

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

City of Oakland

Wednesday, June 18, 2008, 4:30 P.M.
Lakeside Park Garden Center, Oakland

MINUTES

****Special Meeting****

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was held on Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue in Oakland, California. Commissioner Taylor convened the meeting at 4:36 p.m. Audree V. Jones-Taylor, Secretary to the Commission, conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Victor Arcineaux, Osagie Enabulele, Michael Hammock, Howard Matis, Susan Montauk, Junaid Mohiuddin, Brad Ricards, Benjamin Scott, Jeffrey Taylor, Calvin Wong

Absent: Valerie Abad (unexcused)

Staff Present: Audree V. Jones-Taylor, Gail McMillon, Kip Walsh, Toni Martinez

Guests: Kent McNab, Batt Barhin, Mary McAllister, Keith McAllister, Denise Louie, Ellen Gierson, Ed Holmes, Nancy Rieser, Emily Rosenbenburg

3. DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

A. Minutes of the May 14, 2008 Meeting

4. SPECIAL ORDERS:

- Naming of Interim Chair

The Commission named Jeffrey Taylor fill in for the duration as the Chair

MOTION by: Arcineaux; Seconded by: Enabulele MOTION PASSED

UNANIMOUSLY to name Commissioner Jeffrey Taylor to fill in for the duration as the Chair

5. PRAC PENDING LIST:

- Role of PRAC in Relation to Advisory Councils: Commissioner Arcineaux raised questions regarding the role of Commissioners in the facility Advisory Councils and specifically wanted to know how Commissioners are appointed to specific Councils. A discussion ensued regarding vacancies on various Advisory Councils. Since Commissioner assignments to specific facility Advisory Councils is voluntary, a number of Commissioners then volunteers to sit on specific Advisory Councils:
 - Abad – Montclair, Mosswood
 - Arcineaux – FM Smith, Sheffield Village, City Stables (will share with Montauk)
 - Enabulele – Aquatics, Boating, two Discovery Centers, and Willie Keys
 - Hammock – San Antonio, Allendale, Brookdale, Sports and Tennis
 - Enabulele – Aquatics, Boating, Poplar
 - Matis – Golden Gate, Rotary Nature

- Montauk – Campbell Village, Manzanita, Redwood Heights, City Stables (will share with Arcineaux)
- Mohiuddin – Carmen Flores, Tasafaronga
- Ricards – Bushrod, Ira Jinkins
- Scott – Joaquin Miller, Sheffield Village
- Taylor – Arroyo Viejo, deFrermery, Malonga
- Wong – Dimond, Franklin, Lincoln Square
- School Districts Lease Agreements
- Naming of Facilities – Not discussed
- Montclair Golf Course – OPR will bring a status report back on July 9th, 2008
- Budget – Presented at Directors Report
- Annual PRAC Report to Council Due – Staff to send a template to Chair Taylor

6. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- Items 12 moved to #7

7. COMMUNICATIONS:

Audree Jones-Taylor acknowledged the Rangers who attended and were prepared to answer questions regarding the mini park on San Pablo and 20th. They will be invited back at a later date.

8. PRAC COMMITTEE REPORT:

9. ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORTS:

10. CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS:

- Request for Conditional Use Permits for Restroom Improvement Projects at the following three park restrooms: Sobrante Park, Hardy Park, and Cesar Chavez Park. Denise Louie of the City's Community and Economic Development Agency presented a report regarding projects to install restrooms in three Oakland parks. Commissioner Montauk was concerned with homeless sleeping in the restrooms, and the responsibility of cleaning the toilets. Commissioner Wong expressed concern about negotiating the lease with Alameda County Flood Control and wanted to know if the installation of the restrooms was conditional with the new signing of the lease.

MOTION to request for conditional use permits for restroom improvement projects at the following three (3) park restrooms: Sobrante Park, Hardy Park, Cesar Chavez Park.

Moved by: Enabulele; Seconded by: Hammock

Motion Passed: 8 – in favor, 1 – opposed (Ricards), 1 – abstention (Scott)

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Scheduling Community PRAC Meetings
 - July 09, 2008 Studio One – Council Member Jane Brunner (Note: meeting will take place at the Garden Center as normally scheduled. Councilmember Brunner will be invited to present at another time.)
 - August – No Meeting

- September 10, 2008 – East Oakland Senior Center – Council Member Larry Reid
 - October 8, 2008 – Carmen Flores – Council Member de La Fuente
 - November 12, 2008 – Garden Center*
 - December 10, 2008 – Garden Center*
- * The Commission is considering other locations for these meetings. Information about the location of the meetings will be made available at a later date.

12. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Request to Rename Brookfield Park, Located at 525 Jones Ave, East Oakland to the Bill Patterson Park: The community led by Ruth Beckford, The NAACP and a host of friends are requesting to rename the Brookfield Community Center to Bill Patterson Community Center.

MOTION to rename Brookfield Park to the Bill Patterson Park

Moved by: Enabulele; Seconded by: Arcineaux

MOTION PASSED: 9– in favor; 1-abstention (Mohiuddin)

- B. Request to allow dogs on lease in Mosswood Park in Pathways. OPR Staff presented a report detailing a request from the Mosswood area community and dog owners to change the City's ordinance regarding dogs in parks. The community requests that dogs be allowed on leash on park pathways in Mosswood Park to allow better access to the Dog Play Area. Five community members spoke in favor of allowing dogs on leash in Mosswood Park and about the benefits of having dogs and dog-owners in the park. Questions were raised regarding issues of cleanliness in general park use areas, dog waste disposal bags, and rules regarding limiting dogs to pathways. Commissioners were concerned about the precedent that supporting the amendment to the Ordinance would set. Commissioner Montauk suggested implementing a pilot program for six months to see how well the general park users and the dog owners are able to share the park. Commissioner Arcineaux expressed concern that other users of the parks will not want dogs there. He visited the site and spoke to park users who were not in favor of allowing dogs in the park. Commissioner Arcineaux would like to make sure that all of the community's voice is being heard. OPR's Director assured the Commissioners that the community's voice was heard at the onset of the development and funding of the dog park. Commissioner Taylor expressed concern about how the park would be monitored regarding non-compliant dog owners. All of the Commissioners agreed that proper signage was crucially important. The Commissioners would like to ensure that all the community is involved.

MOTION: Recommendation to amend the City's dog ordinance to allow dogs in all areas of the park as long as they are on six-foot leashes. Moved by: Richards; Seconded by: None

MOTION: FAILED

MOTION: Recommendation to implement a six-month pilot program allowing dogs on-leash on designated pathways in Mosswood Park with adequate signage and cleanup amenities provided.

Moved by: Montauk; Seconded by Enabulele
MOTION PASSED: 9 in favor; 1 – opposed (Arcineaux)

Note: In order for a pilot program to be implemented, the City's dog ordinance will have to be modified by city Council to make it lawful. OPR will prepare a staff report and forward the Commission's recommendations to City Council.

- C. Request for the San Francisco Mime Troupe to Collect Donations and Sell Mime Troupe Merchandise in Lakeside Park on Thursday, September 11, 2008: Ed Holmes and Gail McMillon spoke for the San Francisco Mime Troupe requested to collect donations along with the sale of tee shirts and dry goods.

MOTION: To allow the San Francisco Mime Troupe to collect donations and sell merchandise at their event in Lakeside Park on September 11, 2008.

Moved by: Hammock; Seconded by: Arcineaux
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- D. Request for Permission to Allow Arts, Crafts and Food Vendors at the Medicine Warriors Dance Troupe and All Nations 10th Annual Pow-Wow at Clinton Park on Saturday, September 13, 2008: Gail McMillon requested on the Medicine Warriors Dance Troupe behalf if they could use Clinton Park for their annual Pow wow. Commissioner Enabulele would like a reminder to be sent to the Medicine Warriors Dance Troupe to try to partner with OPR for their next function.

MOTION: To allow arts, crafts, and food vendors at the Medicine Warriors Dance Troupe event on September 13, 2008.

Moved by: Hammock; Seconded by: Mohiuddin
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

13. COUNCIL REFERRALS:

14. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Kent Brown, a Program Director and employee of OPR for nearly 40 years, passed away earlier this month.
- Welcome to Benjamin Scott, our newest Commissioner
- Budget - OPR was affected and was scheduled to lose four positions. The positions slated to be eliminated were: Executive Assistant to the Director, Administrative II, Rec Attendant, Rec Specialist II PPT – Sports. The Director will have an opportunity to provide alternative positions. City Council did not pass most of OPR's Master Fee proposals for rentals and various programs which would have increased General Fund revenue.
- Kip Walsh will be leaving OPR to go to Finance and we wish her well. The new replacement is not confirmed.

15. **OPEN FORUM:**

16. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

17. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



for

Audree V. Jones-Taylor
Secretary

Toni Martinez
Recording Secretary