



**NOTICE OF MEETING
ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING**

DATE: Thursday, August 13, 2009

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Room 360, City Hall, corner of Santa Clara Avenue and Oak Street,
Alameda, CA 94501

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Vice Chair Joe Restagno , Commissioners Lola Brown, Mike Cooper, Jo Kahuanui, and Bill Sonneman

Staff: John McDonald, Park Manager (PM)
Jackie Krause, Senior Services Manager (SSM)

Absent: Chair Terri Ogden and Commissioner Gina Mariani
Dale Lillard, ARPD Director

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Approval of April 9, 2009 Recreation & Park Commission Meeting Minutes.

M/S/C BROWN/RESTAGNO

“That Minutes Recreation & Park Commission Meeting of April 9, 2009 be approved.”

Approved: Brown, Cooper, Restagno, Sonneman
Abstention: Kahuanui
Absent: Ogden, Mariani

- Approval of May 14, 2009 Recreation & Park Commission Meeting Minutes.

Tabled until September 2009 Meeting.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, AGENDA

(Any person may address the Commission in regard to any matter over which the Commission has jurisdiction or of which it may take cognizance that is not on the

agenda.)

None.

4. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Request from American Tower for Installation of Wireless Telecommunication Facility at Washington Park – (Discussion/Action Item)

Tom Johnson, Trillium Consulting representative, provided the Recreation & Park Commission with an update on their request to install a cell tower at Washington Park. The pole height will be increased to be able to accommodate multiple carriers. Lighting will remain at the same height as it is now which means that there will not be any light pattern disturbance.

PM McDonald stated that this location was part of a large group of cell towers that were supposed to be installed in the City, but the installation at Washington Park was never done. In 2007, American Tower paid up on their past due lease and submitted plans after working with the City and Mr. Lil Arnerich regarding the placement of equipment, design, etc. At that time the plans were approved but again the project did not go forward.

Tonight we are revisiting the project plans to see if we want to go further with negotiating rent, etc.

Vice Chair Restagno asked how the current plan differs from the last plan that was approved by an earlier Recreation & Park Commission. PM McDonald stated that the only difference he sees is that there is a generator in the current plan and there was not one in the old plan. Also, it is now being proposed as a multi-carrier site where as before it was a single carrier with some room for expansion.

Commissioner Sonneman asked if the height of the pole was 90 feet on the original plans. PM McDonald stated that it was 90 feet on the original plan. In 2005, Mr. Arnerich insisted that the picnic area be installed which is still included in the plan.

Vice Chair Restagno asked how tall the current poles were in the area. PM McDonald stated that the outfield light poles are approximately 80 to 90 feet. Currently, there is a 35 to 45 foot pole where they want to put a 90 foot pole.

Commissioner Brown asked if the multiple carriers would have different antennae's exposed outside of the poles. Mr. Johnson stated that they would be contained within the tower. What you will see is a pole that is slim all the way up with no variations.

Commissioner Kahuanui stated that originally the plans were sent back multiple times due to specifications because a Commissioner was concerned about the aesthetics. At that time the Commission went so far as to require that the contractor match the paint.

Commissioner Cooper asked for clarification on the placement of the equipment building. PM Manager stated that the tower is off of the field on the third base side where there is a light standard. The pole will go in right where the light standard is currently located.

PM McDonald stated that these plans will still need to go to the Planning Commission.

Vice Chair Restagno asked if the pole extending up to 90 feet would affect the aesthetics at all. PM McDonald stated no. You do not notice where other poles have been installed so we do not anticipate that it would affect the aesthetics.

Commissioner Kahuanui stated that the Commission should also keep in mind that there are already poles in the area to hold up the big nets that are higher than 90 feet. The new light will help out in left field. PM McDonald stated that if this project goes through there will be a funding source for Washington Park which is dedicated to that park. This will also help us work out a financial plan to replace the lights.

M/S/C SONNEMAN/KAHUANUI (approved)

“Approve the concept of installing a cell tower in Washington Park.”

Approved (5): Brown, Cooper, Kahuanui, Restagno, Sonneman
Absent (2): Mariani, Ogden

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

7. REPORTS FROM RECREATION COMMISSION AND RECREATION AND PARK DIRECTOR

A. Park Division

Commissioner Cooper asked if some of the groups have not been using the Godfrey Park field. PM McDonald stated that there has been a problem with foul balls so fencing was raised to a higher height. The location of home plate has been assessed along with the baselines. The problems/concerns are being addressed.

B. Recreation Division

No report at this time.

C. Mastick Senior Center

The Mastick Open House will be held on Sunday, September 20, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Feel free to drop in.

D. Other Reports and Announcements

None.

8. STATUS REPORT ON ONGOING PROJECTS

None.

9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, GENERAL

Commissioner Brown stated that she was disappointed that there was not more participation in the Friends of the Parks Longfellow Park Potluck Fundraiser.

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Commissioner Brown asked that the Recreation & Park Commission receive a copy of the Recreation & Park Department budget which was recently approved and also asked that the Director provide a review.

Commissioner Sonneman asked for the status of the Measure WW monies from East Bay Regional Park District.

11. SET NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, September 10, 2009

Friends of the Parks, Inc. Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10, 2009, at 6:30 p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

SPECIAL NEEDS SERVICES

- Sign language interpreters will be available on request. Please contact the Recreation and Parks Executive Assistant at 747-7529 or TDD/TTY number 522-7538 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting to request an interpreter.
- Equipment for the hearing impaired is available for public use. For assistance, please contact the Recreation and Parks Executive Assistant.
- Accessible seating for persons with disabilities, including those using wheelchairs, is available.
- Minutes of the meeting available in enlarged print.
- Audio Tapes of the meeting are available upon request.

- Please contact the Recreation and Parks Executive Assistant at 747-7529 or TDD/TTY number 522-7538 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to request agenda materials in an alternative format, or any other reasonable accommodation that may be necessary to participate in and enjoy the benefits of the meeting.
- Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Alameda Recreation and Park Department, 2226 Santa Clara Avenue, during normal business hours.