

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
Wednesday, September 14, 2005 - 4:30 p.m.
Lakeside Park Garden Center, Oakland, CA

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was held on Wednesday, September 14, 2005 at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland, California. Chairperson Webb convened the meeting at 4:35 p.m. Ms. Audree Jones-Taylor, Secretary to the Commission, conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Valerie Abad, Rosa Linda Armendariz, Holly McClure, Theresa Nelson, Brad Ricards, Jeffrey Taylor, Matthew Webb

Absent: Alex Hahn, Mario Juarez, Larry Magid, Mary Ellen Tong

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

Guests:

3. DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

A. Minutes of July 13, 2005 meeting:

MOTION: Commissioner Ricards moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of June 8, 2005. Commissioner McClure seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. SPECIAL ORDERS:

5. DETERMINATION OF SCHEDULE—OUTSTANDING AGENDA ITEMS:

A. PRAC Pending List

No changes

6. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Items 10 and 12 moved up.

7. COMMUNICATIONS:

8. PRAC COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Montclair Golf Course update: OPR Director Audree Jones-Taylor gave a report. The Concessionaire provided kitchen hood calculations to the County for review, the fence work is complete, and the trees by the net are soon to be removed by the PWA Tree Division. If the concessionaire's kitchen hood calculations are approved by the County, then next meeting can include the full group. If not, then the mediation group will meet, which includes Council, County, Concessionaire and OPR Director. Commissioner Webb wants to ensure that PRAC is represented at the next group meeting. The MGC advisory board is due to meet in September, date to be determined.
- Fee Waiver Policy Ad Hoc Committee: Commissioner Ricards will be reviewing the draft policy on fee waivers prepared by Gail McMillon.

9. ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORTS:

10. **CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS:**

- A. Minor Condition Use Permit – Sheffield Village Park: Recreation Center Director Kevin McTighe gave a report. The minor conditional use permit is for a storage shed to be used by the Parent Co-op Program, which has been in operation at Sheffield for over twenty years. Previously, the equipment had been stored in the garage of the director of the program, who is retiring. The Parent Co-op Program will purchase the shed and pay for the installation. The shed is 8'x16'x8' and would be installed in a little used paved area between the ball field and fence, not visible from outside of the park. The shed would be installed up to code and far enough from the fence to allow for maintenance and painting. The question was raised about the security of the shed. There are park lights on the site and Sheffield Village is a remote location with little traffic. Vandalism is not anticipated to be a problem, especially since the shed is not visible from the road. Mr. McTighe held a public hearing with the Sheffield Village Homeowners Association, which was noticed through the schools and the SVHA newsletter. Councilmember Larry Reid's office is aware of the shed project as well. Mr. McTighe also spoke with the adjacent property owners. There has been no objection to the shed. Upon PRAC approval, Mr. McTighe will take this item to the City's Planning Commission for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Nelson moved approval of the Minor Conditional Use Permit. Commissioner Tong seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

11. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

12. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Feather River Camp Update: Mr. Harry Schrauth, former Assistant Director of the Public Works Agency, is now volunteering his services as liaison to Camps In Common, the contractor managing the Camp, and to oversee the maintenance of Feather River Camp. There was a volunteer work session over the Memorial Day weekend. Afterwards, Mr. Schrauth did an official walk through with U. S. Forest Service staff and the camp was in very good condition, looking better than it has in several years. Attendance needs to be improved, however, and the question is how can PRAC and OPR help Camps In Common to increase the attendance? At this point the camp is averaging about 100 visitors, but can accommodate 200. Commissioners advised that they have not seen any advertising for Camp. Commissioner Tong suggested writing a special article on Camp for Oakland Magazine. Commissioner Taylor suggested that Recreation Centers partner with Camp and invite families to Camp during the off-season as a way to market and increase attendance. Commissioner Tong also suggested applying for Camp scholarships grants, with organizations such as Every Child Counts, and Marcus Foster Foundation.

OPR Director Audree Jones-Taylor recently met with Supervisor Nate Miley and Terry Cullinane of CIC to work through issues such as raising prices. Ms. Jones-Taylor wants to make sure that OPR programs at Camp can be affordable. They will meet again in October and Commissioner Webb will participate in the meeting. She thanked Mr. Schrauth for taking the lead role and commended him for his wealth of information and for a job well done in making sure Camp was a clean and safe place.

- B. Request from Smiley Dog Rescue to collect donations at a private picnic on Sunday, August 21, 2005 at Joaquin Miller Park: Ms. Gail McMillon gave a report. Smiley Dog Rescue (SDR), a non-profit organization, requests permission to accept monetary donations at a picnic in Joaquin Miller Park. Ms. Kathy Marks of SDR gave background information. The donations would go toward the life saving efforts of the SDS organization to hundreds of homeless dogs. SDR rescues animals and takes care of them until they find a home. It is an all-volunteer organization, and 50% of its budget is donor funded. This is the third annual picnic/reunion and owners will bring their dogs that have been rescued.

MOTION: Commissioner Taylor moved to allow Smiley Dog Rescue to collect donations at its picnic in Joaquin Miller Park on August 21, 2005. Commissioner Tong seconded the motion, which passed with seven ayes and one abstention (Ricards).

- C. Request to have vendors and certified food farmers at the International Film Festival Event with entertainment at Splashpad Park on Sunday, September 18, 2005: Ms. Gail McMillon gave a brief report. Mr. David Roach, Director of the Oakland Film Society, spoke. Last year their request for entertainment had been denied because the event was on a weekday when school would be in session across the street, and there were concerns of the sound carrying over to the school. This year the event will be on a Sunday. The vendors will include local arts and crafts and the vendors from the Inner Cities Farmers Market Association.

MOTION: Commissioner Tong moved approval of vendors and entertainment at the International Film Festival Event at Splashpad Park. Commission Taylor seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- D. Request from the United Negro College Fund to collect registration fees at the 21st Annual Walk-a-thon on Saturday, September 17, 2005 at Lakeside Park: Ms. McMillon reported that UNCF has been given administrative approval in the past to collect registrations and that this is the first year they are coming before the Commission. Ms. Shirley Matthews, Director of UNCF stated that last year they netted \$90,000. This year's event will also include a health fair along with the walk-a-thon, and Kaiser Permanente is a major co-sponsor. They do not charge participants. The money raised goes directly to the student fund. There will be booths near the Sailboat House to collect the donations.

MOTION: Commissioner McClure moved approval for the UNCF to collect registration fees. Commissioner Magid seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- E. Dog Park Update: Deferred to next meeting.
- F. Bella Vista Park Curfew: Staff recommended park hours be dawn to dusk, which would address concerns raised by Bella Vista Park advocates, especially given the capital improvements being made to the park. New park signage will be installed.

MOTION: Commissioner Taylor moved to approve the Bella Vista Park operating hours from dawn to dusk. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

13. **COUNCIL REFERRALS:**

14. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

- City Stables – OPR Director Audree Jones-Taylor reported that the City Stables item went to City Council on June 21, 2005, and they directed staff to go after a Request for Qualifications for 90 days and a Request for Proposals for 45 days. The concessionaire search will be nationwide and will be advertised through a variety of sources, including equestrian websites, magazines, etc. Council directed that the City Stables must have a youth component, with a focus on inner-city youth. OPR requested release of some of the money that is being held to do some minor improvements at the Stables, including the hay and feed barn so that it is more attractive to prospective concessionaires. The City Council authorized the release of \$10,000 for this purpose. The Friends of City Stables, the City Stables Advisory Council and the Metropolitan Horsemen's Association have expressed interest in building a collaborative to save City Stables, in lieu of going out for an RFP.

Presently, OPR staff is preparing for an outdoor youth camp at City Stables in partnership with the East Bay Conservation Corps and the Police Activities League. The camp will run from mid July through the end of August.

15. **OPEN FORUM:**

16. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Woodminister Summer Musical, *Jesus Christ Superstar* – PRAC to attend on Saturday, Sept. 10th, at 6:00 p.m.
- Commissioner Ricards elected Director of the California Association of Park and Recreation Commissions and Board Members (CAPRCBM).

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

Respectfully submitted,

Audree V. Jones-Taylor
Secretary

Mary Perisic
Recording Secretary