

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
August 19, 2014**



COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chuck Blair, Mike O’Halloran, George Guerra, Andrew Knaack, Tino Silva, Kevan Michael Walke,

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Roseann Alderete LaCoursiere.

STAFF: James Teixeira, Parks & Recreation Director; Dale Seale, Deputy Parks & Recreation Director; Patricia Lord, Recreation Manager; Milee Beaulieu, Recreation Supervisor

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC: Craig Larsen, Gloria McClain

MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION— Recommend that Council formally engage the Santa Clara Unified School District and King’s Academy to explore installation of synthetic turf in exchange for a facility use agreement that allows additional City and community sports usage at the following facilities: Santa Clara High School, Adrian Wilcox High School, Townsend Field, Washington Ball Field, and Kings Academy.

I. CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL/ ORDER OF AGENDA

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tino Silva at 7:02 p.m. The Commission approved the order of the agenda and excused Commissioner LaCoursiere.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Commissioner Walke and a second by Commissioner Blair, the Commission approved (6-0) the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 15, 2014 as amended.

III. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

A. The Commission reviewed recent Council actions including a recent donation from the Mission City Community Fund for the Senior Nutrition Site. B. The Commission reviewed the Fall Recreation Activities Guide, Art & Wine Festival Posters for distribution in the community, and a UNAREP flier for tours of Ulistac Natural Area.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Update—New Housing Development Impact Draft Ordinance & Fee Resolution: The Commission discussed a new page to be placed on the City website devoted to understanding the ordinance as adopted as well as the potential implementation dates for the Quimby Act and Mitigation Fee Act fees that might be charged to new housing development in lieu of dedication of new City parkland to be considered by the Council at an upcoming meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Cost-Recovery Policies Related to Facility Use by Sports Organizations: Commissioner Silva introduced the topic of resident and non-resident participation in youth sports organizations that use City facilities, estimating that resident participation rates vary among sports such as football (68%), soccer (18%), and swimming (12%). Director Teixeira provided an estimate of various aquatic sports' resident participation rates such as the Swim Club (23%), Dive Club (17%), and Aquamaids (11%). The Commission discussed the rationale for potentially proposing that Council consider a flat "pay to play" fee for non-residents participating in various sports in Santa Clara to help recover facility use costs, given that residents support the cost of maintaining the parks and recreation facilities and non-residents do not. On a motion by Commissioner Guerra and a second by Commissioner Knaack, the Commission moved to form an ad hoc committee to study a "nominal" flat fee for non-residents participating in Santa Clara youth sports organizations that would recover cost and go towards improved sports facility maintenance. Commissioners Walke, Silva, and Knaack were selected for the committee.
- B. Recommendation to Initiate City Discussion with Schools and School Districts Related to Athletic Field Use and Improvements: On a motion by Commissioner Silva and a second by Commissioner Walke the Commission moved (6/0) to recommend that Council formally engage the Santa Clara Unified School District and King's Academy to explore installation of synthetic turf in exchange for a facility use agreement that allows additional City and community sports usage at the following facilities: Santa Clara High School, Adrian Wilcox High School, Townsend Field, Washington Ball Field, and Kings Academy.

VI. STAFF REPORTS

- A. Staff provided updates regarding Parks & Cemetery Projects, including Council Goals & Strategic Objectives for Parks & Recreation Fiscal Year 2014-15: a.– An MOU is being negotiated with the International Swimming Hall of Fame and RFP has been issued for design and engineering of the International Swim Center. Bracher Park Improvement Project was selected for additional "crowd funding" by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). Additional Soccer Fields Project will be scheduled for further Council consideration once a design firm has been selected. Additional soccer fields will be considered for yet to be determined sites. The Commission discussed safety guidelines for playgrounds, and possible pool and parking improvements.
- B. Staff reviewed preparations for the Art & Wine Festival 2014 to be held on September 13 and 14; SuperBowl 2016 Potential City Special Events including a parade; and, the Recreation Activity Guide.

VII. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Blair—Attended the Palomino Tournament. Staff were commended for providing a generator to resolve electrical issues caused by an electrical problem and fixing Water and sprinkler issues. Commissioner Blair also suggested that Washington Park could make a great location to host a future Little League World Series.

Commissioner O'Halloran—Noted even more geese are at Central Park. Staff is aware of the issue and providing additional clean-up of the cement walkways. Noted Midtown Park fountain may need adjustment. Noted attended a Planning Commission meeting.

Commissioner Guerra—Visited Carmichael Park and New York City's Central Park.

Commissioner Walke—Visited Central Park and pond and attended PAL Soccer. Visited Earl Carmichael Park. Noted two dead redwood trees at Montague Park.

Commissioner Knaack – Has seen eleven parks and attended the Concert Series at Central Park.

Commissioner Silva—Toured Ulistac with Gloria McLain and Gabi. Attended the Palomino Tournament. The sprinklers came on, but staff took care of the issue. Spoke with Kings Academy—very interested in partnering. Also visited Washington Park.

VIII. CONFERENCE & ATTENDANCE REPORTS—None.

IX. PUBLIC PRESENTATION(S) & COMMENTS— Resident Craig Larsen has not heard anything further regarding the joint-use agreement with SCUSD for soccer, which resulted in confusion.

X. ADJOURNMENT— On a motion by Commissioner Guerra, and a second by Commissioner Walke, the Commission adjourned at 9:03 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on September 16, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Staff Conference room.

Prepared by:

Patricia Lord
Recreation Manager

Reviewed by:

Kevan Michael Walke
Commission Secretary

Submitted by:

James Teixeira
Director of Parks & Recreation
Commission Liaison