



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

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

Wednesday, February 26, 2014

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. at City Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Wiscomb

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners & Staff Present

Commissioner Lesley Wiscomb (Chair)
Commissioner Chris Casebeer (Arrived at 4:29 pm)
Commissioner Jim Heaton
Commissioner Beebe Longstreet
Commissioner Olivia Uribe
Youth Intern Andrew Rodriguez
Parks and Recreation Director Nancy L. Rapp
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
Parks Manager Santos Escobar
Urban Forest Superintendent Timothy Downey
Executive Assistant Karla Megill

Commissioners Absent

Commissioner Nicolas Ferrara

City Councilmembers Present

Councilmember Cathy Murillo

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

Ms. Rapp advised the Commission that Commissioner Casebeer was going to be late to the meeting. She reminded Commissioners that a quorum for holding the meeting is four members regardless of the fact that the Commission has only six members instead of the full membership of seven. She further asked them to keep in mind that when the Commission is voting, the majority quorum is four votes.

Ms. Rapp briefed the Commission that Mr. Guzman requested that Item 4, Samuel Guzman Appeal of Santa Barbara Arts and Craft Show Advisory Committee Decision, be rescheduled as he is not prepared. She said that item will be rescheduled to a later meeting.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Speakers: Judith Smith encouraged the Commission to put a petition that she presented to City Council in December regarding off-leash hours at Skofield Park and Sheffield Park from 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. on their agenda for discussion.

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT:

Youth Intern Andrew Rodriguez provided this report.

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS:

Commissioner Longstreet advised that she attended the Neighborhood Advisory Committee meeting. She also reported on the activities of the Parks and Recreation Community (PARC) Foundation meeting.

Commissioner Uribe reported on the activities of the Neighborhood Advisory Committee.

Chair Wiscomb reported that she attended the Ribbon Cutting Event for the Oak Park Permeable Paver Project. She said she also attended the Special City Council meeting held on January 27th, regarding one-time monies for Capital Projects, where Council approved funding for Kids World and Cabrillo Ballfield. Ms. Wiscomb reported on the activities of the Golf Advisory Committee. She also reported on the activities of the PARC Foundation.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Ms. Rapp briefed the Commission that The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has partnered with Macy's, Inc. on a national donation program supporting local parks called "Heart Your Park." She said that each store selects a park in their community, and Macy's will offer their customers at the time of checkout the opportunity to make a donation March 7 – 31, 2014, and Macy's will match those funds. Ms. Rapp said staff is very excited because the Paseo Nuevo employees chose Shoreline Park to benefit, and La Cumbre Plaza chose MacKenzie Park. Ms. Rapp said that the Department is working with the local Macy's to do a kickoff of that campaign and encouraged people to shop after March 7th.

Ms. Rapp briefed the Commission that the FY 2015 budget is the second year of a two-year budget, and staff does not anticipate a lot of changes. She said that revenues are a slightly down from what was expected, so staff is being conservative next year. She said the Department is seeing a decrease in some areas, and are doing analysis to determine trends. Ms. Rapp said, however, that staff does feel good about the budget being put forth. Ms. Rapp said that the Proposed FY 2015 Budget will be presented to City Council on April 22nd, and to the Commission at their regular meeting of April 23rd. Ms. Rapp advised that tentatively, staff will present the Proposed FY 2015 Parks and Recreation Budget to City Council on May 19th at 3:00 p.m.

Ms. Rapp briefly discussed the drought, saying that City Council has declared a Stage 1 drought; a voluntary 20% water reduction. She said that Council has asked Water Resources staff to do presentation on a monthly basis giving updates on where the City is with water for the community. She said that the reduction in water usage and water conservation has impacts on the parks, golf course, and recreation facilities. Ms. Rapp said that the Department has been active in conserving water over the years, but staff is very concerned about the lack of water resources. She said that strategic plans are being developed by staff, and if the drought continues, the Department will move forward with those plans, in particular, looking at parks and

how they are maintained; the urban forest, street trees, park trees, what are the priorities; and the Golf Course. She said of the three, the Golf Course has a real financial impact; when the condition of the Golf Course is not conducive to attracting golfers, the Department has a revenue impact. Ms. Rapp advised that if it is necessary to move forward with those plans, staff will bring them to the Commission for information.

Ms. Zachary provided an updated on the conceptual design to the Pocket Park at Bath and Ortega. She said a Neighborhood meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, March 13th. Ms. Zachary advised that staff is preparing conceptual ideas for that site, and they will be presented to the Commission at the March meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

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

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 18, 2013.

Commissioner Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Uribe, and passed 4/0 to approve the consent calendar. 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.

Commissioner Casebeer arrived at 4:29 p.m.

3. Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendation – For Action

Documents:

- Staff Report dated February 26, 2014
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by Staff

Speakers:

- Staff: Urban Forest Superintendent Tim Downey
- Members of the Public: Item 2A(1) – Stephanie Welch; Item 2B(1) – Duke McPherson, Street Tree Advisory Committee Chair; Item 3B(2) - Gary Semerdjian

Recommendation: That the Commission:

- A. Conditionally approve the following Street Tree removal request:
 1. 1102 Luneta Plaza – (2) *Jacaranda mimosifolia*, Jacaranda – Stephanie Welch

Commissioner Casebeer moved, seconded by Commissioner Longstreet, to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to approve the removal of two Jacaranda trees on the condition the applicant replaces with a red flowering gum trees.

Chair Wiscomb asked if Commissioners Casebeer and Longstreet would amend their motion to accept the recommendation by Commissioner Heaton that the

replacement tree be a minimum 15-gallon. They both concurred. The amended motion follows.

Commissioner Casebeer moved, seconded by Commissioner Longstreet, and passed 5/0 to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to approve the removal of two Jacaranda trees on the condition the applicant replaces with a red flowering gum tree that is a minimum 15-gallon at 1102 Luneta Plaza.

B. Deny the following Setback Tree removal requests:

1. 30 E. Quinto St. – *Platanus acerifolia*, London Plane – Robert Hambleton

Commissioner Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Casebeer, and passed 5/0 to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee to deny the removal of the tree at 30 E. Quinto Street to deny the removal.

2. 109 Oceano Ave. – (2) *Eucalyptus spp.*, Eucalyptus – Gary Semerdjian

Commissioner Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Uribe, and passed 5/0 to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee to deny the removal of the tree at 109 Oceano Avenue for denial of the removal of two eucalyptus trees.

OLD BUSINESS - NONE

NEW BUSINESS

4. Samuel Guzman Appeal of Santa Barbara Arts and Craft Show Advisory Committee Decision – For Action

Recommendation: That the Commission deny the appeal of Arts and Crafts Show Member Samuel Guzman and uphold the decision of the Arts and Crafts Show Advisory Committee regarding not allowing plants to be sold in the Show.

This item was removed from the agenda at the request of Samuel Guzman, and will be rescheduled for a later date.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS - NONE

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:09 p.m., with no further business to be addressed by the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Rapp
Parks & Recreation Director