



MINUTES OF RECREATION & PARK COMMISSION MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2008

2226 Santa Clara Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 747-7529

DATE: Thursday, September 11, 2008
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: Room 360, City Hall, Santa Clara Avenue and Oak Street, Alameda, CA 94501

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Terri Ogden, Vice Chair Joe Restagno, Commissioners Lola Brown, Mike Cooper, and Jo Kahuanui

Staff: Dale Lillard, Director

Absent: Commissioners Gina Mariani, and Bill Sonneman

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The approval of Minutes:

- July 10, 2008 Recreation and Park Commission Meeting

Chair Ogden stated that she thought that the last bullet on the motion under Item 6.A. was to be removed. Director Lillard stated he would have Executive Assistant (EA) check the recorded minutes.

M/S/C BROWN/RESTAGNO

“That the minutes be approved as corrected. Under Item 6., Unfinished Business, A., Discussion of Furniture Guidelines for the Dog Park Located at Lower Washington Park, Page 5, the last bullet, “Once permanent seating options are provided the portable chairs will need to be removed after use and will not be allowed to be stored at the site.” - should be removed from the motion.”

Approved (4) Ogden, Restagno, Brown, Cooper
Abstained (1): Kahuanui

Note: EA checked the July 10, 2008 minutes and found that the motion was listed correctly. Commissioner Restagno made the motion to approve the guidelines as submitted in report dated 6/3/2008. Report is attached to these minutes for clarification.

Approval of Minutes for August 14, 2008 Recreation and Park Commission meeting were tabled until next month to allow for quorum vote.

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

- Complimentary letters of summer recreation programs.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation by SunCal on Update of Sports Complex Master Plan – (Discussion/Action Item)

Director Lillard introduced Mr. Kosla and Mr. Chavez, SunCal Representatives, who provided a presentation to the Recreation and Park Commission regarding the Update of the Sports Complex Master Plan.

Comments that came from the public meetings were:

- Having some kind of BMX Bike trail.
- Having a football field with a soccer field overlay.
- Have 5 soccer fields (6 fields were in original plan) with a soccer warm up area and would leave room for additional parking.
- Have a softball complex
- Have one or two baseball fields.
- Have covered pool for year-round use.

Once all comments are received a new draft plan will be brought back to the Commission. In late October, early November SunCal will come back with a more final product and possibly have costs associated with the complex.

SunCal representatives asked for comments from the Commission.

Chair Ogden asked what turf would be used. Mr. Kosla stated that would depend on requests/comments.

Commissioner Cooper stated that there is a huge need for soccer fields. All the stakeholders need to sit down and figure out what really is needed.

Director Lillard stated that everything that can be lighted should be. Also, the total of tennis courts could be 2 or 3 instead of 6.

Commissioner Restagno asked if money generated from the batting cages is feasible or had been discussed. Mr. Kosla stated it may be something that can be looked at.

Linda Gilchrist, Alameda resident, stated that the pool should be an indoor pool. The weather out there is very cold. Also, it would be a better revenue generator for the City. The pool could then be used year-round.

Margaret McNamara, Alameda resident, suggested possibly building a pool above ground.

The price differential would be huge.

Bill Paden, Alameda resident, stated that there could possibly be used above ground pools at a great savings.

Mr. Paden stated that there should be more investigation on using synthetic turf. Some concerns are highly elevated temperatures of the turf. The synthetic turf has not been around long-enough to know if there will be other concerns in the future.

The SunCal representatives will come back to the Recreation & Park Commission in approximately one month with the preliminary plans to move forward.

B. Summer Wrap Up Presentation – (Informational Only)

RS Russi provided a Summer Wrap Up Power Point Presentation to the Recreation & Park Commission.

Special Points:

- There was increased participation in the Teen Program and Camp Concord.
- Swim-To-Live swim lessons were full with sessions having waiting lists. Director Lillard stated that the outcome regarding Measure H could have an impact on our Swim Program and whether the pools will be open or not.
- The End-of-Summer Family Nights at the parks were very well attended. The families really enjoyed themselves and stayed long into the evening.
- Staff performed a major outreach to the teens this last year and it was very successful. The Summer Teen Adventure Program had 45-50 participants each week with 15-20 teens participating in the free Drop-In Program.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7. REPORTS FROM RECREATION COMMISSION AND RECREATION AND PARK DIRECTOR

A. Park Division

See September 9, 2008 Activity Report.

B. Recreation Division

See September 9, 2008 Activity Report.

C. Mastick Senior Center

See September 9, 2008 Activity Report.

D. Other Reports and Announcements

Director Lillard stated that staff is working on the budget for FY 2009-2010. We have been directed to cut another 5%. This will be approximately \$200,000. Also, there is a possibility that the budget cut could be higher than 5%.

8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, GENERAL

9. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

10. SET DAY FOR NEXT MEETING

Thursday, October 9, 2008

11. ADJOURNMENT