



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

**DATE:** Thursday, April 11, 2013  
**TIME:** 7:03 p.m. Called to Order  
**PLACE:** City Hall Council Chambers

**1. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Chair Restagno, Vice-Chair Delaney, and Commissioner Brown

**Absent:** Commissioners Cooke and Sonneman

**Staff:** Amy Wooldridge, Recreation & Parks Director

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approve the minutes of March 14, 2013 regular Recreation & Park Commission meeting as edited.

M/S/C Vice-Chair Delaney, Commissioner Brown (unanimously approved)

**3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, AGENDA**

Speaker Mr. Jim Sweeney thanked the Commission for their work and recommendations. This project has endured, and there is no questioning what the people want. The next thing will be a booth at the Earth Day celebration on April 20<sup>th</sup> at Washington Park. He believes something can happen quickly, even if it is trails on the property. There are a lot of people with expertise who are interested in helping.

**4. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Director Wooldridge provided an invite to Meet Your Officials Night from the League of Women Voters.

Chair Restagno reported a letter from the Jean Sweeney Community Group to the Commission requesting the beltline property be Jean's namesake. Director Wooldridge stated the conceptual plan will go to City Council in May and this can be mentioned as part of that, but will also come back to the Commission in the future.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. 2013-2015 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Recreation & Park Projects**

Director Wooldridge provided a brief presentation and overview of the Recreation and Park Capital Improvement Projects for this two-year budget cycle. She stated that current open projects, such as the Krusi Park Recreation Center, are not part of this list. She reported that Krusi Park is being reviewed by Contractor Mr. Bob Haun, in order to create a list for value engineering.

- 1) Encinal Boat Ramp Renovation.  
This project is contingent upon receiving the State Dept. of Boating & Waterways grant. If received, it will make \$284,511 of Measure WW funds available from the boat ramp restroom replacement project that is included in the grant scope. Measure WW funds are applied for annually on March 30<sup>th</sup>, so any new projects to make use of those funds would be applied for at that time.
- 2) Beltline/Jean Sweeney Open Space Park Development.  
Director Wooldridge discussed the required soil testing and development of a conceptual design. The environmental review process (CEQA) must be undertaken as well and this will involve a traffic study which may cost \$15,000. Chair Restagno asked if the CEQA funds for the traffic study can be requested from the general fund. Director Wooldridge responded that is something they can recommend.
- 3) Estuary Park Athletic Field Renovation.  
Design work and an initial assessment are needed for the project. Vice-Chair Delaney asked if there has been any negative feedback from the community regarding renovating the field space in that area. And is there any information about a grant from Pete Stark's office, as he recalled from several years ago. Director Wooldridge has not heard any negative feedback. The area is very appealing to athletic groups because it is removed from a residential area and so is ideal for field lighting and adequate parking. She stated she has no knowledge of grants out of Stark's office but will inquire.
- 4) Encinal and Emma Hood Swim Center Renovations – Phase 1  
This is an estimated cost for half of the renovation of Encinal Swim Center. Vice-Chair Delaney stated he took a tour of the pools and is amazed by how much is needed. He asked if there were opportunities to open pools for community use during school hours. This could be a revenue generator. Director Wooldridge stated that it is not allowed within the current joint use agreement with the District. She reported she is continuing to meet with AUSD staff to discuss the swimming pool renovations.
- 5) Godfrey Recreation Center Renovation  
This is an unfunded project but Godfrey is an aging facility that is in need of some basic improvements. Chair Restagno asked if any identified issues are a hazard or danger to the public. Director Wooldridge stated there are no hazards to the public, but that it is a heavily utilized building that needs work on the doors, roof, floor, paint and heating.

Chair Restagno asked about other items that didn't make it into the staff report. Director Wooldridge reported that all of the recreation centers could use work. The Harrison Center floors and barbeque area are slated for rehab and it is still on the funded list for the CIP.

Vice-Chair Brown commended Director Wooldridge and staff for their work.

Chair Restagno stated if extra funding could be tagged for the Beltline to fund the traffic study. Director Wooldridge replied that it could be part of the Commission's recommendation to Council.

Motion to approve the 2013-15 recommended CIP list with the request for increasing the Beltline budget by \$15,000.

M/S/C Vice-Chair Delaney, Commissioner Brown (unanimously approved)

## **B. Review and Discuss Container for Alameda Attack (Lacrosse) at Harrington Park**

Director Wooldridge provided a handout with an aerial of the site and asked for approval for a storage container for Alameda Attack Lacrosse. Chair Restagno suggested a requirement for the container be that it be painted the same color as the restroom facility that it is adjacent to. Vice-Chair Delaney concurred, as long as it is painted.

Motion to approve a storage container for Alameda Attack at Harrington Field.

M/S/C Commissioner Brown, Vice-Chair Delaney (unanimously approved)

## **B. Swim Center Renovation Update**

Director Wooldridge stated this item has been covered through previous discussions during the CIP discussion. Vice-Chair Delaney asked if the City Manager had directed that the City help AUSD financially with renovation costs. Director Wooldridge stated this was discussed at a joint meeting with AUSD, but nothing was finalized. The Agreements with AUSD state that they are responsible for any capital improvements. Vice-Chair Delaney said regardless of the aesthetics, if the equipment fails there would be serious problems. Director Wooldridge stated this is more than an aesthetic issue. She talked briefly about the condition of the equipment.

## **6. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Alameda Beltline Update (Discussion)**

The Church of Latter Day Saints is starting work on the old railroad building. They will be painting the exterior and doing work to secure waterproof the building such as replacing fascia, side boards and closing the roof. ARPD will be applying for the building permit for the project.

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

**A. Recreation Commission Reports** – Commissioner Brown reported Mastick Senior Center had their volunteer recognition luncheon with a reported 23,000+ of donated hours from over 230 volunteers which is equivalent to more than 10 full-time staff. The membership is around 3,300. She talked to the Manager about the wheelchair availability issue, and reported that there are wheelchairs and walkers, along with the staff who is fully trained to help.

**B. Friends of the Park Report** – Vice-Chair Delaney reported he has attended many of the activities in the City, along with monthly meetings, and he would like to report he has received many positive comments and observations.

Chair Restagno stated there is the annual Play-for-the-Parks golf tournament on September 25<sup>th</sup>. He stated they will be discussing the potential event around the Lincoln Park equipment. Vice-Chair Delaney has been great about getting the energy going. And they have a new

potential board member.

**C. Recreation and Parks Director Report** - Director Wooldridge reported on the presentation by the golf course designer, Rees Jones. Greenway is currently renovating the driving range. The Mif is moving through the grading permit process and is anticipated to begin construction in May.

There are several items going to City Council soon, including the Beltline Conceptual Use Plan on May 7<sup>th</sup> and on May 21<sup>st</sup>, Older Americans Proclamation, Mastick Annual Report and the AUSD Joint Use Agreement for the Swim Centers. She also encouraged the Commission and public to take the budget challenge on the City website.

ARPD is working with Localize It for marketing and promotion. They sell discount cards to businesses for \$10 with \$5 going to schools.

The Field Allocation Policy will be reviewed. The State Assembly Bill 2404 requires cities to ensure compliance of gender equity in sport programs and field/gym allocations. Chair Restagno asked if there have been any issues with girls' leagues requests. Director Wooldridge said not that she is aware of, but sometimes when there is not a policy in place, it can happen implicitly.

September 28<sup>th</sup> is "Everything Alameda", Celebrate Our Island City, in lower Washington, Crab Cove and Robert Crown Memorial starting at 9:00 a.m. with an open water swim. Chair Restagno offered to volunteer. There will be local bands, local food, a beer and wine garden, homebrew competition, family activities, art and non-profit booths, 60<sup>th</sup> Day Camp Anniversary celebration, aquatic and fishing demonstrations, and a Police vs. Fire softball game.

Director Wooldridge reported that Mastick has been painted inside, waxed the floors and pruned their trees. She reported that a donation from the Rose L. and Winsler Bay Foster Trust for \$25,000.

Regarding parks, she stated we are still working through some parks issues, like rising irrigation and costs. There is a tree pruning maintenance plan for all the parks being implemented. She is working with Public Works to get recycling in Washington Park as a pilot program for recycling in our parks. There is a significant cost involved for purchasing and staffing.

The Eggstravaganza was a success with over 1,400 people, and the spring coloring contest had over 130 entries and a reception for the winners who are displayed at the Alameda Art Center in Southshore.

There are 65 teams for adult softball this year, and Dennis McDaniels received positive feedback on Yelp.

April 20<sup>th</sup> will be Earth Day in Washington Park.

The Albert Dewitt Officers' Club has been undergoing some major clean-up thanks to Mr.

McDaniels and with the hiring of four APC residents. The place looks great, which has been neglected for years. This is helping to generate revenue with Saturdays already booked through October.

ARPD is in the process of hiring for summer and training will happen soon. Chair Restagno asked how many parks will be open throughout summer. Director Wooldridge stated currently the schedule is set for two parks for the paid program and five parks for the Parks & Playgrounds program.

Woodstock ball field renovation has started and will be completed by Fall.

Leydecker Park has public noticing in place for a new cell tower on an existing field light pole. This will bring in revenue.

**D. Other Reports** – Commissioner Brown mentioned the insert of the ACI bill has printed the Jump & Jivin' Event on July 4<sup>th</sup>, which has been canceled. She asked if there is an update on batting cages at Krusi Park. Chair Restagno stated there is fundraising happening currently for that project. Director Wooldridge reported this is the same for the Willie Stargell memorial.

**8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, GENERAL** - None

**9. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA** – Jean Sweeney naming, and Swim Center updates

**10. SET NEXT MEETING DATE:** Thursday, May 9, 2013.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

M/S/C Vice-Chair Delaney motioned to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Commission Brown seconded, and unanimous.