

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
Wednesday, February 9, 2005
Marsha Corprew Lakeside Park Garden Center, Oakland, CA

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was held at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland, California. Since a quorum was not present, Chairperson Webb convened the work session at 4:40 p.m. A quorum was present at 5:15 p.m. Ms. Audree Jones-Taylor, Secretary to the Commission, conducted roll call.

2. ROLL CALL: (one vacancy)

Present: Rosa Linda Armendariz, Theresa Nelson, Brad Ricards, Jeffrey Taylor, Mary Ellen Tong, Matthew Webb

Absent: Valerie Abad, Alex Hahn, Mario Juarez, Larry Magid

Staff Present: Audree V. Jones-Taylor, Gail McMillon, Mary Perisic

3. DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

A. Minutes of December 8, 2004 meeting:

MOTION: Commissioner Ricards moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of December 8, 2004. Commissioner Armendariz seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

B. Minutes of January 12, 2005 work session: Noted

4. SPECIAL ORDERS:

5. DETERMINATION OF SCHEDULE—OUTSTANDING AGENDA ITEMS:

A. PRAC Pending List

- Add: PRAC meetings in each Council District.

6. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- Item 12 moved up.

7. COMMUNICATIONS:

8. PRAC COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Commissioners Webb and Tong requested a PRAC Golf Committee meeting regarding the Montclair Golf Course. Staff will follow up and schedule the meeting.

9. ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORTS:

The letters of introduction to the Recreation Centers and Program Directors for the PRAC Advisory Council liaisons will be sent after the staff transfers are complete, in early March.

10. CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS:

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Proposal for a Dog Park at Leona Overflow Parking Lot: The Commission visited the site on its facility tour on Saturday, J. Emily Rosenburg of the Oakland Dog Owners Group (ODOG) made a presentation. The dog park proposal will be required to go before the Planning Commission and City Council. The site is a narrow portion of the Leona Lodge overflow parking lot which is not suitable for parking. A separate area nearby is being considered for a small dog park. Ms. Rosenburg presented a sketch of the area showing two possible sites for the small dog park which would be completely fenced and apart from the main dog park. The proposed location for the small dog site are either on the other side of Mountain Boulevard near the hiking trail or between the parking lot and the foot path. Councilmember Chang is very interested in helping to provide funding for the dog park and for traffic calming measures in the area. The next step will be to have a public meeting and Ms. Jones-Taylor will facilitate. The Commission requested viewing a full scale drawing of the proposed dog park site to know the dimensions of the site. The issue of parking was discussed. The Leona Lodge is a popular rental facility and the potential loss of parking to dog park visitors will need to be looked at very carefully. The Lodge is soon to be used for OPR programs on a daily basis, further exacerbating the parking problem. Parking for people with disabilities will also need to be available. Ms. Rosenburg will return to the Commission with plans for dealing with the parking issue.

MOTION: Commissioner Taylor moved to approve the concept of a dog park at the Leona Lodge overflow parking lot. Commissioner Ricards seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

12. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Request for co-sponsorship/fee waiver and permission to have sales of food and non-food vendors at the Attitudinal Healing Connection, Inc.'s Fourth Oakland Street Peach Festival at Lakeside Park on Saturday, July 16, 2005: Ms. Gail McMillon gave a staff report. Last year the Attitudinal Healing Connection Inc. (AHCI) was granted by the OPR Interim Director a co-sponsorship and permission to have vendors for their event. Mr. Bledsoe of AHCI provided information about the event and the vendors. Attendance last year was 1,000 and a greater number of people are expected this year. The fee for use of the park is \$1,600 (\$500 refundable deposit). This is not a fund raising event. The Commission discussed the issue of having vendors sell at the event and advised that commercial vendors are not allowed to sell or advertise in parks and that only vendors who are appropriate to the event and sell hand made items are allowed.

MOTION: Commissioner Ricards moved to deny the co-sponsorship/fee waiver and approve the vendors under the guidelines set forth by the Commission. Commissioner Tong seconded the motion, which failed with four in favor and two opposed.

MOTION: Commissioner Taylor moved to approve the co-sponsorship/fee waiver on the conditions that they vendors be restricted to hand made arts, crafts and foods. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion, which failed with five in favor and one opposed.

MOTION: Commissioner Tong moved to waive the fees by 50% and to approve vendors under the guidelines set forth by the Commission. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- B. Request from East Bay Regional Park District to review Draft Land Use Plan Amendment for Sibley Regional Preserve: The EBRPD is considering locating a 300-person capacity group camp in Sibley Regional Preserve and requested review and comments from the public and other agencies regarding the plan. Commissioner Taylor commented that he would love to see a campground close and accessible for kids to experience camping and nature, which can be beneficial and life changing. Commissioner Ricards expressed concern about the increased fire risk due to additional fire pits and picnic sites. The Commission invites the EBRPD to make a formal presentation, should they deem it necessary to obtain further public comment.
- C. Letter from California Association of Park and Recreation Commissioners and Board Members regarding Booth Donations: Noted

13. **COUNCIL REFERRALS:**

- A. Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Annual Report to Council – Life Enrichment Committee, January 25, 2005: Commissioner Webb presented the report to the LEC and City Council and it was well received. Councilmember Brooks encouraged the PRAC to become more accessible to each of the council districts. Beginning in April, PRAC will hold a meeting at a site within each of the districts.

14. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Ms. Jones-Taylor, Director of Parks and Recreation, reported on the following:

- She had a conversation with Councilmember Chang. He is very supportive of the proposed dog park at Leona Overflow Parking Lot. He has funding for the park and would like it to move forward. He would like to see a public hearing soon, and to know whether there is objection to the park and if there is anything he can do to help make it happen.
- The Public Works Agency (PWA) is in the process of prioritizing park projects. They will be working with City Council and staff to make an assessment, with input from the community. It was requested that PRAC be the lead organization to facilitate community meetings to obtain input on the parks prioritizing in each council district. A task force will be formed to use the information to prioritize the projects. The PRAC may form a sub-committee if necessary. PWA and OPR will take the lead on noticing the community. The priority lists would come before the full PRAC for approval and then to City Council. This information will be used to apply for grants and bond monies. PWA will do an orientation. Commissioners expressed interest in taking the lead.
- The National Park Service will be meeting with City of Oakland to discuss the potential for establishing a Groundwork Trust in Oakland. Groundwork Trusts undertake cooperative projects to promote environmental, economic and social wellbeing in their communities. The meeting will be Thursday, February 24, 9:00am-12pm at the Lakeside Park Garden Center. Commissioner Ricards agreed to attend the meeting as requested by Director Jones-Taylor.

15. **OPEN FORUM:**

16. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Rosa Linda Armendariz and Larry Magid were appointed to the Children's Fairyland Board, which was approved by the City Council on February 2.
- The CPRS Conference will be March 10-12, in Sacramento.
- Ms. Jones-Taylor announced that Deputy City Administrator Niccolo De Luca will be attending a future meeting to discuss the roles of the Commission.
- All OPR staff are in the process of being fingerprinted. Any new staff who have not been fingerprinted are placed on hold until they do so.

17. **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audree V. Jones-Taylor
Secretary

Mary Perisic
Recording Secretary