

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
Wednesday, July 14, 2004
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. Chairperson Webb convened the meeting at 4:50 p.m. Ms. Jones-Taylor, Secretary to the Commission, conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Valerie Abad, Alex Hahn, Mario Juarez, Brad Ricards, Ben Tate, Jeffery Taylor, Matthew Webb

Absent: Rosa Linda Armendariz, Larry Magid, Theresa Nelson, Mary Ellen Tong

Staff Present: Audree Jones-Taylor, Jim Ryugo, Gail McMillon, Mary Perisic

Visitors: Julianne Ryan, Dee Dee Spitzer, Sara Mikesell, Marie Wilson, Matt Hummel

3. DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

A. Minutes of June 9, 2004 meeting:

MOTION: Commissioner Juarez moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of June 9, 2004. Commissioner Tate seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. SPECIAL ORDERS:

A. Welcome Brad Ricards, new Commissioner: Mr. Ricards was appointed to the Commission on July 6. He is a landscape architect and works for the City of Berkeley Park, Recreation and Waterfront Department.

B. Recognition of Parks and Recreation Retirees:

Rose Addison, Custodial Supervisor - 32 years

Phil Bucher, Gardener Crew Leader - 32 years

Emmie Dee Green, Tree Supervisor - 30 years

Howard Gamble, Custodial Supervisor – 33 years

Dave Gullet, Park Supervisor – 30 years

Steve Lewis, Park Supervisor – 35 years

Michael Nobriga, Gardener III – 28 years

Theodus Walker, Gardener II – 17 years

5. DETERMINATION OF SCHEDULE—OUTSTANDING AGENDA ITEMS:

A. PRAC Pending List

- Remove Carijama Festival
- Policy on Naming of OPR Facilities – put on active list

6. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA: Item 12 moved up.

7. COMMUNICATIONS: None

8. PRAC COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

9. **ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORTS:** None

10. **CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS:** None

11. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A. PRAC Retreat: Since the month of August won't work, staff will send e-mails to schedule a retreat for September.

12. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Request for Kaiser Permanente to donate a bench with plaque at Snow Park in honor of Simon B. Richardson's Memoriam: Ms. Dee Dee Spitzer has been working with Mr. Jim Ryugo to find a location in Snow Park and to select a bench style. The location will be wheelchair accessible. The plaque inscription would read: Simon B. Richardson, 1971-2004, "Where's My Hug and My Coffee?"

MOTION: Commissioner Taylor moved approval of the donation of the bench and plaque at Snow Park in honor of Simon B. Richardson's Memoriam. Commissioner Jauarez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

B. Request from Sara Ann Mikesell and Charles B. Harris for a Memorial Plaque at the Oakland Rose Garden: Ms. Mikesell and Mr. Harris request the memorial plaque for their daughter, Sabrina Sophia Harris, who loved the Rose Garden. Mr. Mikesell prepared a sketch of the Rose Garden, lower level, to show benches that do not have plaques. The plaque inscription would read: In Loving Memory of Sabrina Sophia Harris, 1970-2004.

MOTION: Commissioner Taylor moved approval of the donation a plaque at the Oakland Rose Garden in memory of Sabrina Sophia Harris. Commissioner Tate seconded the motion, which passed with six ayes and one abstention.

C. Request from Marie A. Wilson to donate a plaque to be placed in Mosswood Recreation Center in memory of Cynthia Ann Scott: Ms. Marie Wilson and family wish to donate a plaque in memory of Cynthia Ann Scott who enjoyed many of the programs at Mosswood. The family also wishes to make a yearly contribution to Mosswood Recreation Center in Cynthia's name. Ms. Wilson is working with staff on the exact language of the inscription and the style of the plaque.

MOTION: Commissioner Tate moved approval of the donation a plaque in Mosswood Recreation Center in memory of Cynthia Ann Scott. Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed with six ayes and one abstention.

D. Request from March of Dimes for co-sponsorship of WalkAmerica event at Lakeside Park in 2005: Ms. Gail McMillon, OPR Central Reservations Unit, gave brief report. One of the criteria for co-sponsorship of an event is that the entity be based in Oakland, and the March of Dimes is not based in Oakland. For the last three years the March of Dimes has paid the City for its event.

MOTION: Commissioner Juarez moved to deny the request from March of Dimes for co-sponsorship of the WalkAmerica event at Lakeside Park. Commissioner Abad seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

E. Nomination of Officers:

Chair:

Commissioner Juarez nominated Matthew Webb.

Commissioner Taylor nominated Valerie Abad.

MOTION: Commissioner Tate moved nominations closed for Chairs. Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Co-Chair:

Commissioner Taylor nominated Mary Ellen Tong.

Commissioner Juarez nominated Theresa Nelson.

MOTION: Commissioner Tate moved nominations closed for Chairs. Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- F. OPR Funding Initiative: Ms. Jones-Taylor spoke on the City of Oakland's violence prevention initiative (Failed Measure R), which has gone before City Council several times. Ms. Jones-Taylor is also working with the non-profit community and local colleges on putting together a training and development program for youth to work as gardeners and custodians, to get them off of the streets.

MOTION: Commission Juarez moved that the Commission recommend to the City Council that OPR be added to the violence prevention initiative to increase the funding to OPR for violence prevention by improving the quality of life through programs and parks. If young people have a place to go they are less inclined to do violence. Commissioner Tate seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

13. **COUNCIL REFERRALS:**

- A. City Stables report to City Council Life Enrichment Committee – July 13, 2004: Ms. Jones-Taylor gave a report. The City Council directed staff to prepare an RFP, but declined to move forward with capital improvements until a concessionaire is in place. The concessionaire must have a strong youth programming background. The current City Stables safety issues are to be discussed at City Council Closed Session.

MOTION: Commissioner Tate moved to accept the report as received. Commissioner Ricards seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- B. Resolution Proclaiming July as Recreation and Parks Month – July 6, 2004: OPR's July 2 kick off and open house was very successful and well attended. For the entire month of July each facility will be highlighted and have an open house.

14. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

- A. Children's Fairyland Agreement: The CFL agreement has been amended to allow CLF to utilize Measure DD funds to do their necessary improvements. The renewal of the management agreement is still in progress. The expiration date is July 2004, and the agreement is continuing on a month to month basis.

- B. PWA/OPR Transfer: Parks maintenance, trees and custodial units are now under Public Works Agency. The name Office of Parks and Recreation will remain the same.
- C. National Recreation and Parks Association Congress in Reno, October 12-16, 2004: Ms. Jones-Taylor encouraged Commissioners to attend. The City can pay for two Commissioner registrations and lodging.

15. **OPEN FORUM:**

- Mr. Matt Hummel spoke regarding the sculpture in Lakeside Park. He met with the widow of the artist, Bob Winston, who informed him that the artist was disappointed with the drab color. Mr. Hummel would like to organize a volunteer workday to repair and repaint the sculpture in a bright color, and have a rededication ceremony on a later date with the help of the City. Commissioner Webb encouraged Mr. Hummel to proceed and to work with the PWA, since the maintenance of the sculpture falls under that agency.
- Commissioner Webb spoke with Mr. Tom Guarino who produces a program for Channel 78 public TV. Mr. Guarino will attend the September PRAC meeting to film it.

16. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. OPR Grand Reception – July 31, 2004, 5:00-9:00 pm, Jack London Aquatic Center.
- B. Ms. Jones-Taylor provided Commissioners 11 tickets for the booth for an A's game in July.

17. **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audree V. Jones-Taylor
Secretary

Mary Perisic
Recording Secretary