



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

**NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL  
Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 11, 2018**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to Order 6:10pm

**ROLL CALL**

Aldana, Sebastian  
Barrios, Jacqueline  
Heaton, Brittany  
Longstreet, Beebe

Lydon, Stacey  
O'Mahoney, May  
Qadri, Rehman  
Sanchez, Hector

**Staff Present**

Rich Hanna, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director  
Judith McCaffrey, Recreation Division Manager  
Matt Fore, Senior Assistant to the City Administrator

**Liaisons Present**

Sergeant Eric Beecher, Santa Barbara Police Department  
Beat Coordinator Brian Kerr, Santa Barbara Police Department

**Advisory Council Members Absent**

Sanford, Eve

**CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **COUNCIL AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

Matt Fore

- City Budget Process:
  - Apr 17 – Budget presentation to City Council
  - May – various budget hearings, not always on Tuesdays – be sure to check posted dates per department
- April 12<sup>th</sup> will be a joint meeting between the City Council and the School Board.

Judith McCaffrey

- Wednesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> – Parks & Rec present budget to Parks & Recreation Commission
- Monday, May 14 - Parks & Rec present budget to City Council
- Advisory Committee Recruitment
  - Applications are due May 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Will be posting on Nextdoor.com
  - 3 openings on the NAC.
- Encourages everyone to check out the senior programs at the Davis Center
  - Senior Exercise Class – Try it Free and \$20/year
- May 9<sup>th</sup> – update from NOS
- Farmer's Market Tabling – Still no response from organizers

Jennifer Hernandez

- Recruiting for Youth Council members – deadline for applications is May 1<sup>st</sup>
- April 28h – Teen Leadership Conference
- Organizing leadership forum with PAL and Future Leaders of America

Sergeant Beecher

- Filling in for LT McGrew
- SBPD now has 139 officers of 142 approved
  - 7 in academy, 8 recently sworn-in, 19 eligible for retirement
  - 4 beat coordinators

Jill Zachary

- City Council has approved contracts:
  - Bohnett Park improvements
  - Splash pad at West Beach
- Moving forward on capital projects – will be back before N.A.C with other projects
- CDBG grant application was successful for Ortega Park

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **1. Subject: Approval of the Minutes – For Action (Attachment)**

Recommendation: That the Neighborhood Advisory Council waive the reading and approve the minutes for the regular meeting of March 14, 2018.

It was moved and seconded by Advisory Council Members Aldana and Longstreet respectively, to approve the minutes with changes. Members Aldana, Barrios, Heaton, Longstreet Lydon, O'Mahoney, Qadri and Sanchez in favor. Member Foxen Abstained. Motion Carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**None**

## **New Business**

### **2. Subject: Future Renovation of the Louise Lowry Davis Center– For Information Only**

Recommendation: That the Neighborhood Advisory Council receive a presentation regarding the future renovation of the Louise Lowry Davis Center.

The Neighborhood Advisory Council receive a presentation from Project Planner Justin Van Mullem that included the following information:

The Louise Lowry Davis Center, located at 1232 De La Vina Street, includes a shared parking lot, a patio courtyard and a one-story structure. The 4,189 sq. ft. structure provides two large multi-purpose rooms, two offices, restrooms and a warming kitchen. Originally built in 1923, the structure housed the first public school building dedicated to vocational training. In 1933, the City of Santa Barbara (City) started using the facility as a community recreation center and was finally deeded the property in 1969.

The Louise Lowry Davis Center currently hosts a variety of activities for citizens age 50 and older including bridge, chess, knitting, yoga, tai chi and several senior-focused informational lectures. In addition, Santa Barbara County and the Community Action Commission use the facility to provide free hot lunches to low-income seniors Monday through Friday. The facility also offers an affordable meeting space to non-profit organizations, and a venue for business functions and private events such as weddings, receptions and parties.

In 2016, stakeholder meetings were held with the project architect and local caterers, League of Women Voters, AARP, facility staff and seniors using the facility. The meetings further refined the project objectives and helped identify issues. Community input included the following:

- First time visitors have difficulty finding the main entry
- More flexible rooms are needed to increase programming
- Access to a private patio could maximize use

- Consistent misuse of the patio area creates site and building safety concerns
- Small lounge for users would be helpful as they wait for a room or to be picked up
- Air conditioning on the southeast side of the building is desired
- Table and chair cart storage is insufficient and difficult to maneuver into closet
- Kitchen functions poorly for bigger events

### Project Status

On September 28, 2016, this project was reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission with positive comments to move forward with final design and construction documents. A Historic Landmark Commission (HLC) meeting was held on November 16, 2016 for comments only. An interior yard setback modification was approved on June 21, 2017, for the patio pergola. On July 12, 2017, HLC granted Project Design Approval and on January 24, 2017, Final Design Approval was granted.

Without any significant obstacles, it is anticipated that construction drawings and permitting could be complete by July 2018. Construction start date will be contingent on funding.

### BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Council appropriated \$100,000 of General Fund in FY15/16 for the design of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) eligible projects. The Neighborhood Improvement Task Force prioritized this project for FY 16/17. Bildsten Architecture and Planning Inc. was contracted on June 7, 2016, to complete preliminary design for \$59,510 and the final design contract was approved on October 17, 2017, for \$103,660. The preliminary construction cost estimate is \$1,497,130. This cost will continue to be refined as the project further develops. The eventual construction is anticipated to be funded by the General Fund and grants, including the CDBG program.

### Public Comment:

Members of the public commented on the following:

- Access through courtyard
- Addition of pergola, main use and entrance
- Would have like for users to have to opportunity to make comments prior to decisions – Shauna Osbourne
- Outdoor seating and waiting area for center users

### **3. Neighborhood Advisory Council Breakout Groups – Discussion and Action**

Recommendation: That the Neighborhood Advisory Council members breakout into two groups to discuss neighborhood issues related to “Neighborhood and Safety” and “Outreach/Events/Participation/Recruitment” and, if necessary, take action to recommend an item for consideration at a future NAC meeting. The public is invited to participate.

Neighborhood and Safety group brought up the following topics:

- How to get things on the Capital Improvement Plan list
  - What is the process? Would like a presentation
- Would like updates on the following projects:
  - Curb-cuts on W. Cota street
  - 700 Block of Alisos without sidewalks
  - Carrillo and San Pascual
  - Westside Lighting
- Would like a presentation on SBPD’s use of force policy
- Would like to know about the possibility of a Spanish-language coordinator for SB Fire department – needed for emergency information
- MESA crosswalk – a group of small business owners are raising funds for this project
- Milpas roundabout needs new paint

Outreach/Events/Participation/Recruitment group brought up the following topics:

- Events at which to table other than Farmer’s Market
  - Schools – McKinley, Harding, SBCC
  - Food distributions
  -
- Making sure NAC has resources for tabling
  - Flyers
  - Possibly a council member present
- SB Independent has a free events section
- Possibly pitching a story to the Independent about NAC
  - Also new East and Westside papers
- Joint School district/City Council meeting tomorrow at 4pm
  - School District’s focus:
    - Stadium renovation
    - Armory acquisition
  - City Council’s focus:
    - Activities offered at the Library for youth
  - Someone should be present on behalf of NAC
    - Beebe will attend

### **4. Subject: Neighborhood Updates – For Information Only**

Recommendation: That each NAC member take up to two minutes for updating the public on specific neighborhood related issues or events impacting their neighborhood or the community in general.

### **Stacey Lydon - Lower Westside Neighborhood**

- Union Pacific Fencing – Really big holes, gate open often
- Matt Fore commented that there is currently a CDBG application for fencing maintenance on behalf of City of SB – trying to get agreement from Union Pacific that if the City repairs it, Union Pacific will maintain it.
- Large, newer encampment between Castillo offramp and train tracks
  - SBPD is working with Union Pacific on this issue
- Parking situation has gotten much worse but people are actually using bike lane

### **Hector Sanchez - Public-at Large**

- Castillo between Canon Perdido & De La Guerra – issue with people constantly climbing through or over fence
- New shops downtown & chess board installed
  - Yet a lot of transients in front of Macy's closed building
  - Also on State St. between Blenders and McConnells
  - High concentration of transients near vacant spots
- Volunteered at the Eggstravaganza and enjoyed it

### **Sebastian Aldana- Eastside Neighborhood**

- Attended Menudo festival – changes are good, added churros, beer garden, & tacos
  - SBPD reported they are trying to grow the event, thus changes
- Happy that 12M worth of infrastructure projects are being completed or have been completed on the Eastside
- Garden and Yanonali streets – new transient encampments
  - SBPD reported that this site is on their list – will take a major cleanup effort

### **Beebe Longstreet – Public-at-Large**

- Attended semiannual meeting of committee chairs and vice chairs – interesting meeting
  - There were presentations from:
    - Parks and Recreation re: capital improvements
    - Library re: Rented space to the museum, want it back
    - Airport re: runways will be closed 10pm to 6pm until September

- Paul Casey reported that the Armory at MacKenzie Park – First right to purchase goes to American Indian Health, thus may be off the table for City purchase
  - Rich reported that it has to be offered to a federal government service agency first – AI may not be able to fully occupy the space
  - Cleanup and decontamination of site will be challenging – soil must be abated

**Rehman Qadri- Public-at Large**

- A lot of dumping on the Westside
- Noticed a lot more broken bottles and beer cans on Anapamu overpass

**Sally Foxen – Lower Westside Neighborhood**

- League of Women Voters hosting public forum May 1<sup>st</sup> at 6pm at Harding School with the 4 candidates running for the open City Council seat
- Bus stop at Carrillo and San Pascual solar light has not worked in over a year
- A lot of off-leash dogs on the Westside
- A lot of illegal street vendors – a lot of trash
- Food distributions – a lot of trash because food vendors go to these

**ADJOURNMENT 8:11pm**

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Next regular meeting: Franklin Neighborhood Center  
***Wednesday, May 9, 2018, 6:00 p.m.***