



MINUTES OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MEETING OF JANUARY 13, 2005

1327 Oak St., Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 747-7529

DATE: Thursday, January 13, 2005
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: City Hall, 2263 Santa Clara Ave., Third Floor, Room 360
Alameda, CA 94501

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Jay Ingram, Vice Chair Jo Kahuanui, Commissioners Christine Johnson, Georg Oliver, and Bruce Reeves

Staff: Dale Lillard, Recreation Services Manager (RSM)
Patrick Russi, Recreation Supervisor (RS)

Absent: Suzanne Ota, Recreation & Parks Director

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve Minutes of November 4, 2004 Recreation and Park Commission Meeting.

M/S/C REEVES/KAHUANUI (approved)

“That the Minutes of November 4, 2004 be approved.”

In Favor (5) – Ingram, Kahuanui, Johnson, Oliver, Reeves

Absent (0) –

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.)

Pat Colburn, Alameda Arts Center President, discussed with the Commission their request to amend the Public Art Ordinance (2892) and encourage developers to provide aid to the established arts venues in Alameda. They will be taking their request to the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC). Depending on the decision of the PAAC, this item may come forward to the Recreation and Park Commission. RSM Lillard stated that staff is waiting for a legal interpretation from the City Attorney's Office. In the meantime, this request will go before the PAAC the week of January 17.

4. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

- Letter from Pat Colburn, Alameda Arts Center President, requesting an amendment to Ordinance 2892 and encourage developers to provide aid to the established arts venues in Alameda.

5. NEW BUSINESS

None.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Continued Discussion and Consideration of Request from Mayor and City Council to Develop a Park Use Policy – (*Discussion Item*)

Discussion was held regarding what to include in the Park Use Policy.

Kahuanui requested a listing of equipment (sheds, etc.) at the parks. So the Commission will know what is existing to begin the process of developing a policy. The list should be anything that is not ARPD's. Acreage for each park should also be included on the list.

Oliver stated that individuals selling balloons and ice cream in the parks should have City of Alameda permits and a permit from ARPD. He also suggested not allowing demonstrations. RSM Lillard stated that if they are doing business in the City of Alameda they should have a City of Alameda Business License.

Johnson suggested obtaining park use policies from other cities so that the Commission does not have to reinvent the wheel. The Commission could then apply points that are what Alameda needs. Ms. Johnson provided some copies of other cities (e.g., Midland, Portland) as examples.

Chair Ingram stated that there are other cities that we can borrow from when generating the policy. RSM Lillard stated that some ideas from other cities could be used.

Chair Ingram suggested not putting anything in a park when the park is less than three (3) acres. Councilmember Kerr's comment regarding incorporating traffic should also be considered.

RSM Lillard stated that staff will put together a draft policy with the sample policies from other cities and recommendations by the Commission.

George Phillips, Boys and Girls Club Executive Director, stated that he was at the meeting to be aware of the process. Mr. Phillips stated that he hopes the Commission will look at the following:

- During deliberations the Commission will make the distinction between protecting park property and keeping it as an integral part of the community.
- Service issues to the community.
- Do not discount size or anything else in terms of evaluating what benefits non-park and recreation programs in the neighborhood. Neighborhoods should not be deprived of potential services just because of park size.

Chair Ingram asked Mr. Phillips if he knew that Alameda is way underserved as far park acreage in the community, more so than a lot of other cities. Mr. Phillips stated that he is very well aware.

Chair Ingram asked Mr. Phillips the status of rebuilding the Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Phillips stated that they have prepared a proposal for the School District. Everything seems acceptable with the School District. The proposal needs to go before the School Board.

**B. Discussion and Selection of Joint Meeting Dates with City Council –
(Discussion/Action Item)**

RSM Lillard stated that the staff and City Clerk are still trying to confirm a date for the Joint Meeting with Council.

C. Discussion of Annual Commission Goals, Objectives, and Accomplishments Including Park Master Plan – (Discussion/Action Item)

Chair Ingram stated that he would like to have the list of Goals, Objectives, and Accomplishments for the Joint Meeting with Council.

Suggested list of accomplishments were:

- Marina Waterfront Park
- DeWitt Officers' Club has been fully utilized. Is booked six months to one year in advance.
- Small Dog Park – Development of Small Dog Park Website/installation of bulletin board.
- Dog Park Drainage
- Creation of Sport Advisory Committee
- Use of Coast Guard park field easing shortage of athletic fields.
- Collaborated with Friends of Franklin Park for funding additional improvements to Franklin Park Playground Renovation.
- Design and Renovation of Littlejohn and McKinley Park Play Areas as well as the Alameda Point Multi-Purpose Field.
- Initiated discussion with the Peralta Community College District (PCCD) for use of the soccer field and track at the College of Alameda.

- Made significant progress in cost recovery.

7. REPORTS FROM RECREATION COMMISSION AND RECREATION AND PARK DIRECTOR

A. Park Division

Alameda Point Gymnasium: Community use of the gymnasium by Alameda sponsored organizations has increased 20 percent this year. Beginning in January, Encinal High School and St. Joseph Notre Dame High School will share court time after school for basketball practices through March. FUTSAL (indoor soccer) will begin its 5th season at the gym commencing in January. Approximately 40 teams participate in this league. All games are scheduled on weekends and are open to the public.

Also, the Golden State Warriors will be holding a basketball camp at the gymnasium from December 20-23, for boys and girls between the ages of 8-16. The focus of this camp is individual skill development, learning proper fundamental skills, and development of a healthy team attitude. This camp will also feature appearances by current and former Warriors players and coaches.

Franklin Park: Friends of Franklin Park purchased three beautiful Victorian picnic tables with benches which have been installed. The Park Division staff worked with the Recreation Division and Friends of Franklin Park to find the best location for the tables.

Also, a new driveway was installed at the entrance to Franklin Park. This work has enhanced the appearance as well as the safety of the location.

Veteran's Building: Meetings are continuing between a local Veteran's Committee and City staff to develop plans to renovate the kitchen. Staff has been informed by the Alameda County Health Department that a commercial kitchen will be required and an onsite meeting with the Health Department is scheduled for Thursday, December 16. This project will be financed by the Veteran's Committee, who plan to hold fundraising events and obtain donations from local businesses.

Leydecker Playground Renovation: A Request for Proposal (RFP) for the relocation of the Leydecker Playground was recently completed and is being reviewed. This project will include relocating the existing playground to the volleyball court area and removal of the old play equipment once the project is completed. This project will be funded by the 2002 Resources Bond Act-Per Capita Block Grant (Proposition 40) and is expected to be completed by May 2005.

Alameda Point Multi-Purpose Field: The Public Works Engineering Department has hired a new contractor to finish the park. The Park is still under construction and Engineering is working hard to have the new contractor complete the project. The park is already looking better and should be ready for limited baseball use in March 2005.

Field renovation work: At this time each year we complete renovation work to our turf areas to ready them for the upcoming season. The work completed this month includes replacement of 14,000 square feet of sod at Lincoln Park, aeration and fertilization of all Parks, and over seeding of all fields.

B. Recreation Division

All youth from ages of 8-13 years have been participating in the **National Elks Hoop Shoot** at all of our parks. The City Finals will be held on January 8 at the Old Alameda Gym at 3:00 p.m. Please feel free to drop by the parks and check out the fun.

More than 500 residents attended the **Annual Mayor's Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony**, held this year under clear skies. This year's ceremony featured performances by the Community Band, Dancing Christmas Trees (who actually competed in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade), music by the Mistletones, and an appearance by Santa Clause.

On December 11, **Breakfast with Santa** took place at the newly dedicated Albert H. Dewitt O' Club. More than 55 parents and children enjoyed a special breakfast with Santa. The children also wrote letters to Santa, made a special reindeer door hanger, colored Holiday pictures, and took a photo with jolly old Santa Claus.

On the weekend of December 18 & 19 Santa made a special visit to Alameda by personally going to 33 homes and spreading the Holiday cheer. Our **Santa's Visits Program** offers Alameda citizens the opportunity to have Santa and his helper makes a visit to your home and personally talks with your children.

The **Winter Wonderland Camp** at Harrison Center in Lincoln Park takes place from December 20-24 and December 27-31. Wonderland Camp provides opportunities for the camper to experience special Holiday crafts, drama, games, cooking projects, and loads of fun. During the first week, there are 51 youth (Grades K-5) enjoying the Camp while for the second week there are 40 registered so far. The Camp runs from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. everyday and extended care is available before and after camp from 7:30 -9:00 a.m. and 3:00 -5:30 p.m.

Other news, the **ARPD "Blues News" Gazette**, second edition, was published to promote all of our programs and special events for the winter 2004-2005. The "Blue News" Gazette is a handy quick reference guide to all of Alameda Recreation and Parks youth division programs. The "Blue News" Gazette was distributed to all Kindergarten through 8th Grade children in Alameda as well as at the libraries and local parks.

Another upcoming special event at the Al DeWitt O' Club is the ever popular **Father/Daughter Valentine Dance**. The Dance will take place on February 10 & 11 from the hours of 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Sign-ups will begin January 10, 2005. This is usually a sold out event with over 200 Fathers/Daughters in attendance.

Attendance at both teen centers remains high. The **Teen Underground** had 320 drop-ins, and the Chipman Teen Program had 410 drop-ins during the month of December (while school was in session). During the winter break, the Teen Underground is open from Monday through Thursday from 12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. We will also be going on some special Holiday trips which include bowling, ice skating in San Francisco, and a trip to Boomers in Livermore for games during winter break. Chipman Teen site is closed during the break.

The **Teen Program** is getting ready for a new and exciting 2005. We are sponsoring a 3-On-3 Teen Hoop Tournament which starts from middle January through March. The tournament will be at Encinal High School Gym and times will vary.

The **Alameda Youth Committee (AYC)** has been busy being good helpers during this Holiday season. They were busy with the Mayor's Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 4th, by selling warm beverages and treats and assisting regular staff with the event. They brought in \$119 from snack sales due to their hard work and dedication. Another event in which AYC helped out was the Albert H. DeWitt Officers' Club Dedication which was held on December 18, 2005, and assisted staff with serving beverages to guests. In other news, AYC board has been discussing going to Boomers as an AYC outing, bonding activity, and year-end (mid year) celebration for their work and commitment.

This years **Teen Spring Break Trip** will be traveling down to Southern California which includes; Magic Mountain, Universal Studios, Medieval Times (Dinner and Show), then Disneyland. Sign ups are currently underway.

Recreation After school Program (RAP) for K-5th Graders, continues to help parents by providing the youth of Alameda with an after school recreation program at selected park sites throughout Alameda. Participants may sign up for either 5, 3, or 2 days a week and the hours are from after school until 5:30 p.m. each day.

Parks and Playgrounds, our free drop-in recreation program, has continued to thrive at our 10 sites (Franklin, Krusi, Leydecker, Lincoln, Littlejohn, Longfellow, McKinley, Miller, Tillman, and Woodstock).

The **Public Art Policy Guidelines** have been adopted by the Recreation & Park Commission. The Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) has been gearing up for several new projects that will be starting after the first of the year. The PAAC will be meeting about infusing public art into the Webster Street Renaissance Project and the Park Street Streetscape & Town Center Projects. A formal Public Art plan should also be coming together for the South Shore Shopping Center project. Staff has met with Tad Savinar, art consultant, for the project and a formal plan should be implemented into the new year. Harsch Investment Properties has provided the City with a \$150,000 performance bond to insure they will complete public art for the Center.

We are taking registration for the **Junior Warriors Basketball** program for K-5 Grades. The program will run on Saturdays at the Larry Patton Gym. The program will start on January 22 and run until March. The fee is \$65 which includes jersey, tickets and instruction.

The **Hoop Shoot Contest** is currently taking place at all park sites. The City finals will be held on January 8th at 3:00 p.m. at the Larry Patton Gym.

Both the **Adult Softball** and **Adult Flag football** has come to an end. Both leagues had a great turn out and all players where really happy.

C. Mastick Senior Center

November 2004 Statistics (Statistics are two months behind):

Volunteers: 114

Volunteer Hours: 1,830 (1830 X \$8.51= \$15,573)

New Members: 128

Total Membership to Date (July 1, 2004 to present): 2,199

(Note: Membership renewal is tied to the new Fiscal Year)

Average Number of Lunches Served Daily: 52

Monthly Sign-ins: 12,277

Holiday Closures at Mastick: Mastick Senior Center will be closed for the following holidays:

- **New Year's Day Holiday**, Saturday, January 1, 2005.
- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**
Monday, January 17, 2005.

Note: Meals on Wheels is available to provide meal service on the days Mastick is closed. To reserve a meal, please call **865-6131**.

Medical Return Trip Improvement Program (MRTIP) is designed to provide a more responsive system for getting home after/from medical appointments. The City of Alameda has contracted with Friendly Transportation to provide transportation services after/from medical appointments. On Friday, December 17, 2004, a letter with five (5) complimentary vouchers was sent to 251 interested Paratransit users. The program is made available through Measure B funding. This program is being administered at Mastick Senior Center.

Start the year off right by getting your affairs in order! Join Mary Widenor, Attorney and Alameda Adult School instructor, for her five-week class on **Will and Estate Planning**. This class is scheduled for Friday, January 21 & 28 and February 4 & 11, between 10:00 and 11:30 a.m. in second dining room. Please pre-register in the office, or call 747-7506.

Join us for the **New Member Orientation** on Thursday, January 13, 2005, at 10:30 a.m. in the Lobby. The New Member Orientation familiarizes new members with the Center

providing information on the various activities, programs, and services; a guided tour of the Center, and a complimentary lunch prepared by Bay Area Community Services (BACS)! Pre-registration is required. To make a reservation, please stop by the office or call 747-7506. You will be amazed at what we have to offer!

Monthly dance moves to new date in January! Mastick Swingers

Presents "Winter Wonderland" on Monday, January 24, 2005, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm (Doors open at 12:30 pm). Dance to the music of Manny Gutierrez, socialize with friends, and enjoy refreshments in the Mastick Social Hall. Cost: \$3 per person w/ membership card or \$4 per person w/out membership card.

Mastick "Pool" Team Wins 8-Ball Tournament! Mastick & Ruggieri (Union City) Senior Centers competed in an 8-Ball Pool Tournament on Friday, November 19, 2004. Two rounds of 8-Ball were played resulting in a tie. In the play-off game, Team Captain Chuck "Stroker" Young won the final game, giving Mastick a final victory of 9 to 8, retaining their undefeated streak for the last three years! The Mastick Pool Players are very appreciative for the thrilling and fun tournament, delightful refreshments and lunch hosted by Union City. The Mastick Pool Players graciously donated their cash prize, \$20, to Mastick Senior Center! Hip Hip Hooray for Mastick's Pool Players!

Book Donation Policy: Thanks to your generous donations, the Mastick library continues to burst at the seams! In November 2004, additional shelving was added to accommodate the overflow! The Mastick library is now accepting books copyrighted 1995 through 2005, "classics," and current month magazines ONLY. The Friends of the Library accepts books on behalf of the Alameda Free Library for their semi-annual books sale. For small to moderate donations, please contact the Alameda Free Library at 747-7777. For moderate to large donations, please call 521-7745. Again, thanks for making the Mastick library a wonderful resource within our community!

On Thursday, January 13, 2005, **AC Transit representatives** will be in Room D between 10:00 and 11:00 am to process applications and take photographs for **senior and disabled AC Transit I.D. cards**. A new card is \$3 and a replacement card is \$5. Seniors, 65 and older, are eligible with proof of age (e.g., DMV I.D., Passport, Alien I.D., or Visa). Individuals, 65 years and under, can apply for a disabled discount card with proof of disability (e.g., DMV Placard receipt or Medicare card) and Medical Certification Form (available in the Mastick office) completed by your doctor. If you have any questions, please call Norman Davis, AC Transit, at (510) 891-4709. To register, please come to the Mastick office.

Trips! Trips! Trips! - Join us on Tuesday, January 25, 2005, at 1:00 p.m. in the Media Room for a slide show of the 2005-2006 Extended Trip Travel Packages presented by Collette Tours. Preview the June trip to South Dakota Black Hills and Badlands, the November trip to Costa Rica, as well as a sneak preview of the 2006 Australia & New Zealand Trip. Don't miss this opportunity to walk through fantastic vacations. Also, ask Mariel about 2005 Overnight Trips to Sacramento and LA/ Palm Springs.

How Respond to a Power Outage and Other Disasters: Living in earthquake country, we experience infrequent, yet disrupting events such as power outages. We now face new challenges in the forms of hazardous material and terrorism. Do you know what to do and are you prepared to “ride out” a minor to disastrous event? Alameda Power & Telecom (AP&T), the Alameda Fire Department, the American Red Cross, and Mastick Senior Center have joined together to offer a one hour disaster preparedness training to help you face the challenge on Tuesday, January 25, 2005, at 1:00 pm in Room D. Learn how to: make a disaster plan, build a disaster kit, take advantage of opportunities for additional training such as CPR, First Aid, and AED, take advantage of opportunities in disaster relief areas, and give blood. There will be an emphasis on unique challenges faced by seniors and resources available to help relieve these challenges. To reserve a seat, please call 747-7506. However, we will gladly accommodate those that “drop-in!”

D. Other Reports and Announcements

1. Status Report on Northern Waterfront Committee (Commissioner Oliver)

Commissioner Oliver will see if the Committee is being disbanded.

2. Status Report on Alameda Point Golf Course Design Committee (Vice Chair Reeves)

No report at this time.

3. Status Report on Alameda Point Advisory Committee (APAC) (Chair Ingram)

No report at this time.

4. Status Report on Transportation Master Plan Committee (Commissioner Johnson)

No Report at this time.

8. STATUS REPORT ON ONGOING PROJECTS

None.

9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, GENERAL

None.

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Continued Discussion and Consideration of Request from Mayor and City Council to Develop a Park Use Policy

- Discussion and Selection of Joint Meeting Dates with City Council
- Discussion of Annual Commission Goals, Objectives, and Accomplishments Including Park Master Plan

11. SET DAY FOR NEXT MEETING Thursday, February 10, 2005

12. ADJOURNMENT 8:39 p.m.