



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

DATE: Thursday, February 10, 2011

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: Chair Joe Restagno, Vice Chair Lola Brown, Commissioners Mike Cooper, Bill Delaney, Gina Mariani and Bill Sonneman

Staff: Dale Lillard, ARPD Director

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve Minutes of January 13, 2011 Recreation & Park Commission Regular Meeting.

M/S/C BROWN/MARIANI (unanimously approved)

“That the minutes of January 13, 2011 Recreation Commission Meeting is approved.”

Approved (6): Restagno, Brown, Cooper, Delaney, Mariani, Sonneman

Absent: None

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, AGENDA

None.

4. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None.

5. NEW BUSINESS

**A. Introduction of Park Master Plan Consultant to the Recreation Commission
– (*Discussion Item*)**

Director Lillard stated that during the last budget cycle the City Council approved funding to produce a Park Master Plan. The RFP was issued and an extensive search was conducted. Gates & Associates was chosen to prepare the Master Plan. Director Lillard introduced Linda Gates who provided a brief overview on the process, approximate timelines, etc.

Ms. Gates stated that there is an Urban Greening Grant tied into the Park Master Plan. It will be the Urban Greening & Alameda Parks Master Plan. Gates & Associates includes the company Group 4 which handles public buildings and community facilities. Gates & Associates will handle the outdoor environment. Then there is the Sports Management Group which will look at operations, revenue generation, recreation trends, etc. Cost recovery is important and the Sports Management Group will be coordinating the survey.

The Urban Greening Plan will include the Park Master Plan, streetscape concepts, and an urban farm and garden component. Another company called Public Health is managing the urban farm and garden part in coordination/cooperation with Gates & Associates. They are looking at opportunities for community gardens in various areas (e.g. school yards, maybe even in parks); also, the possibility of streetscapes, getting back to having food sources more locally and people learning about planting, looking at promoting healthier lifestyles.

The tentative schedule for Park Master Plan is:

January/February	Inventory of parks, facilities, equipment, etc.
February	Community Survey (working on format and questionnaire for a telephone survey). It will be a random survey of 450 people. Also, help identify deficiencies.
April & June	Series of Community Workshops will be held. Workshops will be held on Harbor Bay and in central Alameda.
July	Draft Park Master Plan
September	Final Plan

Having a Park Master Plan will help in obtaining grants, funding, etc. A lot of times when you are applying for these types of funds the first thing they ask is if there is a Master Plan.

Chair Restagno asked who would be involved in the Community Workshops. Ms. Gates stated that the workshops are public workshops and open to everyone. In addition, there will be stake holder interviews that will be held with sport groups, East Bay Regional Park District, BCDC, etc.

The Park Master Plan will look at all current facilities (an assessment of where they are) in addition to the Beltline property and efforts going into Alameda Point. In addition to looking at community park types. This will help determine/develop standards. Plan will also include approximate costs.

Commissioner Sonneman asked if the survey will be mailed to residents. Ms. Gates stated no, it will be a phone survey. The statistically valid part has to be done by phone. We may possibly have the survey available in conjunction with the workshops and online. But, we would keep it pure in terms of a demographic process.

Vice Chair Brown asked how the funds were obtained for the plans. Director Lillard stated that the Urban Greening part of the plan was obtained by grant funds. The Park Master Plan is being paid for with City funds.

Commissioner Mariani stated that she would like to see more of a focus on overall activities (skateboarding, bmx/motor biking, etc.) as opposed to team sports. Currently, our town focuses primarily on team sports. Also, possibly consider an outdoor amphitheatre for community meetings, performances by local clubs, etc.

Chair Restagno stated that it will be great to have an inventory and understand where priorities are set.

Commissioner Cooper asked if the plan will include a new tree inventory. Director Lillard stated yes. Ms. Gates stated all the trees in the parks and at the golf course will be inventoried.

Commissioner Sonneman stated that the Friends of the Parks, Inc. have recently considered purchasing and installing work out stations in some of the parks. Friends of the Parks, Inc. should be included on the stake holder list. Director Lillard stated that the Mastick Advisory Board should also be included on the list.

Commissioner Sonneman asked if the Alameda Point Gym and the Skate Park will be incorporated into the Master Plan. Ms. Gates stated they are part of the inventory.

Chair Restagno stated that a large sports field facility to be able to hold large tournaments should be considered.

Director Lillard stated that the Draft Park Master Plan would come to the Recreation & Park Commission for acceptance and then go to Council for their consideration and approval.

Ms. Gates stated that the Commission will be invited to all of the community workshops as well.

B. Presentation of Alameda Point Community Planning Workbooks – (Discussion Item Only)

Director Lillard introduced Andrew Thomas, Community Development Planning Services Manager, who provided a presentation regarding Alameda Point to the Recreation & Park Commission.

Mr. Thomas presented the Commission with the Alameda Point Community Planning Workbook. This is the first phase of an effort that will require, because of environment processes, conveyance negotiations, State land discussions as well as dealing with a very complicated piece of property (Alameda Point). We are in the first couple of months of a two to three year process. At the end of that process the City wants to be in a position where Council can approve a final plan for the former NAS, can accept the

land from the Navy through conveyance, and do the tidelands swap. Almost the entire base when it leaves federal ownership will go into state lands. But we have worked in the past, and have legislation passed so that the State lands can pass to us. Until we adopt a plan, convey the property from the Navy, and complete the tidelands configuration we cannot sell any of the property. Until then it is very hard for any developers to do anything.

The workbook is designed to set up a process to create a plan that the Council can adopt. And, we can all stand up and confidently feel that it is a financially viable plan. Ultimately, we will need private investors to come into Alameda Point to help build the infrastructure, etc.

Staff will be working with the community and all boards, commissions, and Council to come up with a viable plan. Due to the transportation issue we need to reduce the cost of the land use program. Revenue will be dropping, but the costs for open space, infrastructure, etc. is up. We will need to cut costs. There will be some tough decisions to be made about the development.

Mr. Thomas reviewed the Planning Workbook with the Commission. When the Commission is done with their work book they should return their suggestions to him at the Community Development Department.

Mr. Thomas stated that the Navy has spent approximately \$400 to \$500 million on toxic clean up so far. They have made amazing progress.

According to online surveys suggested uses **highly ranked** were:

- Passive Parks
- Waterfront Trails
- Trails and Pathways
- Promenade (Seaplane Lagoon)
- Conservation & Nature Areas

Those uses **not** ranked very high were:

- Event Gathering Space (amphitheater, etc.)
- Community Gardens
- Urban Agriculture
- New Ferry Terminal
- Marina

Also, according to the surveys ball fields, recreation fields, water activities were all good but did not rank as high as passive parks, trails, etc.

The Northwest Territory (used to be NAS jet runways) were discussed. This area is where Antiques by the Bay and the Bladium are located and has spectacular views of San Francisco. It has been suggested to have a bike path with a park at the end.

Mr. Andrews stated that they will check back with the Recreation & Park Commission as the process moves along with key points. Again, it is anticipated that the process will take approximately two years.

**C. Annual Review and Adjustment of Fees for Recreation and Parks –
(Discussion/Action Item)**

Director Lillard discussed the review and adjustment of the Recreation and Park Department's 2011 fees. Due to the current economics, staff did not make too many increases to fees.

M/S/C MARIANI/DELANEY (unanimously approved)

“That the 2011 fees are approved as follows:

Adult Basketball	\$700/resident \$750/non-resident
Swim Lessons	\$6.75/resident (\$67.50 per session) \$7.75/non-resident (\$77.50 per session)
Swim Team Use Fee	\$14/hr/Youth \$15/hr/Adult
Tennis	
Adult Group Lessons	\$16/hr
Junior Group Lessons	\$16/hr
Day Camp	
Hidden Cove Extended Care	\$70
Trails End Extended Care	\$60

Approved (6): Restagno, Brown, Cooper, Delaney, Mariani, Sonneman

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

**7. REPORTS FROM RECREATION COMMISSION AND RECREATION AND
PARK DIRECTOR**

A. Park Division

See Activity Report dated February 7, 2011.

B. Recreation Division

See Activity Report dated February 7, 2011.

C. Mastick Senior Center

See Activity Report dated February 7, 2011.

D. Other Reports and Announcements

8. STATUS REPORT ON ONGOING PROJECTS

The Krusi Park Building Renovation Project is ongoing. There were 20 responses to the RFQ. Proposals were ranked and interviews of the four top consultants for project management will be held on Friday, February 11, 2011.

9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, GENERAL

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

11. SET NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, March 10, 2011

12. ADJOURNMENT