



**MINUTES OF
RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION
MEETING OF March 8, 2007**

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

DATE: Thursday, March 8, 2007
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 Jo Kahuanui, Commissioners Christine Johnson, Bruce Reeves, and Joe Restagno

Absent: Commissioners Michael Cooper, Jay Ingram

Staff: Dale Lillard, Director
Jackie Krause, Senior Services Manager
John McDonald, Park Manager
Patrick Russi, Recreation Supervisor

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of February 8, 2007 Recreation and Park Commission Meeting.

M/S/C JOHNSON/REEVES (approved)

“That the Minutes of February 8, 2007 Recreation and Park Commission are approved.”

Approved (5): Ogden, Kahuanui, Johnson, Reeves, Restagno

Absent (2): Cooper, Ingram

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.)

4. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration of Request from Alameda Babe Ruth and Alameda High School to Install a Scoreboard at Bartell Field – (Discussion/Action Item)

Director Lillard provided information to the Commission regarding Alameda Babe Ruth and Alameda High School's request to install a scoreboard at Bartell Field and introduced Ron Matthews, Alameda Babe Ruth representative.

Mr. Matthews stated that Babe Ruth and Alameda High School would like to install a scoreboard at Bartell Field. The scoreboard is four feet by nine feet in dimension. It will be attached to the last telephone pole on the northeast corner of the park and will face toward the stands. This is purposely positioned away from any residents so they will not see the face of the scoreboard. The support system is designed by Diamond Tool & Die of Oakland and is made of galvanized steel and all bolts will be approved for heavy use and will be galvanized. The design calls for the scoreboard to be 15 feet up from the ground and weighs 200 pounds.

Commissioner Restagno clarified that the supports could hold up to ten times the weight. Mr. Matthews stated yes. The whole display is not a heavy item. This is why the support system is galvanized steel.

Director Lillard stated that if the Commission approves the request this item would still need to go through the Permit process.

Commissioner Reeves asked if the neighbors had been notified. Director Lillard stated yes.

Commissioner Reeves asked if the scoreboard was manual or electric. Mr. Matthews stated that it is electric. A ditch will need to be dug and electricity would be hooked up underground.

Barbara Jolliffe, Lincoln Park neighbor, stated that her feeling was that the neighbors across the park (with the backs of their houses to the central area of the park) would have an obstructed view.

Rich Sherman, Lincoln Park neighbor, stated that his parents will be seeing the backside of the scoreboard. Mr. Sherman asked if the park would see more activity and more games then what are already held at the park. Director Lillard stated no. There is no opportunity for expansion. It would just enhance the uses that are already there.

Brian Fetzner, Lincoln Park neighbor, asked if installing the scoreboard would eventually lead to increased demands to hold tournaments at the facility. Director Lillard stated that at this time between the high school, Alameda Babe Ruth, and Alameda Soccer Club the facility is totally booked. There is no more time available for anyone else to use the facility.

Commissioner Johnson asked who would pay the electrical bills. Mr. Matthews stated that they (Alameda Babe Ruth) would pay for electricity.

Vice Chair Kahuanui asked if there was an opportunity for the neighbors/community to be notified. Director Lillard stated that neighbors were notified. Ms. Jolliffe asked how neighbors were notified. She stated that she accidentally found the notice when she was gardening yesterday and found the notice in her camellia bush. Director Lillard stated that notices were delivered to the porches and front door of the surrounding homes.

Mr. Sherman stated that he felt it was a liability to the City. A child could climb up the pole and fall off.

Commissioner Reeves stated that the scoreboard could always be taken down if necessary. Neighbors could petition the Commission and say that it is more intrusive than they thought and ask for the scoreboard to come down.

Mr. Sherman suggested doing a mock up of putting the scoreboard up. Vice Chair Kahuanui stated that the Recreation and Park Department did provide due diligence in providing notice to the neighbors and they need to come forward.

Mr. Matthews stated to the neighbors at the meeting that his phone number is readily accessible and if there is a problem with the high school program or the Babe Ruth program to please call him. The groups are courteous and considerate of the neighbors.

Commissioner Reeves also stated that if there were enough people that had a problem with the scoreboard after it goes up they could come back to the Commission and the scoreboard could be removed.

M/S/C REEVES/KAHUANUI

“That the request from Alameda Babe Ruth and Alameda High School to install a Scoreboard at Bartell Field in Lincoln Park be approved.”

Approved (5): Ogden, Kahuanui, Johnson, Reeves, Restagno

Not Approved (0):

Absent (2): Cooper, Ingram

Mr. Matthews thanked Director Lillard and his staff for assisting with this project.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Consideration of Request from Alameda Girls Softball to install a storage container in Krusi Park – *(Discussion/Action Item)*

Director Lillard stated that staff and representatives from Alameda Girls Softball visited Krusi Park to determine the best placement of a storage container.

Phil Woodward, Alameda Girls Softball representative, stated that Alameda Girls Softball is recommending that the storage container be put in where an existing container already exists at this time. It is next to field number three down the first baseline. The foot print is a little more than twice the size of the current foot print.

One of the Commissioners mentioned having a concern about people viewing the game. The bleachers are located on the third base line and there is nowhere to sit on the first base line so it would not be in the way. It goes up against the fence and does not interfere with the picnic tables and creates more walkway on the asphalt.

M/S/C KAHUANUI/RESTAGNO (approved)

“That the request from Alameda Girls Softball to install a storage container in Krusi Park be approved.” (Storage container will go where an existing container exists at this time. This is next to field number three down the first baseline.)

7. REPORTS FROM RECREATION COMMISSION AND RECREATION AND PARK DIRECTOR

A. Park Division

See March 6, 2007 Activity Report.

B. Recreation Division

See March 6, 2007 Activity Report.

C. Mastick Senior Center

See March 6, 2007 Activity Report.

D. Other Reports and Announcements

- **Status Report on Transportation Master Plan Committee (Commissioner Johnson)**

No report at this time.

8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, GENERAL

Commissioner Johnson stated that she would like to recommend some improvements to the small dog park in Washington Park. Recommendations are possibly planting a tree to provide shade to patrons using the facility, possibly mowing along the fence to allow owners of dogs to exercise around the perimeter of the park while their dogs are using it, and fixing the ADA entrance into the small dog park and making it level.

Director Lillard suggested trying to procure donations to have an arbor put in, like the one in the center of Mastick Senior Center. Manager McDonald stated that there are parachute type shades that cover a good size picnic area that cost approximately \$15,000.

Director Lillard stated that staff will look at the grading of the dirt at the entrance to the site.

9. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- 10. SET DAY FOR NEXT MEETING** April 12, 2007

11. ADJOURNMENT