



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

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, May 25, 2016
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 735 ANACAPA STREET**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lesley Wiscomb called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. at City Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Lesley Wiscomb

ROLL CALL

Commissioners and Staff Present

Chair Lesley Wiscomb
Commissioner Beebe Longstreet
Commissioner Nichol Clark
Commissioner Ed Cavazos
Commissioner Jim Heaton
Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
Executive Assistant Teasha Blackman
Parks Manager Santos Escobar
Creeks Associate Planner Erin Markey
Creeks Manager Cameron Benson
Recreation Manager Rich Hanna

Commissioners Absent

Vice Chair Mark Rincon-Ibarra

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Gene Tyburn
Pete Dal Bello (yielded two minutes to Gene Tyburn)
Fernando Medina (yielded two minutes to Gene Tyburn)
Debbie Armstrong

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT:

Speaker:
-Youth Council Secretary Ari Chittick

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS:

Commissioner Clark reported on the May 18 Parks and Recreation Community Foundation Board meeting, and she attended the May 18 Parks and Recreation Commission site visit (Site Visit).

Commissioner Longstreet reported on the Neighborhood Advisory Council meeting last month, and she attended the Finance Committee meeting on May 24 where she spoke (not on behalf of the Commission, but in support of the Parks and Recreation Department).

Chair Wiscomb reported on the May 5 Street Tree Advisory Committee meeting, the May 11 Golf Advisory Committee Meeting, and spoke on behalf of the Commission at the May 16 Special City Council Budget meeting. She also attended the PARC Foundation Board meeting.

Commissioner Cavazos attended the PARC Foundation Board Meeting and the Site Visit.

Commissioner Heaton attended the Site Visit.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS: None.

CEREMONIAL ITEMS: None.

CONSENT ITEMS

1. Subject: Minutes – For Action (Attachment)

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 27, 2016.

The Commission received the item.

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Clark to waive the reading and approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of April 27, 2016.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote. (Absent: Rincon-Ibarra)

STREET TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ITEMS

Any action of the Parks and Recreation Commission made pursuant to Municipal Code Chapter 15.20, Tree Planting and Maintenance or 15.24, Preservation of Trees, may be appealed to the City Council within ten days, pursuant to provisions of Section 1.30.050 of the Municipal Code.

2. Subject: Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations – For Action (Attachment)

Documents:

- Staff Report dated May 25, 2016
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Parks Manager, Santos Escobar

Recommendation: That the Commission:

A. Approve the following Setback Tree removal request

1. 2023 Edgewater Way – Ficus benjamina, Weeping Fig – Michael Broz

Motion:

Commissioners Heaton / Longstreet to approve the Setback Tree removal of the Ficus benjamina at 2023 Edgewater Way.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote. (Absent: Rincon-Ibarra)

B. Approve the following changes to the Street Tree Master Plan

1. 00 block of Chase Dr. – Co-designate Prunus ilicifolia, Holly Leaf Cherry – Bryan Van Derhyden

Motion:

Commissioners Longstreet / Cavazos to accept the changes to the Street Tree Master Plan to designate the Holly Leaf Cherry to the 00 block of Chase Dr.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote. (Absent: Rincon-Ibarra)

2. 400 block of Calle Puerto Vallarta – Designate Eriobotrya deflexa ‘Coppertone’, Bronze Loquat – Bob Cunningham

Motion:

Commissioners Longstreet / Cavazos to accept the changes to the Street Tree Master Plan in the 400 block of Calle Puerto Vallarta to designate the ‘Coppertone’ or Bronze Loquat.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote. (Absent: Rincon-Ibarra)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

3. Subject: Upper Arroyo Burro Restoration at Barger Canyon – For Information (Attachment)

Documents:

- Staff Report dated May 25, 2016
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Creeks Manager Cameron Benson
- Creeks Associate Planner Erin Markey

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a report on the Upper Arroyo Burro Restoration at Barger Canyon Project.

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

4. Subject: Elings Park Foundation Proposal to renovate the Las Positas Tennis Facility – For Action (Attachment)

Documents:

- Staff Report dated May 25, 2016
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
- Elings Park Executive Director Mike Nelson
- Elings Park Foundation Board President William Beall
- Ray Hicks, Architect, Hicks Designs

Recommendation: That the Commission:

- A. Receive a presentation from the Elings Park Foundation regarding the proposed renovation of the Las Positas Tennis Facility; and
- B. Make the following findings pursuant to SBMC Section 28.37.025 to approve the proposed renovation of the Las Positas Tennis Facility:
 - 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.

The Commission unanimously received the presentation, and had the following questions answered.

Mr. Cavazos asked if they were able to get a cost on the permeable pavers and how much water they could reclaim with permeable.

Mr. Hicks said asphalt would be in the ballpark of \$4 per square foot. Pavers are in the ballpark of \$10 per square foot. The difference is about \$100,000. The design already incorporates holding water that sheets off parking lot.

Mr. Cavazos asked how high the roof is off the hill and if it could be higher.

Mr. Hicks replied it is about five feet and could reach six feet by creating a little retaining wall for the building.

Ms. Clark wanted to know the total cost for the project.

Mr. Hicks said they estimate between \$1-2 million, depending on what is included. His best guess is \$1.3 million.

Ms. Wiscomb commented they would like to see the permeable pavers in the project, if feasible.

Mr. Beall replied they were trying to figure out an in-between solution. The pavers are cost prohibitive, but they may be able to come up with a solution.

Ms. Wiscomb asked for clarification on installation of a gravel infiltration ditch at the end of the parking lot and if it is possible to make this a planted swale.

Mr. Hicks said the ditch just a gravel strip. The water is sheeted into the pavers and then into the ditch where it is caught and processed.

The Commission heard comments from the following Public Speakers:

Suzy Dahl
Salvi Dellabarca

Elizabeth Winterhalter (Deferred to Kathy Simon)
Kathy Simon
Karen Van Hoek
David Niles

Ms. Longstreet commented that she is very supportive of this project. She does not see it as an intensity of use, as it is staying within the footprint of the existing buildings. She is pleased the project is moving forward in the spirit they wanted. She liked that the tennis courts were full when they visited. She is pleased with the design, thinks it is respectful of the surroundings, and blends in well. She remembers touring the facility 10-15 years ago when it needed to be replaced. She trusts the Community Development Director that those findings can be made -- because a sports facility has facilities. Elings Park has operated many years to the benefit of our community and is a nonprofit that has to endeavor to support itself. She is happy to support this project with the five tree removals. As far as the pavers, that will be decided in further design review.

Mr. Cavazos commented that overall he likes the project. He asked Ms. Zachary, what is allowed there.

Ms. Zachary responded she reviewed the project with the Community Development Director who determined that the proposed renovation is consistent with a sports facility designation because it does allow related buildings. The Elings Park Foundation has a very specific lease agreement with the City, which calls for the primary, overriding use of this facility for tennis and tennis-related activity.

Mr. Cavazos commented that when they visited, the first thing he noticed was the courts were immaculate. He thinks the design looks great. He did want to stress although the pavers are \$6 more a square foot, it is the right thing to do.

Mr. Heaton thanked them for the presentation and the site visit, which put it in perspective. These improvements are an exciting change. He thinks they fit the character of the area, the spirit of the previous facility, the footprint, and he hopes they can realize this concept. On the water issue, that is intriguing to him that they are proposing to catch and reuse the water off the courts He would like to see them incorporate that run-off into landscaping. He feels they can easily make the findings as it is exactly the thing they want to see.

Ms. Clark agrees that this project lies within the scope of a sports facility. She enjoyed the presentation and site visit. She also made a couple of her own site visits this week and found the courts full every time she went. She talked to a couple tennis players who said they were thrilled with Elings management, happy with the program, and had no complaints about the proposed project.

Ms. Wiscomb also supports the project and commends the Foundation for the improvements made to date, the changes made in the fee structure, and the

increase in membership. The proposal seems feasible and in accordance with the designation as a sports facility in the PR Zone. Recognizing that the Foundation needs to generate sufficient revenues from the facility while meeting the terms of its lease agreement, it outlines tennis as the primary use but there is a reference to alternative activities on the practice court. She hopes they will supplement, compliment and reinforce the focus on the sport of tennis in the practice court. She asked them to protect the existing trees during the construction phase. Based on what she heard from her fellow commissioners she agrees they can support the findings.

The following action was taken.

Motion:

Commissioners Longstreet / Heaton move to make findings for Elings Park Tennis Facility that:

- i. That the proposed park and recreation improvements are appropriate or necessary for the benefit of the community and visitors;
- ii. That the proposed park and recreation facilities, including lighting, play areas, parking facilities 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 and recreation facilities are compatible with the scenic character of the City; and
- vi. That the proposed structures or buildings are compatible with the neighborhood in terms of size, bulk, and scale or location.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote. (Absent: Rincon-Ibarra)

Ms. Wiscomb stated that findings made here today by the Parks and Recreation Commission are appealable to City Council within ten days.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:36 p.m., with no further business to be addressed by the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill E. Zachary
Parks and Recreation Director