City of SACRAMENTO
Parks and Recreation

# Meeting Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission AGENDA Thursday, April 7, 2016

*Historic City Hall Meeting Room, 915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814*

**Call to Order – 6:30 p.m. Roll Call / Commissioner Introduction**

Commissioner Assagai called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. All Commissioners were in attendance except Commissioner McKinley who arrived at 6:49 pm and Commissioner Bains was absent.

**Public Comments- Matters Not on the Agenda**

1. Mykyta Safronenko asked the Commission for assistance in navigating City departments to find a location to host a Ukrainian Fair in Sacramento in August 2016. Shannon Brown, Operations Manager, offered to assist Mr. Safronenka.

**Public Hearings**

2. **None**

**Special Oral Presentation**

3. **None**

**Consent Calendar**

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered and acted upon by one motion. Anyone may request that an item be removed for separate consideration.

4. **Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes**
   **Location:** Citywide
   **Recommendation:** Approve Commission minutes for March 3, 2016
   **Contact:** Camille Wise, Program Specialist, 808-8830
   **Action:** Moved, seconded and carried to approve the consent calendar. (Malik/ Singh. Ayes: Assagai, Heitstuman, Lenzi, Malik, Murphy, O'Toole, Shettle. Absent: Bains, McKinley).

**Discussion/Action Reports**

Discussion/Action reports include oral presentations including those recommending review and comment

5. **Special May Meeting Date of Wednesday, May 4 at 6 pm (Oral)**
   **Location:** Historic City Hall Hearing Room
   **Recommendation:** Approved Proposed Action
   **Contact:** Camille Wise, Program Specialist, 808-8830
   **Action:** Moved, seconded, and carried to move the May meeting to May 4, 2016 (O'Toole/Malik. Ayes: Assagai, Heitstuman, Lenzi, Malik, Murphy, O'Toole, Shettle. Absent: Bains)

6. **Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair (Oral)**
   **Location:** Historic City Hall Hearing Room
   **Recommendation:** Nominate Chair and Vice Chair to Take Office in May
   **Contact:** Camille Wise, Program Specialist, 808-8830
   Commissioner Assagai nominated Commissioner Heitstuman to serve as chair. Commissioner Heitstuman accepted the nomination. Motion passed unanimously (Absent: Bains). Commissioner Assagai nominated Commissioner Malik to serve as vice chair. Commissioner Malik accepted the nomination. Motion passed unanimously (Absent: Bains).

7. **Teen Services Youth Employment (Oral)**
   **Location:** Citywide
   **Recommendation:** Review and Comment,
   **Contact:** Kim Mohler, Recreation Superintendent, 808-8378
   Kim Mohler made a presentation on the Landscape and Learning (L&L) Program that employs youth ages 14-17 to do maintenance and beautification work in City parks. Past L&L participant Malik Rashid shared the value of his experience with youth employment programs, and described the various benefits he has reaped by participating in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program that serves teens and young adults. Commissioner Malik would like demographic and statistical information on youth applicants and participants to assess need for program expansion.

8. **Proposed Capital Improvement Project**
   **Location:** Citywide
   **Recommendation:** Review and Comment
   **Contact:** Gary Hyden, Park Planning and Development Manager, 808-1949
   Gary Hyden described the proposed Park Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Fiscal Year 2016/17 that consists of 18 projects totaling $3,350,700. The primary focus of this years' CIP is the renovation of existing parks, and the preparation of three master plan amendments for existing parks. Funding sources for CIP projects includes Park Development Impact Fee (PIF), Quimby

In Lieu Funds, Land Park Trust Fund, Measure U, State and Federal grants, competitive or block grants, and private foundation grants or gifts.

9. **Park Plaza Closure in Exchange for Vacant Fire Department Land Adjacent to Barandas Park**
**Location:** 1640 West El Camino Avenue, Council District 3; and Northwest corner of Grasslands Drive and West El Camino Avenue, Council District 4; both sites are within the South Natomas Community Plan Area
**Recommendation:** Support closure of Park Plaza
**Contact:** Mary de Beauvieres, Principal Planner, 808-8722
Mary de Beauvieres made a presentation on the proposed closure of Park Plaza based on safety, lack of visibility, and increased inappropriate use of the park. The department had been researching how to address these issues. The Fire Department desires to acquire Park Plaza by a land exchange of property next to Barandas Park and funding the improvements. Some Commissioners voiced concerns about the loss of a park in the current neighborhood where Plaza Park is located, and wanted the expansion of Barandas Park through the transfer to be completed as soon as possible. The Commission requested a report back at the next meeting on the outreach effort that occurred to notify the residents near Park Plaza about the proposed closure.
**Action:** Moved, seconded and carried to support closing Plaza Park and the land exchange and funding to expand Barandas Park. (Singh/Heitstuman.
Ayes: Assagai, Heitstuman, McKinley, O'Toole, Singh, Murphy, Shettle. Nay: Malik).

10. **Parks and Recreation Director Report (Oral): Review Highlights for March**
**Recommendation:** Review and Comment
**Contact:** Christopher C. Conlin, Director, 808-8526
Director Chris Conlin made a report on updates for the department including the appointment of a new Parks and Recreation Commissioner, Measure U funds, the City Cemetery, and addition of Park Rangers.

A new Commissioner has been appointed to the vacant District 1 seat. Commissioner Jag Bains had not yet been sworn in so he will attend the next meeting. Measure U appropriation for this year is $13M to support operational and capital improvement projects. Measure U Funds have greatly enhanced and expanded programs and services, and increased staffing resulting in better and more recreational opportunities for our community.

The City Cemetery is designated as a historic site, thus there are specific guidelines for upkeep of the gardens to adhere to the master plan. There are user groups who have not adhered to the guidelines. The Department is in contact with these groups to ensure that vegetation and plantings are consistent

with these guidelines. The irrigation system is outdated and substandard, and significant and sensitive planning is underway to address the needed improvements.

Based on a recent appropriation, the Department's Park Ranger staff will soon increase by 3 FTE, including a supervisory Ranger, but there is still a need for even more rangers to ensure the safety of park users given our vast system.

**Questions, Ideas, and Announcements of Commission Members**

Commissioner Singh requested that Department staff consider researching and installing interpretive signage for walking trails in Old Sacramento.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Assagai adjourned the meeting at 8 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Camille Wise

Camille Wise, Resource Development Specialist
Department of Parks and Recreation

Approved by:

David Heitstuman, Chairperson

Parks and Recreation Commission