at Dunsmuir. Deborah Cooper is the new onsite Estate Manager.
- G. July 2, 2010 is the kick of National Parks and Recreation Month.
- H. Budget – Each City Department has been asked to cut 25% of discretionary funds. OPR has no discretionary funds. OPR has asked the Budget Office to identify what they consider is OPR's discretionary funds. OPR can't go below \$6,000,000. The budget is currently at \$8,000,000. What's left is the Director's Unit, Payroll and the Accounting Unit.
- I. City Stables – Summer programs will be held at City Stables. The RFP has not been issued yet.

15. OPEN FORUM:

Question was asked about a formal policy about candidates at Parks and Recreation events. Anytime there is an elected official in the presence of our programs, the proper protocol is that you acknowledge whoever they are at that particular time. Do not say what they are running for or acknowledge that they are running for any office. Do not say anything about any political campaigning. They cannot use any of our facilities as a platform for campaigning.

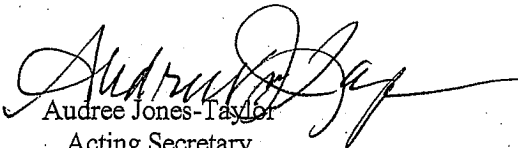
16. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

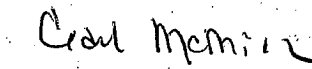
- A. June 10<sup>th</sup> – Golf Tournament as a fundraiser for Sundays in the Redwoods at Metropolitan Golf Course.

17. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Audree Jones-Taylor  
Acting Secretary

  
Gail McMillon  
Acting Recording Secretary