



**Meeting Minutes of the
Parks and Community Enrichment Commission**

August 6, 2020

6:00 p.m.

City Hall – 915 I Street – Council Chambers

Open Session – 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Good at 6:03 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Aguilar, Flores, Good, Guerrero, Kletzman, Lavelle, Malik, Mehta, Murphy, and Rhodes

Absent: Commissioner Law; Malik absent after item 4.

Public Comments-Matters Not on the Agenda

None.

Consent Calendar

1. Parks and Community Enrichment Commission Meeting Minutes

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Approve Commission meeting minutes for March 5, 2019

Contact: Maggie Le, Support Services Manager, (916) 808-1040, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Action: Motion to approve Commission meeting minutes.

Moved/Seconded (Lavelle/Rhodes)

Motion carried 9-Yes 0-No 1-Absent 1-Abstained (Murphy)

Discussion Calendar

2. Selection of Youth and Park Volunteer Recognition Awards

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Pass a motion selecting award recipient(s) for the Volunteer Recognition Award

Contact: Maggie Le, Support Services Manager, (916) 808-1040, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Presenter: Maggie Le, Support Services Manager, (916) 808-1040, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Mario Lara, Director of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment, provided a presentation regarding the Selection of Youth and Park Volunteer Recognition Awards. Staff will bring back an item to the September meeting to provide an update on how YPCE will be recognizing these volunteers such as, certificates, blog posts, and social media acknowledgement.

Commission Flores requested to include a short video from the volunteers thanking the Commission on the outlets YPCE will acknowledge the volunteers on.

Action: Motion to to select award recipients for the Volunteer Recognition Award.

Moved (Lavelle/Murphy)

Motion carried 10-Yes 0-No 1-Absent

3. Parks & Community Enrichment Commission Revised 2020 Proposed Parks & Community Enrichment Workplan

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Pass a motion to approve the Revised 2020 Proposed Parks & Community Enrichment Commission Workplan

Contact: Maggie Le, Support Services Manager, (916) 808-1040, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Maggie Le, Support Services Manager, provided a presentation regarding the Parks & Community Enrichment Commission Revised 2020 Proposed Parks & Community Enrichment Workplan.

Commissioner Malik would like staff to include impacts of COVID in their report out such as the inability to access water parks, cooling centers, effects and impacts on the most vulnerable population and what staff is doing to mitigate these impacts.

Vice Chair Lavelle mentioned the including agenda items at the December meeting that are listed as pending at the end of the report.

Mario Lara, Director of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment, mentioned that staff will bring forward a Staff Recognition item in the future.

Action: Motion to approve the Revised 2020 Proposed Parks & Community Enrichment Commission Workplan

Moved (Lavelle/Mehta)

Motion carried 10-Yes 0-No 1-Absent

4. Renaming of Natomas Oaks Park as Ray and Judy Tretheway Oaks Preserve

Location: Council District 4

Recommendation: Pass a motion to support the City Council's adoption to name Natomas Oaks Park as Ray and Judy Tretheway Oaks Preserve

Contact: Brianna Moland, Assistant Planner, (916) 808-6188, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Brianna Moland, Assistant Planner, provided a presentation regarding the renaming of Natomas Oaks Park as Ray and Judy Tretheway Oaks Preserve.

Allison Post-Harris provided public comment in support of City Council's adoption to name Natomas Oaks Park as Ray and Judy Tretheway Oaks Preserve.

Heather Fargo provided public comment in support of City Council's adoption to name Natomas Oaks Park as Ray and Judy Tretheway Oaks Preserve.

Vice Chair Lavelle, Commissioner Malik, Guerrero, and Flores spoke in support of this recommendation, recognized the Trethway family and their contributions to the park, and mentioned that this is another park which includes recognition of a woman in its name.

Action: Motion to support the City Council's adoption to name Natomas Oaks Park as Ray and Judy Tretheway Oaks Preserve.

Moved/Seconded (Malik/Guerrero)
Motion carried 9-Yes 0-No 1-Absent

Chair Good announced her appreciation for Commissioner Malik and thanked her for her service on the Commission. She mentioned that she will be mailing her plaque to her. Commissioner Malik thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve on the Commission. Other Commissioners thanked Commissioner Malik and shared appreciative comments.

5. Master Plans and Naming of Parks in Greenbriar Phase 1 Development

Location: Council District 1

Recommendation: Pass a motion to support the City Council's adoption of 1) Park Master Plans for the Community Park and Neighborhood Park and 2) naming the Community Park as Northlake Community Park and the Neighborhood Park as Eventide Park

Contact: Jeff Nittka, Landscape Architect (916) 808-5996, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Jeff Nittka, Landscape Architect, and John Nicolaus, Principal Landscape Architect from Wood Rodgers, Inc., provided a presentation regarding the Master Plans and naming of Parks in Greenbriar Phase 1 Development.

Chris Holm provided public comment regarding the Park Master Plans for the Community Park regarding the weaving connection to the bike trail.

Raymond Constantino, Parks Planning & Development Services Manager, provided clarification regarding the Bikeway Master Plan and mentioned next steps would be to approve this item to move forward for City Council adoption.

Vice Chair Lavelle noted the half-court basketball court in the plans and mentioned the importance of having a full-court basketball court.

Commissioner Aguilar mentioned importance in considering different modes of transportation when planning and the plans should show the community along with the park as it is difficult to tell where the community is around the park.

Commissioner Guerrero agreed with Commissioner Aguilar where the plans should include the community so they can see the park in relation to the community.

John Nicolaus, the consultant, shared the Greenbriar land use plan to show location for the two parks.

Chair Good asked if there is a futsal court at this park and the consultant responded that there is a futsal court included in the plans.

Action: Motion to support the City Council's adoption of 1) Park Master Plans for the Community Park and Neighborhood Park and 2) naming the Community Park as Northlake Community Park and the Neighborhood Park as Eventide Park.

Moved/Seconded (Lavelle/Kletzman)
Motion carried 9-Yes 0-No 2-Absent

6. Creation of Ad Hoc Committee to Review City Park Naming Policy

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Pass a motion to approve establishing an Ad Hoc Committee to review and make recommendations for revising the City's Park Naming Policy. The Chair will then make the committee appointments.

Contact: Mario Lara, Director, (916) 808-1041, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Chair Good mentioned that this item was brought forward by a few Commissioners. This ad-hoc would work with staff on the index of names of City parks to ensure the names meet the policy and review current park names.

Mario Lara, Director, mentioned that the department will support the Commission in this effort.

Vice Chair Lavelle mentioned his support of bringing this item forward.

Commissioner Aguilar mentioned his support of this item and would like to nominate himself for the ad-hoc.

Commissioner Flores mentioned his support of this item and should consider social equity when considering park names.

Action: Motion to approve creating an Ad Hoc Committee to Review Park Naming Policy.

Moved/Seconded (Lavelle/Aguilar)
Motion carried 9-Yes 0-No 2-Absent

The Chair appointed Commissioners Aguilar, Mehta, Flores, Vice Chair Lavelle, and Chair Good to the Ad-hoc Committee.

7. Special Event Permitting Process

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Informational

Contact: Melissa Romero, Recreation General Supervisor, (916) 808-6188, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Melissa Romero, Recreation General Supervisor, provided a presentation regarding the special event permitting process.

Chair Good asked about the security involved in a special event and if a private entity can manage security for an event or do particular agencies need to be used. Melissa responded in detail, that it is dependent on the nature of the event, the history of the event, where the event is taking place, how many attendees are attending, as well as if alcohol is present.

Commissioner Murphy asked that due to the COVID-19 restrictions, if there's not much in the way of special event permits being issued this summer. She mentioned that she is hearing from constituents that there are large unpermitted gatherings happening at Land Park and Stanford Park, and asked what can community members do to address this issue. Melissa responded that they can call 3-1-1 to report the event and a Park Safety Ranger will be dispatched to the area. Commissioner Murphy also asked if those who are participating in fitness at the park and there are less than 10 people, if they would require a permit and what the criteria is for fitness groups. Melissa responded that if the fitness group is charging a fee, then they would need a permit.

Commissioner Flores requested to go over the event review board process. He asked if it is a YPCE requirement for the Police Department to be at the event if alcohol is served and what is the flexibility of not partnering with City agencies that are also on the review board.

Sheryl Patterson, Senior Deputy City Attorney, clarified that special event permits are approved by the City Manager and YPCE coordinates the special event permits. The event review board is put together by the City Manager to include departments that are impacted by the event based on their corresponding jurisdictions. Concerns can be brought forward to the event review board, but YPCE does not make the decisions on whether there is a police officer at an event. Concerns can be brought forward to the City Manager.

Commissioner Guerrero asked what the limit is for unpermitted events before a Park Safety Ranger is sent out. He also mentioned that he does not want resources wasted and have Park Safety Rangers are sent out to cite a small group of five people.

Mario Lara, Director, responded to Commissioner Guerrero's question and stated that YPCE has been doing their best to educate the community, issued warnings, posted signage, and have also started to issue citations if it is a violation of the Public Health Order.

Sheryl Patterson, Senior Deputy City Attorney, mentioned that the code states there cannot be more than 50 people in the park for more than 30 minutes without a permit and then there are the health orders that impose restrictions and limitation on commercial uses without a permit.

Commissioner Murphy wanted to clarify that large scale events of more than 50 people at Land Park and weekly soccer games at Stanford Park are not allowed under the current Public Health Order and Mario confirmed that these are a violation of the current Public Health Order.

8. Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment Director Report (Oral): Review Highlights for March through July

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Informational

Contact: Mario Lara, Director, (916) 808-1041, Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Mario Lara, Director, recognized Chair Good for hosting the first virtual PCEC meeting and thanked YPCE staff for working diligently and finding creative ways keep providing services under these difficult circumstances. He also thanked administrative staff who supported tonight's meeting. There have been eight iterations of the Public Health Order and YPCE team has been working hard to stay in compliance with the Public Health Orders while delivering services. YPCE has been trying to find creative ways to address community needs due to COVID-19 in an equitable manner. Majority of YPCE Department is considered essential workers, Park Safety Rangers, Park Maintenance staff, Youth Division, and Community Enrichment Division staff. Approximately, one-third of staff is telecommuting such as the Parks Planning and Development Services Division and administrative staff and even they are coming into the office when needed; for example, the administrative team that are running the meeting tonight that are City Hall. Youth Division Manager is currently, working behind the scenes at City Hall to assist with the meeting, so Mario provided the Youth Division highlights:

- Essential Worker Childcare worker program was established when the Stay-at-Home order was implemented by repurposing staff from the Youth Division and Community Enrichment Division to operate the program. This program ran from March 2020 through July 2020 with approximately 60 participants a day.
- L&L staff were trained through a virtual platform.
- STEAM camps were implemented as the restrictions were eased and two locations are set up at Johnston and Max Bayer where there is the greatest need and perceived as underserved communities. Programs are free in these two locations through scholarships.

- Sacramento Youth Commission had a joint meeting with the City Council.
- Summer at City Hall went virtual and was a successful program.

Jackie Beecham, Community Enrichment Division, provided highlights and mentioned:

- Celebration of Parks and Recreation month in July.
- Aquatics safely opened four pools, which included social distancing, in July and will stay open through Labor Day weekend.
- Pool maintenance was also addressed due to the pandemic and with most pools closed.
- Since April, Community Centers provided drive-thru meal service for youth 18 years old and under and continue the program through the fall.
- Community centers also distributed masks to local businesses and provided a plethora of virtual programming.
- Older Adults have continued to provide services to the older adult community through virtual programming. Staff has also been making wellness calls to ensure older adults have resources and have also participated in the Great Plates program to deliver meals to older adults.
- Access Leisure also providing virtual programming.
- Camp Sacramento prepared to celebrate 100 year anniversary this summer. Regular camp season is postponed, but have been able to operate under the current Public Health Order for daily rentals of cabins, camp ground style.
- Come Out and Play catalog is now virtual, more interactive, and frequent updates.

Raymond Constantino, Park Planning and Development Services Manager, provided an update regarding:

- YPCE Park Master Plan outreach strategy and using a virtual platform.
- Number of completed and in progress capital improvement projects.

Tony Ulep, Park Maintenance Manager, provided an update regarding:

- Having some challenges with sports teams while they are conditioning out in the fields.
- Cutting grass every other week and installing signs.
- Playgrounds are not being used due to restrictions.

Shannon, Assistant Director, provided updates on:

- Park Safety Rangers responding as quickly as they can to 3-1-1 calls.
- Park spaces are being used more frequently.

Mario, Director, mentioned that YPCE is doing the best they can under these difficult circumstances and welcome any feedback the Commissioners have.

Member Comments-Ideas, Questions and Meeting/Conference Reports

Vice Chair Lavelle would like to bring up concerns regarding ongoing closures of the playgrounds. He would also like to gauge the interest among the Commission to put together a volunteer opportunity and will send an email to the Commission.

Item #1

Commissioner Guerrero thanked the staff and leadership of YPCE for keeping things open. There have been issues at McKinley Park and a fire at Ninos Parkway. He inquired if YPCE has a fire mitigation program or policy or is this part of the Fire Department. He also thanked Daniella Martinez, Parks Supervisor, for her work in District 3.

Sheryl, Patterson Senior Deputy City Attorney, responded that there is active Code Enforcement program that informs vacant lot owners in February that they must cut their weeds by April and if necessary, the City will hire a contractor to cut the weeds and bill the owners. Code Enforcement also notifies the City of City property that needs to be cut as well.

Mario, Director, added that there is a YPCE weed abatement program as well.

Commissioner Flores thanked YPCE staff for when COVID-19 started and the Department became essential workers and responded such as establishing the Essential Worker Childcare program. He appreciated the social media presence of YPCE through COVID-19.

Chair Good thanked YPCE staff and expressed her appreciation.

Commissioner Mehta thanked Chair Good, Mario, Shannon, and Maggie for providing the Volunteer Recognition Award certificates to the senior high school students.

Adjournment

Chair Good adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Maggie Le (Sep 4, 2020 07:30 PDT)

Maggie Le, Support Services Manager
Department of Youth, Parks, & Community Enrichment

Approved by:



Rita Good, Chair
Parks and Community Enrichment Commission