



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

Revised 1/13/2011

DATE: Thursday, November 10, 2010

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 (late)

Staff: Dale Lillard, ARPD Director
Jackie Krause, Senior Services Manager (SSM)

Absent: None

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve Minutes of September 9, 2010 and October 14, 2010 Recreation & Park Commission Regular Meetings

M/S/C MARIANI/COOPER (approved)

“That the minutes of September 9, 2010 Recreation Commission Meeting are approved.”

Approved (4): Restagno, Cooper, Delaney, Mariani
Abstained (1): Brown
Absent (1): Sonneman (late)

M/S/C BROWN/SONNEMAN (approved)

“That the minutes of October 14, 2010 Recreation & Park Commission Meeting are approved.”

Approved (4): Restagno, Brown, Cooper, Sonneman
Abstained (1): Delaney, Mariani

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, AGENDA

None.

4. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion of Possible Locations for Installation of a Synthetic Turf Field – (Discussion/Action Item)

Director Lillard stated that the Interim City Manager has identified one-time funds of approximately \$3 million which have been designated for a capital improvement.

The City has been in discussions with AUSD for approximately the last 18 months on entering into some type of interim joint use agreement for an all weather field. Discussions have been in general terms. The agreement would be very similar to the College of Alameda Hardball Field Agreement. AUSD would have priority use for their after school sports programs and the rest of the time ARPD would schedule for community groups. The field would be an artificial, full size football field that would be multi-use; you could play football, soccer, rugby, etc. Also, there would be a track and some renovations to the lighting. There are some broad cost estimates that cannot be finalized until the infrastructure, substructure, and drainage is inspected.

There have been discussions with AUSD the location of the field. Two principal's thoughts discussed were Thompson Field (in its current configuration) and Encinal High School. After review the recommended location was Encinal High School. Due to the following:

- Less impact on a neighborhood.
- More parking.
- Noise would be less of a problem.
- Lights should not be a problem.

The ideal situation would be to install artificial turf at both sites (Thompson Field and Encinal High School).

With all of the other infrastructure and swim center needs, some of the money may go to those items. Director Lillard recommended that if only one is to be done then do the field at Encinal High School. No matter what AUSD does regarding future restructuring there is still plenty of space at that location. Even if AUSD closed that high school the field could still stay. The field would not go away just because the high school is closed.

Discussion was held by Recreation Commission regarding recommendation.

Director Lillard stated that ARPD would still do all of the scheduling, a 30 year joint use agreement would be done, and ARPD would be responsible for the maintenance. Currently, a draft joint use agreement is being worked on.

Commissioner Mariani asked how it was determined to have a synthetic turf field. Were there other choices? Is it a priority? The City found this money, but who decided that the funds would be used for synthetic turf? Director Lillard stated that nothing has been decided the idea is still conceptual. This came out of a sub-committee between AUSD and the City. They have been meeting for approximately 18 months. Commissioner Cooper stated that he knows this has been discussed for many years.

Director Lillard stated that this may have changed due to the pool situation. There could be other choices. Then you would have to have the School Board and the Council takes an action. The sub-committee is just starting to talk about preferences.

Commissioner Mariani asked if the money is designated for the joint use of the AUSD and City. Director Lillard stated that it is designated for capital improvement for recreation facilities.

Commissioner Cooper stated that discussions have been held regarding expansion to the Encinal Boat Ramp and redoing restrooms, etc. Director Lillard stated that another plus for putting the artificial turf at Encinal High School is that the City owns the Encinal Boat Ramp. The Encinal Boat Ramp restrooms will be renovated with some of the Measure WW funds and a gate could be installed between the sites. Then area would be self-contained and you would not have to use the school itself for anything.

Commissioner Sonneman stated that this would be a great advantage for so many of the community groups.

Commissioner Cooper asked if the elevation/high water table would be an issue. Director Lillard stated that would be an engineering issue which could be discussed or investigated later.

Commissioner Sonneman asked about the timeline. Director Lillard stated that the City would have to have an agreement with AUSD, have both bodies (School Board and Council) take an action, once a decision is made and the decision is to go with a field you probably be looking at nine months. That would be to engage a contractor, receive bids, do a build out, etc.

Commissioner Restagno asked if there was any "ball park" figure for doing the project. Director Lillard stated that to do Encinal High School with a full track cost was just over \$1 million because the infrastructure (sewer lines, drainage, utilities, lights, etc.) is already there.

Commissioner Cooper stated that if the project is going to be done it would make sense to redo the stands. If you are going to use the restrooms on the other side, you may want to separate the stands so people do not have to go all the way down to the water to enter.

Director Lillard stated that if this project moves forward there would be community meetings, and it would go before the Recreation & Park Commission, the School Board, and then City Council. There would be approximately eight to ten meetings before the facility would be built.

Director Lillard stated that at the last Council Meeting staff was directed to begin talks with AUSD about doing an overall joint use agreement for all of their outdoor facilities. Possible areas would be turf, landscape lawns/shrubs, etc. Also, there has been some discussion about including the Kauffman Theater.

Chair Restagno asked for a motion.

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

“That if funding is available, two artificial turf areas be installed, one at Thompson Field and one at Encinal High School; however, if there is funding for only one artificial turf field, preference should be given to install the field at Encinal High School.”

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 November 8, 2010 Activity Report.
- B. Recreation Division**
See November 8, 2010 Activity Report.
- C. Mastick Senior Center**
See November 8, 2010 Activity Report.
- D. Other Reports and Announcements**

8. STATUS REPORT ON ONGOING PROJECTS

9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, GENERAL

- Director Lillard stated that the RFQ for the Krusi Park Renovation project has been released. RFQ's are to be submitted by mid-December. A team will screen the RFQ's, hold interviews, make a recommendation to the Interim City

Manager, then detailed negotiations would begin on scope and budget. Once a company is under contract then the community process would start. It's anticipated that public meetings would be with Recreation & Park Commission, Otis School PTA, AUSD, etc. Broad parameters are replacement of recreation building, separate outdoor restroom/storage/concession area, pathway work, picnic area work, security lighting, etc. It is hoped that the project would be completed by beginning of 2011 school year.

Commissioner Cooper asked why the same plans that were used for the Washington Park building could not be used for the Krusi Park building. Director Lillard stated that the building at Washington Park is a prefab building. He would rather not go that way. The only reason we went that way was due to costs and the bidding environment at that time. There have been problems with the flooring, etc., with the prefab buildings.

- Director Lillard stated that work on the Park Master Plan has begun. The consultant is Gates + Associates. The Park Master Plan was combined with the Urban Greening Grant that the City received. The biggest part is the Park Master Plan, then they will do urban gardening opportunities, healthy eating, etc. An inventory will be done on all the existing facilities; make recommendations and cost estimates of those facilities. Plus, look at demographics and tell us what we should be anticipating to have in place for the next 15 to 20 years, the types of facilities, and potential locations. They will also be looking at the Alameda Belt Line and something for the parks at Alameda Point. They may meet with individual members of the Recreation & Park Commission and/or the Commission as a whole. The Belt Line property will be a large part of the master plan.

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Chair Restagno asked what was on the December agenda. Director Lillard stated there are a couple of Paratransit issues on the agenda.

It was determined there would not be a quorum for the December meeting. December Meeting was canceled. The Paratransit items will be moved to January 2011 meeting.

11. SET NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, January 13, 2011

12. ADJOURNMENT