Meeting Minutes of the
Parks and Recreation Commission

AGENDA

Wednesday, August 17, 2016
6:00 p.m.

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

Open Session – 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call
Chair Heitstuman called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Commissioners Assagai, Bains, Guerrero, McKinley, Murphy, Rhodes, Shettle, and Singh were in attendance. Commissioner Malik arrived at 6:07 p.m. Commissioner O'Toole was absent.

Public Comments-Matters Not on the Agenda (2 minutes per speaker)

Petaque Director, Brendan Cohen, from Club Francais de Sacramento spoke about the Sacramento Petaque Club and their goal to partner with the City of Sacramento to create Petaque courts in Midtown parks.

Special Oral Presentation

1. Greater Sacramento Softball Association - Grant Award for Sacramento Softball Complex

Rich Semenza, Program Coordinator with the Sacramento Softball Complex, gave a presentation about the softball complex and the partnership the complex has had with Greater Sacramento Softball Association. Jeff Dubcharsky with the Greater Sacramento Softball Association presented a grant to the City for the Sacramento Softball Complex in the amount of $2,500. The money will be used to provide shade structures throughout the softball complex.
Public Hearings

2. Appeal of a Decision of the Director of Public Works to Remove Trees on R St between 13th St. and 16th St.
Location: Council District 4
Recommendation: Hear the appeal and uphold Director of Public Works Decision
Contact: Joe Benassini, Urban Forest Manager, 808-6258

Commissioners Assagai, Guerrero and Murphy, disclosed that they received emails in regard to the appeal and visited the site prior to the hearing. Chair Heitstuman disclosed he also received emails and met with the appellants at the site on Monday, August 15, 2016. Commissioners Bains, Malik, Rhodes, Shettle, and Singh, disclosed that they also received emails, but had no other contact.

City Staff Kevin Hocker, Urban Forestry, and Zuhair Amawi, Department of Public Works, and Todd Leon with CADA presented information in regard to the proposed R Street improvements project, the health of the existing trees, the proposed tree removals and replacements, and public outreach efforts.

Appellants Dan Pskowski, Jim Pachl, Karen Jacques, and Luree Stetson presented information about the loss of tree canopy, importance of trees, and possible alternatives to removing trees on R Street. Judith Lamare also testified as on behalf of the appellants.

Members of the public testified as follows: Marq Truscott (in favor of the City), Nico Coulouras (in favor of the City), Mike Heller (in favor of the City), Nathan Jacobsen (in favor of the appellants).


Moved, seconded and carried 7 Ayes/3 Nays, to uphold the appeal regarding the ten yew pine trees located on the north side of R Street between 15th and 16th Street. (Assagai/Malik. Ayes: Assagai, Guerrero, Heitstuman, Malik, Murphy, Rhodes and Shettle. Nays: Bains, McKinley, and Singh. Absent: O’Toole. Abstain: none)

Moved, seconded and carried 9 Ayes/1 Nay, to deny the appeal to allow removal of the six London plain trees location on R Street between 13th and 14th Street. (Murphy/Bains. Ayes: Assagai, Bains, Guerrero, Heitstuman, McKinley, Murphy, Rhodes, Shettle, and Singh. Nays: Malik. Absent: O’Toole. Abstain: none)

Consent Calendar

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

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3. Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Location: Citywide
Recommendation: Approve Commission minutes for June 2, 2016
Contact: Kim Rhodes, Administrative Analyst, 808-6316

Moved, seconded and carried to approve the consent calendar. (Malik/Murphy. Ayes: Heitstuman, Malik, Murphy, Rhodes, Shettle, and Singh. Absent: O’Toole. Abstain: Assagai, Bains, Guerrero and McKinley)

Discussion Calendar

Discussion Calendar items include an oral presentation including those recommending “receive and file”.

4. Parks and Recreation Director Report (Oral): Review Highlights for June

Location: Citywide
Recommendation: Review and Comment
Contact: Christopher C. Conlin, Director, 808-8526

Director Chris Conlin gave updates on the Parks and Recreation budget for last year ending in the black, the Department strategic plan preparation which should start by February, the Park Planning Program Guide was approved by Council, and the upcoming Mayoral transition has already started. Director Conlin also introduced the new Parks Maintenance Manager, Eugene Loew.

Questions, Ideas and Announcements

Commissioner Guerrero introduced himself as a new Commissioner from District 3.

Commissioner Heitstuman praised Camp Sacramento Manager Jarred and the Camp for having their first LGBT summer camp, which was fantastic and turned out great.

Adjournment

Chair Heitstuman adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberly Rhodes, Administrative Analyst
Department of Parks and Recreation

Approved by:

David Heitstuman, Chairperson
Parks and Recreation Commission

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