



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
City of Oakland
Wednesday, February 11, 2015
Lake Merritt Garden, 666 Bellevue Avenue
4:30pm

Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER: 4:37pm

2. ROLL CALL:

BELCHER, DU BOIS, FLORES, KADERA-REDMOND, MARSHALL, MILLER, PETERSON, ROSENBLOOM, SELNA, WU

Present: Du Bois, Kadera-Redmond, Marshall, Miller, Peterson, Rosenbloom, Selna and Wu
Excused: Belcher and Flores

Staff: Parks and Recreation – Audree V. Jones-Taylor, Diane Boyd,
Zermaine Thomas, Stephanie Benavidez, Neil Gray from Planning

3. DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

December 10, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Note: The Commission held a Special Meeting and Parks Tour Retreat on Saturday, January 10, 2015. There are not notes.

Motion: Commissioner Miller entertained a motion to approve the December 10, 2014 meeting minutes. **Moved by:** Commissioner Wu. **Second by:** Commissioner Selna. **Vote:** **Yes** - Du Bois, Kadera-Redmond, Marshall, Miller, Peterson, Rosenbloom, Selna and Wu - **Motion:** Passed

4. SPECIAL ORDERS:

5. PRAC PENDING LIST:

6. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA:

7. CONSENT NEW BUSINESS:

A. **REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE OAKLAND RUNNING FESTIVAL ORGANIZERS TO SERVE AND SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND FOOD, AND TO COLLECT DONATIONS AND REGISTRATION FEES AT THEIR 6TH ANNUAL OAKLAND RUNNING FESTIVAL MARATHON AT SNOW PARK ON SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2015**

Oakland Parks and Recreation received a request for permission from Gene Brtalik, Director of the Oakland Running Festival Race Director, to serve and sell alcoholic beverages (beer & wine) and food, and to collect donations and registration fees at their Oakland Running Festival Marathon to be held at Snow Park on Sunday, March 22, 2015. Proceeds from funds collected will benefit city and local charities. In addition, a portion of alcohol beverage sales will be contributed to the Fire Department's Random Acts Charity.

B. REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE NATIVE AMERICAN HEALTH CENTER, INC. TO COLLECT ON-SITE REGISTRATION FEES AT THE RUNNING IS MY HIGH WALKATHON AT LAKESIDE PARK ON SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2015

Staff received a request for approval from the Native American Health Center, Inc., a non-profit organization, to collect on-site registration fees at Lakeside Park on Saturday, March 14, 2015 at their “Running is My High”; a 10k and 5k Fun Race. Proceeds collected will be used to off-set the cost of purchasing t-shirts and participant scholarships.

Motion: Commissioner Miller entertained a motion to approve Consent New Business Items 7A and B. **Moved by:** Commissioner Peterson. **Second by:** Commissioner Wu. **Vote:** Yes - Du Bois, Kadera-Redmond, Marshall, Miller, Peterson, Rosenbloom, Selna and Wu
Motion: Passed

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. INFORMATIONAL REPORT: “TRAILHEAD: DIMOND PARK – OAKLAND’S URBAN GATEWAY TO THE REDWOODS AND BEYOND”, A DOCUMENTARY VIDEO PRODUCTION.

The Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed the staff report for Item 8A presented by Stephanie Benavidez. Film maker, Stan Dobson will produce this documentary and educational profile of Oakland, California’s largest wildland park trail system. This video will highlight a unique and relatively unknown gem that connects the heart of urban Oakland to redwood forests and over one hundred miles of East Bay trails and open space. Trail users, historians, creek restoration experts, park stewards, and others will be among those interviewed during a typical park day that begins at sunrise from the trailhead in Dimond Park and concludes at sunset from a scenic Joaquin Miller Park ridge overlooking downtown Oakland and San Francisco Bay. Viewers will have unrestricted use of the film which will also be made available via online via YouTube and the Visit Oakland website and the Oakland Unified School District. The projected budget for the film is estimated at a minimum of \$15,000. Fundraising efforts are currently underway, including outreach efforts by the film maker to non-profit organizations, private individuals, businesses and other interested parties. The project’s website will also feature a donor button for online contributions. Friends of Oakland Parks and Recreation will act as the fiscal sponsor.

Motion: Commissioner Miller entertained a motion to approve the Oakland Parks and Recreation staff recommendation to accept the informational report on the documentary video production of “ Trailhead: Dimond Park-Oakland’s Urban Gateway to the Redwoods and Beyond”. **Moved by:** Commissioner Du Bois. **Second by:** Commissioner Wu. **Vote:** Yes - Du Bois, Kadera-Redmond, Marshall, Miller, Peterson, Rosenbloom, Selna and Wu
Motion: Passed

B. REQUEST FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE DESIGN FOR RE-LANDSCAPING AND INSTALLATION OF A DEMONSTRATION GARDEN WITH EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL AT THE GATEWAY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXHIBIT CENTER.

The Oakland Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission reviewed the staff report for Item 8B presented by Olga Bolotina from Council District 1. The North Hills Community Association, the Oakland Landscape Committee, the Oakland Firesafe Council and the Wildfire Prevention Assessment District Advisory Board have collaboratively developed a landscape plan with accompanying educational information for a demonstration garden that showcases appropriate plant materials and mulch to meet the City of Oakland's defensible space requirements for properties within the Wildfire Prevention District, as established by Resolution No. 78204 C.M.S., November 18, 2003. The total cost of the project is budgeted at \$21,000. The installation of the project and 3 years of maintenance will be provided through donations and volunteer services.

Motion: Commissioner Miller entertained a motion to grant the staff recommendation to approve the Wildfire Demonstration Garden and additional exhibit material including panels for the Gateway Emergency Preparedness Exhibit Center. **Moved by:** Commissioner Peterson. **Second by:** Commissioner Du Bois. **Vote:** Yes Du Bois, Kadera-Redmond, Marshall, Miller, Peterson, Rosenbloom, Selna and Wu - **Motion:** Passed

C. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FROM THE ADULT CONGENITAL HEART ASSOCIATION TO COLLECT FUNDRAISING PROCEEDS FROM PARTICIPANTS OF THE CONGENITAL HEART WALK AT LAKESIDE PARK ON SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2015.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission reviewed the staff report for Item 8C presented by Zermaine Thomas-Public Service Representative. The Adult Congenital Heart Association requested permission to collect donations at their fundraising event on June 13, 2015 at Lakeside Park. Fundraising proceeds will be allocated to support the national organizations of the Adult Congenital Heart Association and The Children's Heart Foundation. Both organizations are dedicated to fighting congenital heart disease.

Motion: Commissioner Miller entertained a motion to approve the staff recommendation to allow the Adult Congenital Heart Association to collect donations at their fundraising event at Lakeside Park on June 13, 2015. **Moved by:** Commissioner Selna. **Second by:** Commissioner Marshall. **Vote:** Yes Du Bois, Kadera-Redmond, Marshall, Miller, Peterson, Rosenbloom, Selna and Wu - **Motion:** Passed

9. CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS:

A. **REQUEST THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO IMPROVE A WATER TREATMENT BASIN AND PASSIVE PARK ADJACENT TO THE LAKE MERRITT CHANNEL AND THE 12TH STREET BRIDGE.**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission reviewed the staff report on Item 9A presented by Neil Gray from the Planning. The project consists of improvements to an existing .91 acres water treatment basin and park next to the Lake Merritt Channel and the 12th Street Bridge. The improvements and maintenance of the park would be funded by the developers of a proposed 298-unit, 24-story residential apartment building on a parcel located adjacent to the park. Both the apartment property and the park are owned by the City and have been made available by the narrowing of East 12th Street.

The project is situated on a passive green open space and will feature native grasses and low native shrubs to complement the existing lakeside environment and bioswale; new trees will be added on 12th street, while other planting design elements will be used to preserve views of the channel. The planting design was created to increase visibility and discourage hiding.

The Commission learned that:

The project is not intended for park use and does not include pathways or benches, which may be added in the future. The design is considered a crime prevention tool through environmental design and is sloped on a grade that is not conducive to walking and has displaced the former homeless encampment. Community meeting notification was made to residents or businesses within 500 feet of the project and that public attendance can be provided by sign-in sheets.

Community Comments:

Community members encouraged the commission to slow the process or reject the requested Conditional Use permit and raised concern that: the development process and community engagement was lacking; outreach and notification to the greater surrounding area was not conducted; the project does not address the need for more affordable housing or dog parks; publicly owned assets are being privatized and that the project will serve as a benefit to the residents in the proposed residential apartment building and the general public.

Motion: Commissioner Miller entertained a motion to accept the staff recommendation to approve the proposed Minor Conditional Use Permit for improvements to an existing .91 acres water treatment basin and park next to the Lake Merritt Channel and the 12th Street Bridge.. **Moved by:** Commissioner Selna. **Second by:** Commissioner Rosenbloom. **Vote:** **Yes:** Du Bois, Kadera-Redmond, Miller, Rosenbloom, Selna. **No:** Wu. **Abstentions:** Marshall and Peterson. **Motion:** Failed

10. COMMUNICATIONS: N/A

11. PRAC COMMITTEE REPORT:

Grilling Committee will meet to prepare report as requested by At Large Council Office

12. ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORTS:

Studio One Advisory council voted to install new council members. The center will host a fundraiser for Featheriver camp on Friday, July 10, 2015.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: N/A

14. COUNCIL REFERRALS: N/A

15. OPEN FORUM:

B. Newcombe: Volunteers at the Cleveland Cascades are battling graffiti. A recommends was made that the Oakland Police Department develop a database to track graffiti taggers.

16. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- **Budget Update:**

City departmental budgets are due 2/6. Directors are charged with recommending 5% - 10% reductions. OPR will recommend that the department restructure its services by creating Mega and Magnet sites by utilizing existing OPR facilities to provide specialized programming at each location.

Program fees will be increased to meet the impact of the pending minimum wage increase.

- **Parks Tour and Retreat Recap:**

The annual parks tour was held on Saturday, January 10th. Waste Management staff participated and had the opportunity to observe where their contributions to the department have been utilized. Overall, it was considered a successful excursion.

- **Update - Raimondi Project Phase IIa:**

OPR met with potential funders who have expressed interest in completing the second multipurpose field and Community Park, part of the discussion has included that the users of the field assume the responsibilities of maintenance for the life of the agreement.

In an effort to make upgrades to the site, OPR has also established relationships with developers, contractors and philanthropist who are working together to provide these services. This project will serve as a model for future projects and partners.

- **Update – Naming Rights and Gift in Place**

Meetings have been held with the City Attorney's Office and Contracts and Compliance to address the process there are several questions and concerns that the department is working through.

- **Annual Retreat:** The annual retreat will take place in April the date has yet to be determined. There was more to this discussion-we looked at the dates and I thought we narrowed it down.

17. ADJOURNMENT: 6:58pm

This meeting is wheelchair accessible. To request materials in alternative formats, or to request an ASL interpreter, or assistive listening device, please call ***Oakland 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.

Respectfully submitted,

Audree V. Jones-Taylor
Secretary

Diane Boyd
Recording Secretary

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Next Meeting: ***Wednesday, March 11, 2015 - 4:30 p.m.***
Lakeside Garden Center
666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, CA

