



**City of Santa Barbara
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Regular Monthly Meeting**

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Wiscomb

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners & Staff Present

Commissioner Lesley Wiscomb
Commissioner Chris Casebeer
Commissioner W. Scott Burns
Commissioner Nicolas Ferrara
Commissioner Beebe Longstreet
Commission Intern Michael Yi
Parks & Recreation Director Nancy Rapp
Urban Forest Superintendent Timothy Downey
Executive Assistant Karla Megill
Parks Manager Santos Escobar, Jr.
Recreation Specialist Anita Ho
Parks Project Technician Keven Strasburg
Airport Maintenance Superintendent Jeffrey McKee

Commissioners & Staff Absent

Commissioner Rocky Jacobson
Commissioner Charlie Trentacosti

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

Ms. Rapp suggested that the Commission address item 9, Integrated Pest Management 2011 Annual Report, after Item 6, Golf Advisory Committee Interviews and Appointments. The Commission concurred.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No one wished to speak.

COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOGNITION

1. Recognition of Eloise Dilling of the Adelle Davis Foundation for her annual support of the Healthy Options for Youth Teen Culinary Arts Program - For Action

Recommendation: That the Commission recognize Eloise Dilling of the Adelle Davis Foundation for her annual support for the Healthy Options for Youth Teen Culinary Arts Program.

Document:

- Staff Report

Speakers:

- Staff: Nancy Rapp, Director; Anita Ho, Recreation Coordinator

- Members of the Public: Eloise Dilling

2. Recognition of Patricia Bragg of Bragg Health Institute for her annual support of the Healthy Options for Youth Teen Culinary Arts Program - For Action

Recommendation: That the Commission recognize Patricia Bragg of the Bragg Health Institute for her long time support of the Parks and Recreation Programs and especially for the Healthy Options for Youth Teen Culinary Arts Program.

Document:

- Staff Report

Speakers:

- Staff: Anita Ho, Recreation Coordinator

- Members of the Public: Ms. Patricia Bragg

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT: Youth Intern Michael Yi provided this report.

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS:

Commissioner Ferrara reported on the activities of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Advisory Committee. He mentioned that there is a community at-large vacancy on the IPM Advisory Committee and encouraged interested members of the public to apply.

Commissioner Longstreet reported on the activities of the Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) and the Parks and Recreation Community (PARC) Foundation.

Commissioner Casebeer reported on the activities of the Creeks Advisory Committee and said he has attended the PARC Foundation Fundraising Committee meetings.

Commissioner Burns also reported on the activities of the PARC Foundation.

Commissioner Burns announced his intention to resign from the Commission in May or June due to health related issues.

Chair Wiscomb reported on the activities of the Street Tree Advisory Committee. Ms. Wiscomb said she attended the Youth Impact Awards in February and congratulated Michael Yi who was one of the distinguished honorees at the event. She further congratulated the Santa Barbara Youth Council who won one of three 2011 Youth Impact Awards.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Ms. Rapp expressed appreciation for all the work Commissioner Burns has done during his tenure on the Parks and Recreation Commission. She talked about the vacancy and encouraged interested members of the public to apply or to contact her or other staff if they have questions about the position.

Ms. Rapp briefed that Chair Wiscomb and the Department have been participating in a broad community effort to celebrate National Public Gardens Day which is Friday, May 11, 2012. Ms. Rapp highlighted the efforts and the events that have been planned.

Ms. Rapp acknowledged Mark Rauch's retirement, which is effective April 2, 2012.

Keven Strasburg, Parks Project Technician, provided an overview of the Stevens Park Bridge Re-installation project.

CONSENT CALENDAR

3. **Summary of Council Actions - For Information**
4. **Approval of Minutes - For Action**

Recommendation: That the Commission:

- A. Waive the reading and approved the minutes of the special meeting (site visit) of February 22, 2012, and
- B. Waive the reading and approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 22, 2012.

Commissioner Beebe Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Nicolas Ferrara, and passed 5/0 to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the special meeting (site visit) of February 22, 2012; and the regular meeting of February 22, 2012.

STREET TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ITEMS

5. Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations - For Action

Document:

- Staff Report
- Staff PowerPoint

Speakers:

- Staff: Tim Downey, Urban Forest Superintendent

A. Approve the following Front Yard Setback Tree removal request.

1. 26 W. Padre St. - Tipuana tipu, Tipu - Anne B. Braddock

Commissioner Nicolas Ferrara moved, seconded by Commissioner Chris Casebeer, and passed 5/0 to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to approve the removal of the Tipuana tipu at 26 W. Padre Street.

B. Conditionally approve the following Front Yard Setback Tree removal request.

1. 1722 Mountain Ave. – Liquidambar styraciflua, American Sweetgum – Peter Brewer

Commissioner Beebe Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Chris Casebeer, and passed 5/0 to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation regarding the Liquidambar styraciflua, American Sweetgum at 1722 Mountain Avenue.

OLD BUSINESS

6. Golf Advisory Committee Interviews and Appointments - For Action Continued from February 22, 2012 Meeting

Recommendation: That the Commission conduct interviews and make two appointments to the Golf Advisory Committee.

Document:

- Staff Report

Speakers:

- Staff: Nancy L. Rapp, Director
- Members of the Public: Gretchen Ostergren; Bob Swider

The Commission interviewed Gretchen Ostergren and Bob Swider for appointment to the Golf Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Beebe Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Chris Casebeer, and passed 5/0 to appoint Gretchen Ostergren to the Golf Advisory Committee, representing the Executive Women's Golf Association, for a term ending December 31, 2013.

Commissioner Chris Casebeer moved, seconded by Commissioner Nicolas Ferrara, and passed 5/0 to appoint Bob Swider to the Golf Advisory Committee, representing the Community At Large, for a term ending December 12, 2013.

7. 2008 City Infrastructure Financing Taskforce Report - For Action

Recommendation: That the Commission review the 2008 City Infrastructure Financing Taskforce Report and Recommendations in the context of Parks and Recreation aging infrastructure, parks and facility needs; and, as appropriate, forward comments or recommendations to City Council for consideration.

Document:

- Staff Report
- Staff PowerPoint

Speakers:

- Staff: Nancy L. Rapp, Director

Commissioner Comments/Recommendations:

Commissioner Burns suggested that a presentation comparable to what the Commission has been given be provided to City Council. He said this is necessary because there is a relatively new City Council that needs to understand what the Task Force did, the decisions they came up with, and also, the recommendations that have taken place so they can use the information wisely. He recommended that the Commission accept the report and that as much of it as possible be expressed to City Council. Commissioner Burns stated with the recognition that the City might now be in a position to do some things that need to be done, City Council needs to look at the report closely before spending money on other items.

Commissioner Longstreet commented that the City is at a crossroads; there have been major changes since the Task Force report came out, with the demise of the Redevelopment Agency and some of the more traditional funding methods. She said it is appropriate timing for it to go back to City Council to look at the recommendations and look into the future and figure out how to save money to fund them. Ms. Longstreet commented that now, four years later, the City is a leaner machine; the City is cognizant of revenues, and needs to look at

maintaining facilities that bring in revenue that allows it to do the other things. She stressed the importance of moving forward in a constructive way with a new paradigm for how the facilities are maintained.

Commissioner Ferrara commented that the report is a good report and should be forwarded to City Council; however, he said he wonders if the information is still current, since it was completed in 2008; much of the information may have changed since that time. He asked whether it would be wise to revisit it and factor in changes that have taken place to fine-tune it and bring it up-to-date and then, present it to City Council and recommend it at that time.

Commissioner Burns stated that the report does take into consideration the sunset of the Redevelopment Agency. He further said that he does not think a new report needs to be done. Commissioner Burns said the recommendations are still relevant; there is less staff, maybe fewer buildings are needed. Council should be able to work through it. Commissioner Burns commented that the Infrastructure Task Force identified what they think needed to be done, staff needs to determine how to do it; he said it is still at that level.

Chair Wiscomb suggested the Commission accept the report as is, recognizing that there have been changes. She said the Golf Course, for instance, is listed as a low level of concern in the report, while now, her preliminary conclusion is that it is a high level concern. Ms. Wiscomb commented that Mr. Burns point is well taken, that the Commission accept the report as is, with the additional presentation that Ms. Rapp made to show the progress and, the additional comments that now is the time to make commitment to rebuilding. She said it is clear there are members of City Council that are very concerned about deferred maintenance. Ms. Wiscomb said there are things in the report that even though it has grown allot since 2008 deal with it, for example, implementing the management implementation report to enable Council to track and review progress on reducing deferred maintenance backlog. She said those things are still here and are still current.

Chair Wiscomb stated that the Commission should recommend that Council revisit report and with addition of the progress that has been made in certain areas and some obvious changes, for example the Golf Course, and make a commitment to rebuild and recognize that there are significant infrastructure needs, and those needs, need to be addressed.

Commissioner Longstreet concurred with Chair Wiscomb saying it voices the Commission's concern that as the City is coming out of the recession, the Commission is concerned about how to maintain City facilities for future generations, and that what has been learned over the last few years should be taken and applied.

Commissioner Casebeer said the report mentioned assessing the potential for adding a point five percent local sales tax, and in present day time, the City will be given the opportunity to consider the tax. He said the Mayor is proposing, "Invest in Santa Barbara". He asked how the funds would be allocated for programs or for infrastructure improvements.

Commissioner Longstreet said that she attended the meeting, and she does not believe that has been determined, She said that is why it is crucial that the report be revisited so that when competing interests start, that they refer to the report, which was prepared by experts. Ms. Longstreet commented that sometimes these reports are simply put on the shelves, but they are valuable. She reiterated that she does not believe a determination has been made regarding how the sales tax will be allocated.

Commissioner W. Scott Burns moved, seconded by Commissioner Chris Casebeer, and passed 5/0 to accept the report and recommend a presentation with the additional comments go forward to City Council, and, stress that it is time to make a commitment to rebuilding and, that the Commission recognizes that there are significant infrastructure needs.

NEW BUSINESS

8. Parks and Recreation Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Preview - For Discussion

Recommendation: That the Commission receives preliminary information related to the Parks and Recreation Department's Fiscal Year 2013 budget.

Document:

- Staff Report

Speakers:

- Staff: Nancy L. Rapp, Director

Ms. Rapp provided an overview of the Parks and Recreation Fiscal Year 2013 Budget.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

9. Integrated Pest Management 2011 Annual Report - For Action

Recommendation: That the Commission accept the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) 2011 Annual Report and recommend that the report be forwarded to City Council.

Document:

- Staff Report

- Staff PowerPoint

Speakers:

- Staff: Santos Escobar, Parks Manager; Mark Reed, Golf Course Manager

Commissioner Nicolas Ferrara moved, seconded by Commissioner Beebe Longstreet, and passed 5/0 to accept the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) 2011 Annual Report and forward it to City Council.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:21 p.m., with no further business to be addressed by the Commission,

Commissioner W. Scott Burns moved, seconded by Commissioner Beebe Longstreet, and passed 5/0 to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Rapp
Parks and Recreation Director