

CITY OF OAKLAND

## PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

City of Oakland

Wednesday, March 14, 2012 4:30 P.M.

Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland, CA

### Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was held on Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at the Lakeside Garden Center located at 666 Bellevue, Avenue. Commissioner/Chair Miller convened the meeting at 4:33pm. Audree V. Jones-Taylor, OPR Director, conducted the roll call:

2. ROLL CALL:

BELCHER, FINLINSON, HAMMOCK, MATIS, PETERSON, RICARDS, TAYLOR, WU

Excused: Commissioners Miller, Montauk, Wong and Peterson

Staff: Audree V. Jones-Taylor, Dana Riley, Diane Boyd, Gail McMillon, Mark Hall, Stephanie Benavidez and Peter Collier

3. DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

A. Minutes of February 8, 2012

**Motion:** Commissioner Wu entertained a motion to accept the Minutes of the February 8, 2012 PRAC meeting.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Hammock, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Finlinson: **Motion Passed**

4. SPECIAL ORDERS:

None

5. PRAC PENDING LIST:

Director Jones Taylor will share with the Chair and Vice Chair the Commissioners' Report from the 2011 for the purpose of receiving their input before it is presented to the full body.

6. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None

7. CONSENT CALENDAR:

The following item was pulled for discussion by Commissioner Belcher.

- A. **Request from Triple Step For The Cure To Collect On-Site Registration Fees and Donations and Allow Event Related Vendors to Sell On-site During The 5K Fun Run/Walk At Lakeside Park On Sunday, September 16, 2012.** Gail McMillon presented the staff report. The Office of Parks and Recreation received a request from Triple Step for the Cure, a non-profit organization for permission to collect on-site registration fees including donations. They also requested permission to allow vendors the ability to sell event-related items at Lakeside Park for their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "*Stepping Towards the Cure*" 5K Fun Run/Walk on Sunday, September 16, 2012. The purpose of the event is to provide a fun, healthy, and educational way to raise funds for Triple Step for the Cure.

**Item 7A was heard under Item 8 as new business:**

Commission:

The Commissioner made inquiries regarding the fees listed on the application and requested that the post event form be modified to reflect a tally of on-site registrants for future events.

**Motion:** Commissioner Wu entertained a motion to approve the request to collect on-site registration fees and donations and to allow event related vendors to sell on-site.

**Moved by:** Commissioner, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Ricards: **Motion Passed**

- B. **Request From The Center For Early Intervention On Deafness For Permission To Collect On-Site Donations At Lakeside Park On Sunday, May 6, 2012.** Gail McMillon presented the staff report on this item. The Office of Parks and Recreation received a request from the Center for Early Intervention on Deafness (CEID) in which they asked permission to collect donations on-site at Lakeside Park for their third Walk-A-Thon at Lakeside Park projected to take place on Sunday, May 6, 2012. All proceeds will go to the work of the organization with infants and young children who are deaf and hard of hearing. The CEID is a non-profit organization.

**Motion:** Commissioner Wu entertained a motion to approve Item 7 on consent.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Ricards, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Hammock: **Motion Passed**

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Informational Report: Presentation From Block by Block Organizing Network Regarding the Oakland Summer Adult English As A Second Language Program.** Gail McMillon with the Office of Parks and Recreation (OPR) and a Block by Block made a brief presentation to the Commission. OPR received a request from the Block by Block Organizing Network (BBON) to make a presentation on the Oakland Summer Adult English as a Second Language (ESL) Program. The BBON would like feedback on possibilities for the ESL program that have not been considered, i.e., suggestions for sources of funding. Until June, 2010 over 10,000 English language students were attending various ESL classes offered by the Oakland Unified School District ( OUSD). It was stated that classes have been dismantled. According to the BBON, there are only ten ESL Family Literacy classes for parents of children in Oakland schools including approximately 300 ESL students. The OUSD will not offer ESL classes during the coming summer.

Commission:

Commissioners suggested that there maybe grant opportunities allowing for the development of a partnership with OPR and that such a partnership would be the bridge necessary to attract ESL students reluctant to attend recreation center activities and perhaps coordination between the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD), BBON and OPR would be feasible with the support of from legislators. The Parents Advisory Council and Community Development Block Grants were also mentioned as possible sources of support.

No vote was taken as this was an Informational Report.

- B. **Request The Park And Recreation And Advisory Commission To Approve and Accept The Design For The Community Mosaic Design To Be Placed On The Last Of Four Exterior Restroom Walls At Maxwell Park.** OPR staff member Mark Hall presented Item 8B to the Commission. Friends of Maxwell Park (FMP) completed the design of the fourth and final outer restroom wall mosaic in Maxwell Park, and requested final approval from the Park and Recreation Advisory Commission. In addition to interior restroom restoration funded by FMP and artwork on the interior walls, this fourth mosaic completes the community project started in 2009 to transform the restroom from a community eyesore and target of graffiti to a jewel and pride of the community. FMP will continue an ongoing partnership with the Public Works Agency (PWA) to maintain all artwork, while the PWA maintains the non-decorated restrooms surfaces. FMP has \$1,569 in its account held with the Friends of Oakland Parks and Recreation (FOPR). These funds will allow for the completion of the project. Minor repairs will be made with left over project materials. Work on the project has been executed on a volunteer bases.

Commission:

Commissioner Matis expressed his frustration with what he considered to be a lack of community engagement for gathering support for the project. Details of that process were requested and color depictions of the artwork rather than black and white. Commissioner Ricards indicated that the organizers of the project employed a very interactive and participatory approach with the community and referred verification of the quality of the suggested artwork to the Commissions approval of the previous three (3) installations.

The was a lengthy conversation regarding color design vs. black and white.

**Motion:** Commissioner Wu entertained a motion to approve and accept the design for the community mosaic design to be placed on the exterior restroom walls at Maxwell Park.

**Moved by:** Commissioner Belcher **Seconded by:** Commissioner Hammock: **Opposed:** Commissioner Matis, **Motion: Passed**

- C. **Request for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission to Approve Installation of Fencing in the Fern Ravine Restoration Area, Joaquin Miller Park.** Stephanie Benavidez with the Office of Parks and Recreation presented the staff report for this Item. The Friends of Joaquin Miller Park (FOJMP) and the Friends of Sausal Creek (FOSC) presented an informational report to PRAC on November 9, 2011, on negative impacts occurring in Joaquin Miller Park and the FOJMP Redwood Committee "Recommendations of Redwood Area" to mitigate the problems. Installation of fencing in heavily impacted areas was identified as a priority to prevent damaging traffic. Exhibit A shows the placement for recommended fencing. FOSC staff will meet with the Oakland Parkland Resources Supervisor and Civicorps supervisor to demark the fencing route. FOSC staff and volunteers will be responsible for procuring the fencing materials.

Commission:

The Commission confirmed that the Public Works Agency (PWA) is a partner on this project and that there will be no fiscal impact to OPR.

**Motion:** Commissioner Wu entertained a motion to approve the installation of fencing in the Fern Ravine restoration area of Joaquin Miller Park **Moved by:** Commissioner Hammock **Seconded by:** Commissioner Ricards: **Motion: Passed**

- D. **Request for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission to Approve Two Interpretive Signs. Permission to Install Interpretive Signs and Plant Signs in the Dimond Park Native Plant Demonstration Garden.** The Friends of Sausal Creek (FOSC) requested and received PRAC approval to create the Dimond Park Native Plant Demonstration Garden Project on December 10, 2001. Included in the original presentation was proposed signage style and content. This is a follow-up request for approval of specific signage designs and placement locations.

Commission:

Objections were raised by Commissioner Matis regarding suggested competing language depicted on the proposed signage and handout packet. However, it was determined that staff reviewed and approved material content and PRAC's role was to approve or decline approval of the request.

**Motion:** Commissioner Wu entertained a motion to approve the installation of two interpretive signs and plant signs in the Dimond Park Native Plant Demonstration Garden in the spring of 2012. **Moved by:** Commissioner Taylor **Seconded by:** Commissioner Hammock: Commissioner Matis suggested Friendly Amendment requesting that the language on the signage be changed and that the item be resubmitted before PRAC. The motion was not accepted by the maker; however the amendment was seconded by Commissioner Ricards. The Friendly Amendment died due to the lack of votes. **The original motion passed.** Opposed: Commissioner Matis: **Motion: Passed**

- E. Requesting Approval of Design and Implementation of Phase II Community-based Gardening Expansion Plans at Dover Street Park. The staff report was presented by Stephanie Benavidez and Peter Collier from the Office of Parks and Recreation. At the June 8, 2011 PRAC meeting it was determined by the Commission that Phase I of the garden activity proposals made by Phat Beets Produce, Healthy Hearts Clinic, and Dover Park Neighborhood Group (three entities hereafter referred to as "Partners") be approved in its design, and that the Partners return for approval of a Minor Conditional Use Permit for Phase II of their garden activity proposals. Phase I consisted of a small section within the Northeast perimeter of the Park, whereas Phase II consisted of garden activities along the entire perimeter of the Park as show on Figure 1 of the Draft Letter of Agreement (**Attachment C**). Phase II expansion area is designated in shaded gray and called out as "perimeter area up for recommendation".

Commission:

It was confirmed that the term of the new agreement was to commence on April 1, 2012 and that Dover Park operates under standard park hours.

**Motion:** Commissioner Wu entertained a motion to approve the request for approval of the design and implementation of Phase II of the community-based gardening expansion plans at Dover Street Park. **Moved by:** Commissioner Belcher, **Seconded by:** Commissioner Hammock: **Motion Passed**

9. CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS:

None

10. COMMUNICATIONS:

Commissioners held a brief discussion regarding the January Retreat and the application of Roberts Rules. Vice Chair Wu suggested the discussion be held over until Commissioner and Chair Miller's return and the installation of new board members.

11. PRAC COMMITTEE REPORT:

12. ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORTS:

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

14. COUNCIL REFERRALS:

15. OPEN FORUM:

16. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A. Pilot Mobile Food Vending Program Update:

Director Jones-Taylor announced a meeting with Commissioner's Miller and Wu, OPR staff and City Administrator staff with where Mobile Vending fees were discussed as related to the Master Fee Schedule. It was suggested that a subcommittee be formed to discuss the new program.

B. Rainbow Teen Center Update:

It was announced that the Rainbow Teen Center was officially moved under the jurisdiction of the OPR. New OPR staff member and Rainbow Teen Center Supervisor Martha "Cookie" Robles-Wong was introduced.

C. Director Jones-Taylor agreed to make one color copy of exhibits available for review by the Commission on the day of the report presentation provided color copies have been received by staff.

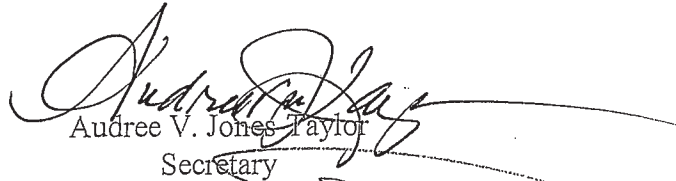
17. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

700 Forms due Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please reference email reminder from March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

18. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 6:23pm

Respectfully submitted,




Audree V. Jones Taylor  
Secretary



Diane Boyd  
Recording Secretary

*Next Meeting:                      Wednesday, April 11, 2012; 4:30 p.m.*  
*Lakeside Garden Center*  
*666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, CA*

 This meeting is wheelchair accessible. To request materials in alternative formats, or to request an ASL interpreter, or assistive listening device, please call the *Office of Parks and Recreation at (510) 238-7532* or **TDD (510) 615-5883** at least three working days before the meeting. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting so attendees who may experience chemical sensitivities may attend. Thank you.