



MINUTES OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MEETING OF MARCH 10, 2005

1327 Oak St., Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 747-7529

DATE: Thursday, March 10, 2005
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: City Hall, 2263 Santa Clara Ave., Third Floor, Room 360
Alameda, CA 94501

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Jay Ingram, Vice Chair Jo Kahuanui, Commissioner Bruce Reeves

Staff: Dale Lillard, Acting Director
Christa Johnson, Assistant to the City Manager
Jackie Krause, Senior Services Manager (SSM)
Fred Framsted, Recreation Supervisor (RS)

Absent: Commissioner Johnson
Commissioner Oliver

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve Minutes of February 10, 2004 Recreation and Park Commission Meeting.

M/S/C REEVES/KAHUANUI (approved)

In Favor (3) – Ingram, Kahuanui, Reeves
Absent (2) – Johnson, Oliver

“That Minutes of February 10, 2005 Recreation & Park Commission Meeting be approved.”

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. Presentation of Cross Alameda Trail Project – (*Discussion Item*)

Barry Bergman, Program Specialist for Public Works Department, gave a presentation on the Cross Alameda Trail Project. In December 2003, the Association of Bay Area Governments awarded the City of Alameda a grant of \$53,000 to conduct a feasibility study for the Cross Alameda Trail. The proposed trail extends from the intersection of Appezzato Memorial Parkway to Tilden Way a distance of approximately 3.5 miles. Mr. Bergman presented a detailed summary of the project and answered questions from the Commission. Mr. Bergman explained that the Public Works Department is soliciting input from a variety of City boards and commissions and any comments they may have could be directed to him at the Public Works Department.

Chair Ingram thanked Mr. Bergman for his informative presentation.

B. Presentation on West End Improvement Project – (*Discussion Item*)

Carol Beaver, Community Development Division Manager, and Michael Smiley, BMS Design Group, provided to the Recreation and Park Commission a presentation on the West End Improvement Project.

The West Alameda Neighborhood Improvement Project was funded by the City Council as part of the FY 2003-04 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Plan in July 2003. The boundaries of Census Tract 4276 define the neighborhood, which was selected based on census data indicating the greatest number of low-income households in the City, observations of blighting physical conditions, and continuing efforts to improve the physical and social environment in the area through various community partnerships and the Harbor Island Task Force.

Pending acceptance of the Plan by the City Council at its April 19, 2005 meeting, the Plan will provide a conceptual frame work for public improvements in the neighborhood over the next five or more years. Some of the improvements will need to be refined to meet technical requirement and changing conditions over time.

Approximately \$400,000 in CDBG Funds is available to implement the first phase of improvemetns, which will be established following the Plan acceptance Process.

Copies of the West Alameda Neighborhood Improvement Concept Plan draft will be available beginning February 23, 2005 for review at the City Clerk's Office, Chipman Middle School, Woodstock Elmentary School, Longfellow Elementary School, the West End Branch Library and the City of Alameda's Development Service Department at 950 West Mall Square, 2nd Floor, Alameda, 94501.

Commissioner Reeves asked if the sign builders in this town who put up signs on

everything that does not move could be told to not do this. Mr. Smiley stated that would be a good idea. Commissioner Reeves stated that too many signs will ruin the effect. Mr. Smiley stated that the Committee did not get into those types of details. This conceptual plan is a broad plan.

Commissioner Reeves asked if utilities would be put underground. Mr. Smiley stated underground utilities are very expensive. The Committee has not specifically recommended that the utility lines should be underground.

Mr. Smiley gave a Power Point presentation on the West Alameda Neighborhood Improvement Plan.

A major component of the Improvement Plan is providing better access from the walkway between Woodstock Park and Chipman School. This will give greater access to the area for the Fire Department and the public.

Commissioner Reeves stated that if the Committee is looking for land for more parking they will not get much support from this Commission. We are looking for more parkland and not giving it away for parking.

Ms. Beaver stated that there was a perception within the neighborhood that this is a way to reconfigure the parkland that provides an amenity to the users of the park by providing them access. There was a sense that this was not actually trading off parkland for parking but was having parkland that was different. That would access to and kind of opening up the park for better use and accessibility to the neighborhood. It enhances use and provides better access to the park.

Ms. Beaver stated that the West Alameda Neighborhood Improvement Conceptual Plan can be used as a guide for west end improvements and nothing is set in concrete.

Chair Ingram stated that the City should not use the bus shelter that is located near Morton Street on Buena Vista. It is located right in front of someones home and in the middle of the sidewalk.

At the corner of Atlantic and Webster, in the dead spot, there is a used car lot. Have there been any conversations been held with the person who owns that car lot. Ms. Beaver stated that their focus was not on Webster St. when doing the plan. Mr. Smiley stated that the car lot has been on peoples minds for a long time. But nothing has been done to date.

Vice Chair Kahuanui stated that with the renovations going on in the area it would be great to work the plan.

Ms. Beaver stated that there are many ways to accomplish accessing the area.

If the Recreation and Park Commission have any additional comments they can contact

Ms. Beaver in Development Services.

C. Revised Site Plan for Wireless Telecommunication Facility at Washington Park (American Tower Corporation) – (Discussion Item)

Bruce Knopf, Redevelopment Manager from Community Development, gave a presentation regarding the revised plan for a Wireless Telecommunication Facility at Washington Park. Mr. Knopf reviewed the revised plan for placement of a cell tower in Washington Park. He stated that the new plans call for the tower to be relocated to the southeastern corner of the field (down the left field line) and for the structure housing the equipment to also be moved down the foul line. Mr. Knopf informed the Commission that the item will come back to them for final approval after it appears on the Planning Board Agenda.

D. Consideration of Proposal for Placement of a Cell Tower at Mastick Senior Center – (Discussion Item)

Bruce Knopf, Redevelopment Manager from Community Development, provided a presentation regarding a request by Sprint Telecommunications to place a cell tower in the parking lot at Mastick Senior Center. The 45' pole and equipment shelter will be located in the western corner of the existing parking lot. The parking lot will be reconfigured to limit the impact on spaces available. Sprint will provide (at their cost) an additional light on the tower to improve the overall lighting of the parking lot. In addition, sprint will pay a yet to be determined lease fee to the Senior Center. Ms. Krause informed the Commission that the Mastick Advisory Board has already reviewed and approved the plan.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Continued Discussion and Consideration of Request from Mayor and City Council to Develop a Park Use Policy – (Discussion/Action Item)

Acting Director Lillard provided a review of the proposed draft of the Long-Term Park Use Policy as requested by Council. He informed the Commission that the changes and clarifications they had requested at last month's meeting have now been included.

M/S/C REEVES/KAHUANUI (approved)

“That the Long-Term Park Use Policy be approved.”

In Favor (3): Ingram, Kahuanui, Reeves
Absent (2): Johnson, Oliver

B. Discussion of Annual Commission Goals, Objectives, and Accomplishments Including Park Master Plan – (Discussion/Action Item)

Acting Director Lillard informed the Commission that all the additions they had requested at

the previous meeting were now included in the document. The Commission discussed and reviewed the goals and objectives.

M/S/C REEVES/KAHUANUI (approved)

“That the Annual Commission Goals, Objectives, and Accomplishments be approved.”

Approved (3): Ingram, Kahuanui, Reeves
Absent (2): Johnson, Oliver

C. Status Report on the Sports Advisory Committee’s Recommendation regarding Field Use Fees – (*Discussion/Action Item*)

Acting Director Lillard informed the Commission that as they had requested at the previous meeting, staff has met with the Sports Advisory Committee and begun drafting a policy to develop a per player fee. A draft has been developed and, once finalized at a future meeting, will be brought before the Commission for approval.

7. REPORTS FROM RECREATION COMMISSION AND RECREATION AND PARK DIRECTOR

A. Park Division

See attached Activity Report.

B. Recreation Division

See attached Activity Report.

C. Mastick Senior Center

See attached Activity Report.

D. Other Reports and Announcements

1. Status Report on Alameda Point Golf Course Design Committee (Vice Chair Reeves)

No report at this time.

2. Status Report on Alameda Point Advisory Committee (APAC) (Chair Ingram)

No report at this time.

3. Status Report on Transportation Master Plan Committee (Commissioner Johnson)

No report at this time.

8. STATUS REPORT ON ONGOING PROJECTS

None.

9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, GENERAL

Acting Director Lillard stated that the Alameda Point Multi-Use Field is now open for play.

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

11. SET DAY FOR NEXT MEETING Thursday, April 14, 2005

12. ADJOURNMENT 9:40 p.m.