

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 2001
1520 Lakeside Drive, 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 Woodell convened the meeting at 4:10pm. Jim Ryugo, Secretary to the Commission, conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

2. ROLL CALL: (one vacancy)

Present: Valerie Abad, Raymond Bobbitt, Theresa Nelson, William Patterson, Matt Webb, Jeffery Wong, Anne Woodell

Excused: Joe Guzman, Yvonne Myers, Elba Sanchez

Staff Present: Jim Ryugo, Martin Matarrese, Mary Perisic

Visitors: Catherine Payne, City Planning; Stuart Richardson, Friends of Sausal Creek; David Walsh, Oakland Police; Phillip Dow, Marshall Hasbrouck, Clyde Grimes, Oak Knoll Neighborhood Improvement Association

At this point, Chairperson Woodell introduced Rita Torres-Gonzalez, who was appointed to the Commission by the City Council on March 27, 2001. The Commission and staff welcomed Ms. Torres-Gonzalez.

3. DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

A. Minutes of February 14 regular meeting

Commissioner Nelson moved approval. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

B. Minutes of February 28 regular meeting

MOTION: Commissioner Wong moved approval. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

4. SPECIAL ORDERS: None

5. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

6. DETERMINATION OF SCHEDULE—OUTSTANDING AGENDA ITEMS:

4/11/01 **New Item:** Rainbow Recreation Center Mural Proposal – presentation

7. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Open Space in Central Business District: Catherine Payne, City Planning Department, gave a presentation on the proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance related to open space on private property in residential development in the downtown area. Space definitions and square footage requirements were discussed, as well as possible fees levied to developers for not providing the open space. This presentation was among the first of many steps to occur over the next year in the process to amend the ordinance. Commissioners had concerns related to allowing developers to minimize open space by paying a fee and would like to see how the fee

system would be structured and how the fees would be used. Mr. Ryugo advised that this proposed amendment is a part of the bigger issue of open space, private or public, in the downtown area, with the influx of many more residents.

MOTION: Commissioner Wong moved to accept this as an informational report. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

8. **PRAC COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None

9. **ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORTS:**

The Advisory Councils have had orientation on the new manual and are trying to work with staff to be in alignment with the new fiscal policies. However, staff have not yet responded to some of their requests for assistance. Commissioner Bobbitt asked if there was anything he could do to help the process along. Mr. Ryugo will follow up with the OPR Fiscal Manager.

Commissioner Woodell, who attends the City Stables Advisory Council meetings, commended Al Garcia for his work with the City Stables.

10. **CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS:**

- A. Proposed Nursery – Joaquin Miller Park: Mr. Stuart Richardson of Friends of Sausal Creek gave a presentation on the proposed nursery. Friends plants about 20,000 native plants each year along Sausal Creek. Joaquin Miller Park, which is within the Sausal Creek watershed, has a suitable location for a nursery. Mr. Richardson described the proposed nursery and answered questions.

MOTION: Commissioner Wong moved endorsement of the proposed nursery in Joaquin Miller Park. Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Patterson commended the Friends of Sausal Creek for their excellent work.

11. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

12. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Request to Rename Elmhurst Plaza to Officer William “Willie” Wilkins Memorial Park: OPR staff recommends endorsement of the renaming. The Commission advised that the renaming process should be adhered to and that neighborhood support be sought by either petition or public meeting .

MOTION: Commissioner Wong moved approval of the renaming of Elmhurst Plaza to Officer William “Willie” Wilkins Memorial Park. Commissioner Bobbitt seconded the motion which failed (5 ayes, 1 no - Webb, 1 abstention - Woodell).

MOTION: Commissioner Bobbitt moved approval of the renaming of Elmhurst Plaza to Officer William “Willie” Wilkins Memorial Park, contingent upon additional documented community support through the process of a petition or public hearing, to be taken to the Rules Committee. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion with passed unanimously.

13. **COUNCIL REFERRAL/BUSINESS:**

- A. New Commissioner Appointment: Ms. Rita Torres-Gonzalez was appointed by City Council on March 27, 2001 and has been sworn in.
- B. Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Apply for, and Appropriate, a Grant from the San Francisco Bay Trail Regional Development Program: Noted
- C. Informational Report on Montclair Golf Course Concession: The Montclair Golf Course concessionaire has selected a contractor to begin the work which is scheduled to begin in the next three weeks and to be completed by the end of the year.
- D. Informational Report on the Status of Implementation of the Glen Daniel/King Estates Park Master Plan: Members of the Oak Knoll Neighborhood Improvement Association were present. Although the City Council had endorsed the plan many years ago, funding was never identified. The residents of the area want to push this process forward. Phillip Dow, chairman, spoke on behalf of the Association and that they want to improve access to the park and winter usage with an all weather trail. It was also requested that the Association be allowed to give input as to the priorities of the Master Plan. The Commission advised that the best venue for that would be through contacting the Councilmember for that district.
- E. Sale of Goods and Wares in Public Parks, Buildings and Grounds: Noted
- F. Policy Guidelines for Permitting Fundraising and Concession Activities Within City Parks, Buildings and Grounds: Noted

**MOTION: Commissioner Wong moved to re-emphasize endorsement of the plan.
Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

14. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Ryugo reported on the Jack London Aquatic Center status. The project, which was funded by Measure K, is complete. Management of the facility is still being worked out. A retreat will take place next week with the City Manager, JLAC and OPR staff to come up with a management plan, including who will maintain the facility, pay utilities, run the programs, etc.

15. **OPEN FORUM:** None

16. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

17. **ADJOURNMENT:** Commissioner Nelson asked that the meeting be adjourned in honor of Commissioner Anne Woodell, who has served 27 years on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission. Anne turned the gavel to Matt Webb, Vice Chair. Matt accepted the gavel and congratulated Anne for her exemplary dedication, her knowledge and strength. Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Ryugo
Secretary

Mary Perisic
Recording Secretary