



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

Wednesday, August 27, 2014

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. at City Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Wiscomb

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners & Staff Present

Commissioner Lesley Wiscomb (Chair)
Commissioner Beebe Longstreet
Commissioner Carolyn Brown
Commissioner Nichol Clark
Commissioner Jim Heaton
Commissioner Olivia Uribe (4:05 p.m.)
Youth Intern Andrew Rodriguez
Parks and Recreation Director Nancy L. Rapp
Parks Manager Santos Escobar
Urban Forest Superintendent Timothy Downey
Recreation Programs Manager Sarah Hanna
Administrative Assistant Terri Yamada
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
Sr. Recreation Supervisor Rich Hanna
Front Country Trails Coordinator Chris Orr
Administrative Analyst Amanda Burgess

Commissioners Absent

Commissioner Chris Casebeer

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

Ms. Rapp suggested the Commission take item 6 as the first Action Item, and move Item 7 to the end of the Agenda.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

Commission received written communications from Mr. Gene Tyburn.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT:

Youth Intern Rodriguez provided this report.

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS:

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

Chair Wiscomb reported on the activities of the Street Tree Advisory Committee, Golf Advisory Committee, and the Parks and Recreation Community (PARC) Foundation.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

The Commission congratulated and expressed appreciation to Recreation Programs Manager Sarah Hanna on her retirement.

Ms. Rapp congratulated Recreation Programs Manager Sarah Hanna on her retirement which is effective September 5, 2014, after 34 years of service with the Parks and Recreation Department. Ms. Rapp highlighted Ms. Hanna’s history and acknowledged her significant contributions to the Department, the City organization, and the community.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Summary of Council Actions – For Information

Ms Rapp noted that the first three items listed were agreements with the Santa Barbara Unified School District for Recreation Programs, Joint Use, Maintenance and Development and Park Ranger Patrol Services.

2. Approval of Minutes – For Action

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 23, 2014.

Commissioner Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Uribe, and passed 5/0/1 (Wiscomb abstain) to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 23, 2014.

Absent: Casebeer

STREET TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ITEMS

Any action of the Parks and Recreation Commission made pursuant to Municipal Code Chapter 15.24, Preservation of Trees, may be appealed to the City Council within ten days.

3. Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendation – For Action

Documents:

- Staff Report dated August 27, 2014
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by Staff

Speakers:

- Staff: Urban Forest Superintendent Tim Downey
- Members of the Public:
 - Michael Selman, 1716 & 1720 Calle Poniente
 - Marilynn Thomasson, 730 Flora Vista
 - David Black, 3779 Lincolnwood Dr.

Desmond O'Neill, Street Tree Advisory Committee Member
Christine Nolte, 3753 Lincoln Road

Recommendation: That the Commission:

- A. Approve the following Street Tree removal request:
1. 1716 and 1720 Calle Poniente – *Ficus Nitida*, Indian Laurel Fig – Michael Selman

Commissioner Heaton moved, seconded by Commissioner Longstreet, and passed (6/0) to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee and staff recommendation to approve the removal of the Ficus Nitida, Indian Laurel Fig, at 1716 and 1720 Calle Poniente.

Absent: Casebeer

- B. Deny the following Street Tree removal request:
1. 730 Flora Vista Dr. – *Schinus terebinthifolius*, Brazilian Pepper – Rusty and Marilynn Thomasson

Commissioner Longstreet moved, seconded by Chair Wiscomb, and passed (6/0) to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee and staff recommendation to deny the removal of the Schinus terebinthifolius, Brazilian Pepper, at 730 Flora Vista Dr.

Absent: Casebeer

- C. Approve the following Setback Tree removal request:
1. 125 E. Pedregosa St. – *Acacia melanoxylon*, Black Acacia – Erin Carroll

Commissioner Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Uribe, and passed (6/0) to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee and staff recommendation to approve the the removal of the Acacia melanoxylon, Black Acacia at 125 E. Pedrogosa St.

Absent: Casebeer

- D. Deny the following Setback Tree removal request:
1. 1900 E. Las Tunas Rd. – *Platanus racemosa*, California Sycamore – Brandon Arlington

Commissioner Heaton moved, seconded by Commissioner Longstreet, and passed (6/0) to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee and staff recommendation to deny the removal of the Platanus racemosa, California Sycamore at 1900 E. Las Tunas Rd.

Absent: Casebeer

- E. Conditionally approve the following Setback Tree removal request:
1. 3779 Lincolnwood Dr. – (1) *Jacaranda mimosifolia*, Jacaranda, (1) *Ficus carica*, Edible Fig and (1) *Washingtonia robusta*, Mexican Fan Palm – David R. Black

Chair Wiscomb moved, seconded by Commissioner Longstreet, and passed (6/0) to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee and staff recommendation to approve the removal of the Jacaranda mimosifolia, Jacaranda, Ficus carica, Edible Fig and Washingtonia robusta, Mexican Fan Palm on the condition the applicant replace with (2) 24" box Jacaranda trees as proposed.

Absent: Casebeer

- F. Partially approve or deny the following Setback Tree removal request:
1. 3753 Lincoln Rd. – (2) *Liquidambar styraciflua*, American Sweetgum – Christine P. Nolte

Commissioner Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Uribe, and passed (6/0) to concur with staff recommendation to approve removal of the tree at the location of the proposed driveway and deny the removal of the other tree on the condition that proposed plans are approved by the Single Family Design Review Board.

Absent: Casebeer

OLD BUSINESS

4. Public Hearing - Parks and Recreation Commission Findings Regarding the Bath and Ortega Pocket Park – For Action

Documents:

- Staff Report dated August 27, 2014
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by Staff

Speakers:

- Staff: Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
- Members of the Public
 - Tina Villadolid, Teaching Artist, Santa Barbara Museum of Art
 - Mr. and Mrs. Richard Vaughn

Recommendation: That the Commission:

- A. Recommend to City Council that the Bath St Pocket Park be designated a neighborhood park as defined in Santa Barbara Municipal Code Section 28.37.030; and
- B. Make the following findings pursuant to SBMC Section 28.37.025 to approve the development of the Bath St Pocket Park:
 - i. That the proposed park improvements are appropriate or necessary for the benefit of the community and visitors;
 - ii. That the proposed park facilities including lighting, play areas, and associated landscaping, will be compatible with the character of the neighborhood;
 - iii. That the total area of the site and the setbacks of all facilities from the property lines and street are sufficient, in view of the physical character of the land, proposed development and neighborhood, to avoid significant negative effects on surrounding properties;

- iv. That the intensity of park use is appropriate and compatible with the character of the neighborhood;
- v. That the proposed park is compatible with the scenic character of the City;
- vi. That the proposed structures are compatible with the neighborhood in terms of size, bulk and scale or location.

Commission Comments

Commissioner Longstreet inquired whether the fruit on the Cherry tree would be edible. Mr. Escobar responded yes.

Commissioner Heaton asked about lighting in the park and whether there might be dark areas in the back of the park. Ms. Zachary responded that the site is small and lit by both park and street lights. She does not anticipate any dark pockets in the park, however if issues arise, staff will address them. Commissioner Heaton asked about any gaps in the fencing. Ms. Zachary responded that there are standards to meet code and plans would only be approved as long as there are no hazards for children. Mr. Heaton inquired about the name of the park. Ms. Zachary responded that because there is already an “Ortega” Park, this park has been referred to as the “Bath St. Pocket Park”, “Bath and Ortega Park” or “Pocket Park”. In the future, if the Commission wishes to come up with another name, that could be discussed. Mr. Heaton asked about any education elements in the park. Ms. Zachary replied that at this point there is an interpretive sign about Mission Creek adjacent to the park. Staff is looking at enhancing this sign location.

Commissioner Uribe thanked staff and said she felt the plan very well addressed comments by neighbors and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Clark inquired if the tree planting might be delayed until after the drought. Ms. Zachary responded that staff is sensitive to the situation and will be presenting the proposed landscape plan with the four new trees to the Architectural Board of Review (ABR) for final approval. If the ABR approves the plans, then the Department will be required to plant the trees or state when they will be planted.

Commissioner Wiscomb asked if the curb cuts would be eliminated. Ms. Zachary responded yes. Commissioner asked about the interface between the fibar and the rubberized surfacing. Ms. Zachary responded that the design of the rubber surfacing would be curved down and the fibar will come up to meet it. Design will achieve storm water objectives and provide access and safety for the playground. Commissioner Wiscomb added that landscaping for this park is important, especially for the neighbors, and felt that the trees would need to be planted in order to be established to bring shade to the park.

Commissioner Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Brown, and passed (6/0) to recommend to City Council that the Bath St. Pocket Park be designated a neighborhood park as defined in Santa Barbara Municipal Code Section 28.37.030; and make findings i. through vi. pursuant to SBMC Section 28.37.025 to approve the development of the Bath St. Pocket Park.

Absent: Casebeer

5. Historic and Specimen Tree Drought Action Plan – For Information

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a report on the Parks and Recreation Department Historic and Specimen Tree Drought Action Plan and progress on implementation of other urban forest drought response efforts.

Documents:

- Staff Report dated August 27, 2014
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by Staff

Speakers:

- Staff: Administrative Analyst Amanda Burgess

Commission Comments

Commissioner Clark commented that she loves the idea of asking the community to help us help them and inquired if anyone had stepped forward . Mr. Downey replied that he had been contacted by one individual directly.

Commissioner Wiscomb commented that she hopes priority will be given to projects such as the permeable pavement at De la Guerra Plaza. Commissioner Wiscomb inquired about the success of the City of Los Angeles pilot project use of plastic traffic barriers to deliver water to trees. Mr. Downey responded that the the City of Los Angeles was still in the process of installing the barriers and have not assessed the effectiveness, however any slow drip system, if placed correctly, would have to be an improvement to the water they were already getting.

NEW BUSINESS

6. Annual Election of Chair and Vice-Chair – For Action (Attachment)

Recommendation: That the Commission elect a Chair and Vice Chair to serve as presiding officer for the period of August 1, 2014, through July 30, 2015.

Documents:

- Staff Report dated August 27, 2014

Speakers:

- Staff: Parks and Recreation Director Nancy Rapp

Commissioner Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Brown, and passed (6/0) to elect Commissioner Wiscomb to serve as Chair for the period of August 1, 2014, through July 30, 2015.

Absent: Casebeer

Commissioner Wiscomb moved, seconded by Commissioner Clark, and passed (6/0) to elect Commissioner Longstreet to serve as Vice-Chair for the period of August 1, 2014, through July 30, 2015.

Absent: Casebeer

7. Advisory Committee Liaison Appointments – For Action (Attachment)

Recommendation: That the Commission review and consider advisory committee liaison appointments.

Documents:

- Staff Report dated August 27, 2014

Speakers:

- Staff: Parks and Recreation Director Nancy Rapp

The Commission reviewed advisory committee liaison appointments. Following is an updated list. Changes are reflected in italics.

Advisory Committee	Liaison
Arts and Crafts Show	Chris Casebeer
Creeks Restoration & Water Quality Improvement Program Citizen	Jim Heaton
<i>Front Country Trails Task Group</i>	Beebe Longstreet/ <i>Nichol Clark</i>
<i>Golf Course</i>	<i>Carolyn Brown</i>
<i>Integrated Pest Management</i>	<i>Nichol Clark</i>
Neighborhood Advisory Council	Olivia Uribe & Beebe Longstreet
Park & Recreation Community (PARC) Foundation	Beebe Longstreet/Lesley Wiscomb
Street Tree	Lesley Wiscomb
Youth Council	Chris Casebeer

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

8. Restoration of Saturday Youth Skate Hours at Skaters Point – For Information

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a report on the restoration of Saturday youth skate hours at Skaters Point for youth, 12 years of age and under and a change to the posted youth skate hours from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. to 9 – 11 a.m.

Documents:

- Staff Report dated August 27, 2014

Speakers

- Staff: Parks and Recreation Director Nancy Rapp
Senior Recreation Supervisor Rich Hanna

The Commission received the report.

9. Cabrillo Pavilion Bathhouse Status Report – For Information (Attachment)

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a brief status report on the Cabrillo Pavilion and Bathhouse Renovation Project.

Documents:

- Staff Report dated August 27, 2014
- Staff: Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary

The Commission received the report.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:23 p.m., with no further business to be addressed by the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Rapp
Parks & Recreation Director