



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

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. at City Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Wiscomb

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners & Staff Present

Commissioner Lesley Wiscomb (Chair)
Commissioner Chris Casebeer
Commissioner Nichol Clark
Commissioner Jim Heaton
Commissioner Beebe Longstreet
City Administrator Paul Casey
Assistant City Administrator Bob Samario
Parks and Recreation Director Nancy Rapp
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
Parks Manager, Santos Escobar
Urban Forest Superintendent Timothy Downey
Executive Assistant Karla Megill
Recreation Manager Judith McCaffrey
Recreation Supervisor Jason Bryan
Business Analyst Mark Sewell
Golf Superintendent Simon Herrera
Administrative Analyst Mandy Burgess

Commissioners Absent

Youth Intern Andrew Rodriguez

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

Ms. Rapp requested that item 8, Advisory Committee Interviews and Appointments, be addressed prior to item 4, Setback Tree Removal Recommendations, because the applicants were present.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one wished to speak.

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT:

None

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS:

Commissioner Longstreet reported on the activities of the Neighborhood Advisory Council. She further reported that she attended the 90 Plus Birthday Party, which was an extraordinary event.

Commissioner Clark reported that she attended the 90 Plus Birthday Party and the Local Coastal Program Update meeting.

Commissioner Casebeer reported that he attended the Mayor's Campaign Against Bullying event, on October 30th; there were 70 essays written by high, junior high, and elementary school-aged children. He said it was an remarkable event.

Chair Wiscomb reported that she attended the 90 Plus Birthday Party; it was an excellent event. She reported on the activities of the Parks and Recreation Community (PARC) Foundation and said she attended the Local Coastal Program Update meeting.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Ms. Rapp announced that Cathy Carpenter, Tennis Services Coordinator, will be retiring in December 2014.

Commissioner Longstreet briefed that she has been reading, and acknowledged some nice comments about the Department on FaceBook.

COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOGNITION

1. Review of the 25th Annual 90 Plus Birthday Party and Recognition of Event Sponsors – For Action

Documents:

- Staff Report dated November 19, 2014

Speakers:

- Staff: Judith McCaffrey, Recreation Manager

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a presentation on the 25th Annual 90 Plus Party held on October 23, 2014.

The Commission unanimously received the report and acknowledged the support of the 90 Plus Birthday Party Event Sponsors.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

2. Summary of Council Actions – For Information
3. Approval of Minutes – For Action

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 22, 2014.

Commissioner Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Heaton, and passed 4/0/1 to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 22, 2014.

Abstained: 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.

4. Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendation – For Action

Documents:

- Staff Report dated November 19, 2014
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by Staff

Speakers:

- Staff: Urban Forest Superintendent Tim Downey

Recommendation: That the Commission:

A. Conditionally approve the following Setback Tree removal request:

1. 1260 Dover Lane – (2) *Yucca elephantipes*, Giant Yucca, (1) *Araucaria columnaris*, Cook Pine – Charles McClure, Landscape Architect, on behalf of the owners

Commissioner Casebeer moved, seconded by Commissioner Longstreet, and passed 5/0 to concur with the staff recommendation to conditionally approve the request to remove 3 trees at 1260 Dover Lane and to include the replacements as proposed.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

5. Street Tree Infrastructure Conditions Project – For Information

Documents:

- Staff Report dated November 19, 2014
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by Staff

Speakers:

- Staff: Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary; Administrative Analyst Mandy Burgess; Tim Downey, Urban Forest Superintendent

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a report on the Street Tree Infrastructure Conditions Project.

The Commission unanimously received the report and their questions were answered.

6. Cabrillo Pavilion and Bathhouse Renovation Status Report – For Information

Documents:

- Staff Report dated November 19, 2014
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by Staff

Speakers:

- Staff: Assistant Parks & Recreation Director Jill Zachary

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

The Commission unanimously received the report and their questions were answered.

7. Status Report on the Municipal Golf Course – For Information (Attachment)

Documents:

- Staff Report dated November 19, 2014
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by Staff

Speakers:

- Staff: Nancy L. Rapp, Parks & Recreation Director; Mark Sewell, Business Analyst

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a report from staff on the status of the municipal golf course, including trends, financial projections, and options the City might consider to improve the financial outlook for the continued operation of the course.

The Commission unanimously received the report and their questions were answered.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Longstreet commented that the City's first responsibility is to keep the resource available to the public, regardless of the model, and that means keeping it financially alive and sustainable. She said she agrees with what the Finance Committee recommended. Ms. Longstreet expressed concern with any model where the City does not have control over fees. She said regarding the living wage that many of the exempt positions were to maintain the ability to employ summer youth, to staff camp programs—temporary income jobs for young people or senior workers who are not supporting a family. Ms. Longstreet said she hopes that whatever model (contract labor), comes in, that we would comply with the living wage ordinance; because the people who will be filling those positions are people who will be supporting families. She said that these jobs should be experienced people doing important technical maintenance on a golf course, and should not be less than living wage. Ms. Longstreet commented that the golf course is a huge City resource, and not looking ahead could put the City in serious trouble with maintenance and future operations.

Commissioner Clark concurred with Ms. Longstreet saying the golf course is a valuable resource that needs to be kept available to the public and financial solvent. She expressed that it is going to be a highly volatile subject for the public; many people will not want to take money from the General Fund, and many will not want to relinquish control of the golf course operation.

Commissioner Casebeer commented that it is a complex issue. He stressed the importance of the youth golf programs. He said the Russ Morrison Golf Program has been in existence for a long time, and he would like to preserve the ability of the youth to participate at the golf course; they are the future golfers.

Chair Wiscomb concurred with all the comments. She said the golf course is a public asset and needs to remain a public asset. Ms. Wiscomb concurred with Mr. Casebeer saying the golf course has a very impressive youth program; participation has increased by about 50% over the last four years. She said young people will carry the torch for golf in the future, and those programs need to be protected. Ms. Wiscomb expressed that the golf course needs to be self-sustaining and financially viable. She said there are models where City retains control, and there are models where the City gives up some control. Ms. Wiscomb said she thinks the models that will work best for the City is to retain the golf course as public asset, to establish fees and react, and to help youth programs, increase senior programs, and help promote golf with the tourists. She said

these are all things that can be done in a model under which the City retains some control.

Commissioner Longstreet commented that there a lot of rumors out there about the Golf Course. She encouraged everyone to take the time to read the report, learn about the issues the City is facing, and have some civil discussions. The issue needs to be resolved together.

NEW BUSINESS

8. Advisory Committee Interviews and Appointments – For Action

Documents:

- Staff Report dated November 19, 2014

Speakers:

- Staff: Parks & Recreation Director Nancy L. Rapp

Recommendation: That the Commission hold interviews and make appointments to various advisory committees.

The Commission interviewed the following individuals for appointment to the Committess as indicated below. .

Golf Advisory Committee:

John Craig, representing the Los Paisanos

Maureen Masson, representing the Santa Barbara Women's Club

Dominic Namnath, representing the Men's Club

Robert Garcia, representing the Community At-Large

Bryant Henson, representing the Community At-Large

Commissioner Casebeer moved, seconded by Commissioner Longstreet, and passed 5/0 to reappoint Dominic Namnath, representing the Men's Club; John Craig, representing the Los Paisanos; Maureen Mason, representing the Santa Barbara Women's Club; Robert Garcia and Bryant Henson, representing the Community At-Large, to the Golf Advisory Committee for terms ending December 31, 2016.

Street Tree Advisory Committee:

Bob Cunningham, representing the Community At-Large

Appointments to the Street Tree Advisory Committee will be made at the December 17th regular meeting after all applicants have been interviewed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:20 p.m., with no further business to be addressed by the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Rapp
Parks & Recreation Director