

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
May 20, 2014**



**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Chuck Blair; Ray Gamma; George Guerra; Roseann LaCoursiere Mike O'Halloran; Tino Silva; and Kevan Michael Walke.

**COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED:** None.

**STAFF:** James Teixeira, Parks & Recreation Director; Dale Seale, Deputy Parks & Recreation Director; and, Patricia Lord, Recreation Manager.

---

**MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION**— None. Recommendations brought forward by separate agenda.

---

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

The meeting was called to order by Chair O'Halloran at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall cafeteria. The Commission approved the order of the agenda.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

**III. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Director Teixeira reviewed recent actions taken by City Council & Council Ad Hoc Committee on Additional Soccer Fields.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Council Ad Hoc Committee – Additional Soccer Fields Meeting Update(s) - Director Teixeira gave an update regarding the March 25 and May 12, 2014 Council Ad Hoc Committee meetings, discussing the priorities including (1) access to and use of Youth soccer park on game days, (2) identification of “soccer ready” alternate facilities not currently scheduled for soccer, (3) the potential for incorporating additional soccer fields into City park sites such as Montague Park site and Jenny Strand R&D Solar Park, and (3) the long-term need for and potential future development of a Youth Sports Complex. Regarding Jenny Strand Park as possible site for an additional soccer field, 12 community members from the Westwood Oaks neighborhood expressed concerns with traffic, parking, restrooms, lights, and displacement of neighborhood use of the park. Additional suggestions from the public included consideration of the “World Cup” model of developing industrial areas, instead of existing park sites for establishing additional soccer fields.

B. Commission recommendation that Council consider developing a sports complex at Ulistac Natural Area – Public comment was received from about 25 volunteers, bird watchers, college professors, students, Audubon Society, California Native Plant Society in opposition to the item under

discussion. No comments were received in favor of the motion. Following discussion, a motion to support the recommendation to develop a sports park at Ulistac Natural Area failed to receive a second, ending further consideration of the item.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**—On a motion by Commissioner Silva and a second by Commissioner Walke, the Commission voted (7-0) to recommend Council approval of the following resolutions:

A. Recommendation to Adopt Resolutions Declaring a Temporary Restriction & Control of Animals: 2014 Silicon Valley BBQ Championship June 27 & 28, Central Park; and

B. Recommendation to Adopt Resolutions Declaring a Temporary Restriction & Control of Animals: 2014 All-City Picnic and Santa Clara July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks Show, Central Park; and

C. Recommendation to Adopt Resolutions Declaring a Temporary Restriction & Control of Animals: 2014 Art & Wine Festival on September 13 & 14, Central Park.

D. 2014 Art & Wine Festival Plans

1. The Commission reviewed applicants for funding and their provision of volunteers to staff the Commissioner booths at the Art & Wine event: Friends of Santa Clara Parks & Recreation; Santa Clara Police Activities League; Santa Clara Schools Foundation; Santa Clara Senior Center Care Management Program; Santa Clara High School Grad Night Committee; and, Wilcox High School Grad Night Committee. On a motion by Commissioner Walke and a second by Commissioner Guerra, the Commission voted (7-0) to approve the same groups as last year.
2. The Commission reviewed and confirmed Commissioner event assignments. Commissioner Blair was assigned to wine distribution. One commissioner stated they would not be able to attend. A new commissioner once appointed would be assigned at a later date.

VI. **STAFF REPORTS**

A. Park & Cemetery Divisions Project Updates: Deputy Director Seale provided updates on several Parks Division projects including: the Parkway Park Beautification Project, the exceeding of the Council goal by planting over one hundred trees, the progress on the Central Park Pond Improvement Project, and the resurfacing of the Santa Clara Tennis Center's (Central Park) courts.

B. Recreation Facility & Program Updates: Recreation Manager Lord gave an update on appointment of the new Therapeutics Recreation Supervisor, the Dance Recital, and Summer Camp registration. In response to a Commission question about the Midtown Park name, Director Teixeira reminded the Commission that the selection was referred by Council to the Council facility naming committee for action on a future agenda.

VII. **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

**Commissioner Guerra**—Visited Townsend and Earl Carmichael Park. The ball field looks good.

**Commissioner LaCoursiere**— Attended the Elks Convention.

**Commissioner Walke**— West side and Earl Carmichael Park look good.

**Commissioner Gamma**— Attended the new park dedication at Midtown Village and the Veterans Memorial Events at 3:00 p.m. on 5/31 and at 10:00 a.m. at the Cemetery

**Commissioner Blair**— Attended the Sports Field Maintenance Clinic and discussed the history of Washington Park; and suggested further formal training for as-needed Recreation staff.

**Commissioner Silva**— Discussed the possibility of extended hours at the Senior Center. Director Teixeira mentioned that the current budget was balanced with many positions still vacant. Any restoration of facility hours would be dependent upon the Mid-year Budget Review (January/February).

**Commissioner O’Halloran**— Attended the Arbor Day which moved a portion of the activities to Council Chambers due to rain; expressed concern with the heavy use of a local park and its poor condition afterwards; highlighted the SOFNA donation to Parkway Park in the amount of \$2500 that was used toward pathway improvements.

**VIII. CONFERENCE & ATTENDANCE REPORTS**—None.

**IX. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS & COMMENTS**— None (see above items for summary comments related to agenda items).

**X. ADJOURNMENT**— On a motion by Commissioner Silva, and second by Commissioner Blair, the Commission adjourned at 9:55 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on June 17, 2014 at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Staff Conference Room.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia Lord  
Recreation Manager

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Roseanne LaCoursiere  
Commission Secretary