

MINUTES

April 3, 2008

All items listed are heard and acted upon by the Parks and Recreation Commission unless otherwise noted.

Call to Order – 7:06 p.m.

Roll Call – A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chair Cooke at 7:06 p.m. on Thursday, April 3, 2008 at the Sacramento City Hall Council Chamber. All members present except Commissioners Lynn, Tamayo, Price and Guadiana.

Public Comments- Matters Not on the Agenda

1. Ms. L. R. Roberts spoke to a lack of janitorial and supervisory services at Oak Park Community Center, and to safety and sanitation concerns related to a bread giveaway effort that occurs in the Center's parking lot.

Public Hearings

2. **Appeal of a Decision of the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation to Deny a Heritage Tree Removal Request**

Location: (5521 Monalee Avenue)

Recommendation: Staff recommends the Parks and Recreation Commission hear this item de-novo.

Contact: Joe Benassini, Urban Forest Manager, 808-6258

Mr. Benassini gave an overview of the item, followed by Mr. Tom Quinn, property owner and appellant. Mr. Quinn expressed concern about tree failure, personal safety and liability. Mr. Quinn circulated photos of the front yard area around the tree after storms in 2004 and 2008, a form many neighbors signed in support of tree removal, and various notes and quotes from private tree service companies. Mr. Doug Petersen, owner of Doug Petersen Tree Service, reviewed deficiencies and challenges in pruning the tree. Neighbors spoke either for or against removal of the tree.

Mr. Quinn confirmed he bought the residential property in 2001, and had not pruned the tree since then, and instead has sought permission to remove the tree. Commissioners inquired about the process to grant a pruning permit, and any City requirements to replace current or future

sidewalks, driveways or walkways that may be cracked and displaced by tree roots.

Action: Moved, seconded and carried to deny the applicant a permit to remove the Heritage Tulip tree. (Williams/Raya; Ayes: Raya, Cooke, Williams, DeBlonk; Nays: Deglow, Lujan, Pomer; Absent: Lynn, Tamayo Price, Guadiana)

Action: Moved, seconded and carried property owner did not establish any of the conditions that would require issuance of a permit to remove the Tree pursuant to Sacramento City Code section 12.64.050, subdivision (C)(1). (Williams/Raya; Ayes: Raya, Cooke, Williams, Deglow, Lujan, Pomer, DeBlonk; Absent: Lynn, Tamayo, Price, Guadiana)

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.

3. Approval of Minutes for March 6, 2008

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Approve commission minutes for March 6, 2008

Contact: Lori Harder, Support Services Manager, 808-5172

Action: Moved, seconded and carried to approve the minutes without correction. (Raya/DeBlonk; Ayes: Raya, Cooke, Williams, Deglow, Lujan, Pomer, DeBlonk; Absent: Lynn, Tamayo, Price, Guadiana)

4. Proposal for Metro PCS Cellular Tower at McClatchy Park

Location: 3500 5th Avenue

Recommendation: Support staff recommendation

Contact: J.P. Tindell, Park Planning and Development Services Manager, 808-1955

Action: Moved, seconded and carried to support the placement of a wireless facility and secured equipment box at McClatchy Park. (Raya/DeBlonk; Ayes: Raya, Cooke, Williams, Deglow, Lujan, Pomer, DeBlonk; Absent: Lynn, Tamayo, Price, Guadiana)

5. McKinley Park Irrigation Infrastructure Improvement Project Application for the 2008 Proposition 50 Urban Water Use Efficiency Program

Location: Alhambra Boulevard and H Street

Recommendation: Support staff recommendation

Contact: Lori Harder, Support Services Manager, 808-5172

Action: Moved, seconded and carried to support the submission of a proposal for the 2008 round of the Proposition 50 Water Use Efficiency Program for irrigation infrastructure improvements at McKinley Park. (Raya/DeBlonk; Ayes: Raya, Cooke, Williams, Deglow, Lujan, Pomer, DeBlonk; Absent: Lynn, Tamayo, Price, Guadiana)

6. Request by Clearwire to Place a Wireless Facility in Ninos Parkway

Location: Ninos Parkway at West El Camino Avenue and Fairweather Drive

Recommendation: Support staff recommendation

Contact: J.P. Tindell, Park Planning and Development Services Manager, 808-1955

Action: Moved, seconded and carried to support placement of a wireless facility on an existing SMUD tower and secured equipment box within the tower's footprint. (Raya/DeBlonk; Ayes: Raya, Cooke, Williams, Deglow, Lujan, Pomer, DeBlonk; Absent: Lynn, Tamayo, Price, Guadiana)

Discussion/Action Reports

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

7. William Land Park Parking Restrictions Report Back

Location: Sutterville Road and Freeport Boulevard

Recommendation: Review, comment and support proposed parking time limit restriction changes in William Land Park.

Contact: Howard Chan, Parking Manager, 808-7488

Howard Chan, City Parking Manager, reviewed the item. Commissioner Pomer expressed appreciation for the City's efforts on this issue. Chair Cooke questioned parking enforcement efforts.

Action: Moved, seconded and carried to support proposed parking time limit restriction changes in William Land Park as outlined in Attachment A of the staff report. (Pomer/Cooke; Ayes: Raya, Cooke, Williams, Deglow, Lujan, Pomer, DeBlonk; Absent: Lynn, Tamayo, Price, Guadiana)

8. 2030 General Plan's Draft Implementation Programs and Indicators

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Review, comment and support draft implementation programs and indicators.

Contact: J.P. Tindell, Park Planning and Development Services Manager, 808-1955

Teresa Haenggi, City Planner, reviewed the item and next steps. Commissioner Pomer volunteered to give input on indicators related to public health. Commissioner Deglow recommended amending the progress tracking diagram to indicate if the City is “on or off track”. Chair Cooke and Commissioner DeBlonk recommended including indicator(s) for the City’s regional park system, given the intense need, public use, and lack of funding sources to further develop a regional park system. Ms. Haenggi reviewed past Commission’s comments and topics of interest and how they have been incorporated and forwarded in the process.

Action: Moved, seconded and carried to support the 2030 General Plan’s Draft Implementation Programs as outlined in attachments to the staff report, and to add indicators related to the City’s regional park system. (Pomer/Cooke; Ayes: Raya, Cooke, Williams, Deglow, Lujan, Pomer, DeBlonk; Absent: Lynn, Tamayo, Price, Guadiana)

9. **Proposed Parks and Recreation Fee Increases**

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Review, comment and support proposed new and increased fees.

Contact: Alan Tomiyama, Recreation Manager, 808-8358

Alan Tomiyama, Recreation Manager and Jonathan Rewers, Recreation Analyst, reviewed the item. Commissioners inquired about the availability of discounted season passes and any market studies and/or customer feedback received to determine affordability among low income families. Commissioner comments included support for a nominal user fee that would acknowledge rising cost of maintenance in the face of budget reductions, to implement a non-resident fee, that the proposed fee for regional park group picnic areas is too low given the amount of trash generated and overall impact to the facilities, that the proposed fee structure is regressive to youth and to instead implement a permit processing fee, and concerns that if City’s General Funds were restored in future, fees would not drop in response.

Mr. Jordan Lang with Sacramento United Youth Soccer recommended the fee structure should reflect service needs, and that fees for youth use of athletic fields is unfair in light of free, passive park uses, and that “overbooking” penalties for sports groups that reserve fields and do not use them are not enforced by City staff.

Action: Moved, seconded and carried to support new and increased fees as outlined in Exhibit A of the staff report. (Pomer/Deglow; Ayes: Raya, Williams, Deglow, Lujan, Pomer; Nays: Cooke, DeBlonk; Absent: Lynn, Tamayo, Price, Guadiana)

Action: Moved, seconded and carried to support staff fee recommendations outlined in Exhibit A of the staff report with the following considerations: to implement a non- residential fee, to place a five year sunset on proposed fees, to examine a decrease or elimination of the proposed youth athletic fees, and to offset this revenue through a further increase in adult athletic and picnic area use fees. (Pomer/Lujan; Ayes: Raya, Cooke, Williams, Deglow, Lujan, Pomer, DeBlonk; Absent: Lynn, Tamayo, Price, Guadiana)

- 10. Parks and Recreation Director Report (Oral): A. March 2008 Department Highlights; B. April 2008 Department Highlights**
Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Review and comment

Contact: Jim Combs, Parks and Recreation Director, 808-8526

Director Combs updated the Commission on Spring events, awards, groundbreaking and park openings.

Action: Received.

Questions, Ideas, and Announcements of Commission Members

- 11.** Commissioner Raya requested that, in future, if a City arborist other than the Urban Forest Manager was most familiar with a heritage tree issue that requires a hearing before the Commission, the arborist attend the hearing and be prepared to respond to questions.

Adjournment – 10:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Lori Harder, Support Services Manager
Department of Parks and Recreation