



ALAMEDA RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Thursday, January 14, 2016
TIME: 7:03 p.m. Called to Order
PLACE: City Hall Council Chambers

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Ruben Tilos, Vice-Chair Bill Delaney, Commissioners Ron Limoges and Adam Trujillo.
Absent: Commissioner Mario Mariani
Staff: Patrick Russi, Interim Recreation Services Manager

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of October 8, 2015 regular meeting and October 29, 2015 Special Meeting approved.
M/C/S Vice-Chair Delaney/Commissioner Limoges
All present in favor.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Adam Trujillo gave a tribute to his father, resident Mark Trujillo, who passed away in November of 2015. Mark Trujillo was involved with various baseball programs such as Little League and Babe Ruth. He helped the children in Alameda however he could and Commissioner Trujillo plans to carry his legacy.

NEW BUSINESS

Site A Waterfront Park Design Review:

Jennifer Ott, Chief Operating Officer-Alameda Point, gave an overall report of the Waterfront Park at Alameda Point. In July 2014, the City Council approved a Waterfront Town Center Specific Plan. The final review of the Site A Development Plan by the Recreation and Park Commission occurred in Spring 2015. The Site A Development Plan commits \$36 million to parks and open spaces, including \$5 million towards an initial phase of the regional sports complex, neighborhood and community parks, and 7.2 acres of waterfront promenades and parks along the Seaplane Lagoon, which require expensive shoreline and flood protection improvements. The plans can be viewed by the public at <http://alamedaca.gov/alameda-point/site-development>.

The 2.63-acre Phase 1 Waterfront Park represents the first phase of a larger 7.2-acre waterfront park along the northern edge of the Seaplane Lagoon and is designed to meet the community's design objectives.

The acres are comprised of three park districts: the Waterfront Park District, the Urban Park District, and the Neighborhood Park District. The Waterfront Park District emphasizes spaces for passive recreation and access to the water, waterfront promenades, water viewing areas, seating areas, and gathering spaces.

Chair Tilos inquired about the ratio of parking spots and is concerned with the traffic. Ms. Ott said they hired transportation experts to come up with a plan. The experts suggested that they provide programs to encourage new residents not to use their cars as much by providing transit to BART every 15 minutes, free AC Transit bus passes, less private parking and more paid parking on the streets. Developer Joe Ernst, Alameda Point Partner, talked about the importance of preserving the historical feeling and getting people to the water and not just seeing the water. Due to the strong winds in this area, one of his goals is to move the Sailing Center to the North edge in Phase 3. Mr. Ernst wants to make this Park a true benefit for the community and sees it not only being a new Alameda neighborhood but also a destination.

Architect Ari Daman of April Philips Design Works reviewed the design of the Waterfront Park. Mr. Daman said it is more of an urban, semi-active, but mostly passive park. His goal has been to provide a great place for residents and guests to the city by creating a park that has respect for the history of Alameda Point, and a sea defense system to protect the interior of the island. Vice-Chair Delaney said he thought the plan was very well done and looks nice. Commissioner Trujillo said Alameda does not have a space like this and it will make a wonderful addition to our City. Commissioner Limoges talked about the importance of tying the spaces together with the parks and feels it was an impressive presentation. Chair Tilos asked what the target number would be for the events. Joe Ernst said anywhere from 50 up to 400 people and the taxiways could accommodate this large crowd. Jennifer Ott also gave reassurance that the parking and traffic for special events would be monitored and would allow the City to make changes in Special Event Permit requirements as they go.

Elaine Shaw with April Philips Design Works is working with a local Company HortScience to provide mostly natives and bay friendly plants. Commissioner Ron Limoges suggested that she talks to some of the residents working on the Jean Sweeney Open Space project and garden for input as they are really knowledgeable of Alameda's plant life.

Vice Chair Delaney made a motion that the Recreation and Park Commissioners reviewed the Alameda Point Site A Design and agree it is acceptable and we recommend it move forward in the process.

**M/C/S Vice-Chair Delaney/Commissioner Trujillo
All Commissioners present in favor.**

Jennifer Ott said that she would be back to give regular updates and to hear the Recreation Commissioners' opinions and will be communicating with Director Amy Wooldridge on an ongoing basis.

Approval of Sign Logo Design at Cityview Skate Park:

Patty Harding gave a presentation to show the final product of the mural at the Cityview Skate Park, which is in memory of her son, Clay Harding. Ms. Harding said that the mural has never been tagged or had problems with graffiti. Ms. Harding also requested approval of an aluminum sign for the

entrance of the Skate Park. The sign is 8 feet high, cut by laser and put together by artist JP Bail. Vice-Chair Delaney had concerns of the park not having the standard park signage. Chair Tilos suggested we also have a sign saying ARPD Cityview Skate Park which Pat Russi, Interim Recreation Services Manager said it was something ARPD would be doing for the various parks and facilities at Alameda Point.

Vice-Chair Delaney moved to approve the sign at the Cityview Skate Park to be placed at the entrance.

**M/C/S Vice-Chair Delaney/Commissioner Trujillo
All Commissioners present in favor.**

Speaker Dorothy Freeman suggested to refer to the sign as “art in the park”, instead of referring to it as signage.

Approval of Storage Shed, Batting Cage, & Bullpen Mounds at Baseball Diamond at Godfrey Park:

Ken Arnerich, Alameda High School Head Baseball Coach and George Kostantinos, Alameda High School Junior Varsity Coach would like to install a bullpen, storage shed and batting cage in Godfrey Park. They have lost an abundance of baseballs to the golf course and want to give the baseball field an overall upgrade. Alameda High School Booster Club will be paying for it. The Batting Cage will be donated. Coach Arnerich did a majority of the improvements at Lincoln Park baseball field and would like to do the same at Godfrey Park. Vice-Chair Delaney talked about the need to have more baseball facilities and is in favor of approving anything needed for the Godfrey Park baseball field. Chair Tilos asked if the storage shed would be available to other youth groups. Coach Arnerich said yes the shed would be a shared resource.

Vice-Chair Delaney moved to approve all the components that were addressed relative to the baseball field at Godfrey Park.

**M/C/S Vice-Chair Delaney/Commissioner Limoges
All Commissioners present in favor.**

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Speaker Dorothy Freeman asked where we stand on the Jean Sweeney Master Plan. Pat Russi said the final design will be approved in March. A company has been selected and contract will be firm in March. Ms. Freeman asked what happened to the Project Manager. Pat Russi said the Project Manager, Jack Dybas, is well underway and has been working hard on the Krusi Park Recreation Center rebuild and will be putting out a bid for Recreation Center. After that, he will be helping out with the Jean Sweeney Park project. Ms. Freeman asked when construction will start on the bike path. Pat Russi said the Cross Alameda Trail design is done and that we are waiting for State approval for the funds so that construction can start in April or May.

REPORTS

Recreation Commission Reports:

Chair Tilos said the 2015 Mayor’s Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony was a well ran event. Everyone enjoyed the Tap Dancing Christmas Trees.

Friends of the Park Report (FOTP):

Vice-Chair Delaney said the foundation received a couple of donations from John Jacobs, Vice President of the Bank of Marin. One check was for Godfrey Park playground equipment. The second check was for the Cityview Skate Park for a second awning in 2016. Vice-Chair Delaney went the Skate Park party in the Fall, which was a great event and said the skateboard group respects the facility and are taking good care of it and keeping it clean. He also attended a community input session at Godfrey Park with John Jacobs to discuss what kind of playground the community wants. A lot of people expressed wanting swings. FOTP plans to also donate to the cost of equipment. FOTP is starting to plan their annual Golf Tournament and are also planning the Bike for the Parks event on October 15, 2016. Ken Miller, FOTP Board Member said budget was \$20,000 and they have already have that in place from donations from the community

Recreation and Parks Director Report:

Pat Russi reported that Mastick Senior Center is working on putting outdoor fitness equipment in the Courtyard. There will be 6 pieces and a putting green. Mastick Senior Center also has many new classes and updated their registration for trips so people can register online now. Estuary Park is in final plan check and will be out for bid in the next 2 months. Hopefully the project will be in construction by mid or the later part of this year. Shoreline Park pathway has been smoothed and taken care of. Pat Russi said he was impressed that over 30 people came to the Godfrey Community Meeting and gave feedback. He is working on the final bids and is hoping to get a staff report out at the next Recreation and Park Commission Meeting on February 11, 2016 and to the Council in March 2016 with the goal to have Godfrey Park finished before summer. Woodstock playground area will be the next playground project scheduled for 2017. We are starting the plans this year to allow us to apply for grant. Encinal Swim Center had a tremendous amount of work done and will open in May 2016. Emma Hood Swim Center had a problem with the pools' heater and is now fixed. Chuck Corica Golf Complex South Course construction is moving along. Jim's on the Course lease will be going to council for approval. Bike for the Parks will be a signature event on October 15, 2016. Haven of Hope, a nonprofit organization wants to finance a BMX Bike Park on the Alameda Base adjacent to Cityview Skate Park. Channel 15 has a lot of advertisement and flyers. ARPD is looking for motivated young men and women to hire. Applications available online and at the ARPD Main Office.

Vice-Chair Delaney said he is being the voice of the 13 year old baseball players who frustrated that their schedule has been pushed to Mondays. They only play games on weekends, then go right into one practice on Monday, which gives them too many days off before the games.

Pat Russi said a lot of organizations are willing to work with each other's schedules so in the end, it should work out.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, February 11, 2016

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Tilos adjourned the meeting at 9:16 p.m.