



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

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Regular Monthly Meeting**

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Minutes (Amended)

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Conner called the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. at City Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Forsell

ROLL CALL

Commissioners & Staff Present

Commissioner Ada Conner
Commissioner Beebe Longstreet
Commissioner Steve Forsell
Commissioner Arnaldo Gonzalez
Parks & Recreation Director Nancy Rapp
Asst. Parks & Recreation Director Jill Zachary
Urban Forest Superintendent Timothy Downey
Executive Assistant Karla Megill
Parks Manager Santos Escobar
Recreation Programs Manager Judith Cook
Business Manager Nancy Woods
Cathy Carpenter, Tennis Services Coordinator

Commissioners & Staff Absent

Commissioner Daraka Larimore-Hall

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Ms. Rapp recommended that Item # 5, PARC Foundation Annual Report, be taken immediately following public comment.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one wished to speak.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Rapp briefed that the Arts and Crafts Show has appealed the HLC Final approve of the plans for the East Cabrillo Sidewalk Replacement Project, and that appeal goes to City Council on December 11th. She said there are a number of issues the Arts and Crafts Show is contesting, having to do with the design of the landscaping, amount of landscaping, the issue of the 500-foot red zone and inability to park there temporarily. Ms. Rapp said that staff hopes the issues can be resolved and the project can move forward.

Ms. Rapp briefed regarding the West Beach Pedestrian Improvement Project that staff has had some opportunities to redesign some of the areas of concern and mentioned specifically by the Commission related to how certain areas near Sea Landing will be landscaped. She said that the project is moving forward.

Ms. Rapp advised that on Tuesday, November 20th, staff will be making a presentation with the Police Department to City Council providing an update on Youth Violence concerns, programs being offered through the Police Department and by the Parks and Recreation Department. She said this will be an expansion of the report provided to the Commission at their last meeting.

Ms. Rapp shared that the Non-Profit Support Center has created an awards program, and the Department received the First Annual Leadership in Action Award for Community Collaboration. She said it is for the Department's involvement in the establishment of the Campership Alliance. Ms. Rapp said that the Department also received a certificate from Congresswoman Lois Capps.

Ms. Rapp advised that the latest CRPS magazine has information on the Annual Conference in Long Beach in February. She encouraged the Commissioners to attend.

Ms. Rapp advised that she is the President of District VIII and the organization has been trying to increase the amount of programs provided both to professional staff, students, and boards and commissions. She said they are participating with the San Luis Obispo County California Association of Park and Recreation Commissioners and Board Members to put on a half-day workshop for boards and commissions on Saturday, February 23, 2008, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Hearst Castle. She said they will receive more detailed information in the future, and asked that the Commissioners keep that date available.

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS

Commissioner Forsell reported on the activities of the Golf Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Longstreet reported that she attended the City Administrator's Advisory Committee Annual Luncheon.

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT

Intern Gonzalez briefed that the Youth Council voted to support the Social Host Ordinance. She further briefed that three Youth Council members will be going to the National League of Cities Conference in New Orleans. Intern Gonzalez encouraged teens to visit the teen center. She said there will be a new art exhibit at the teen center, which features local teen artists.

1. Summary of Council Actions

There were no comments.

2. Approval of Minutes

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the following meetings:

A. Special meeting of August 15, 2007

Commissioner Beebe Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Arnoldo Gonzalez, and passed 3/0 that the Commission approve the minutes of the meeting of the Special meeting of August 15, 2007.

B. Regular meeting of October 24, 2007

Commissioner Steve Forsell moved, seconded by Commissioner Arnoldo Gonzalez, and passed 3/0 that the Commission approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of October 24, 2007.

C. Special meeting of November 7, 2007

Commissioner Beebe Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Arnoldo Gonzalez, and passed 3/0 that C. Special meeting of November 7, 2007

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

3. Recognition of Jim and Sally Jacobson for Volunteer Work with Russ Morrison Junior Golf Program

Recommendation: That the Commission recognize Jim and Sally Jacobson for their volunteer work with the Russ Morrison Junior Golf Program.

The Commission recognized Jim and Sally Jacobson for their volunteer work with Russ Morrison Junior Golf Program and presented them with a certificate of appreciation.

4. Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations

Recommendation: That the Commission:

A. Approve the following Street Tree removal request.

1. 1017 E. Haley St. - Ken Smith, Agent for Owner - Tara

Commissioner Steve Forsell moved, seconded by Commissioner Beebe Longstreet, and passed 4/0 that the Commission approve the removal of the Tara tree located at 1017 E. Haley Street, on the condition that a new street tree be planted and an additional street tree be provided and installed by the petitioner at a location as near as possible to the project.

B. Deny the following Street Tree removal request.

1. 400 Block of Shoreline Dr. - Lisa Arroyo, Public Works - Palm Trees

Commissioner Longstreet asked for clarification as to whether there was authority to move the trees, to which Mr. Downey said yes.

Commissioner Longstreet said that it is important for the project to move forward.

Commissioner Beebe Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Arnoldo Gonzalez, and passed 4/0 that the Commission deny the removal of the Palm trees in the 400 Block of Shoreline Drive, but allow the trees to be relocated within the median elsewhere, with the locations to be determined by Parks staff.

C. Approve the following Setback Tree removal requests.

Commissioner Steve Forsell moved, seconded by Commissioner Beebe Longstreet, and passed 4/0 that the Commission approve the following Setback Tree removal requests.

1. 322 E. Alamar Ave. - Arthur Korngiebel - Acacia
2. 707 Woodland Dr. - Harold Fildey - Pine
3. 1017 E. Haley St. - Ken Smith, Agent for Owner - Pine

D. Postpone a decision for the following Street Tree removal request.

1. 25 E. Anapamu St. - Joshua Haggmark, Engineer - Pyrus kawakamii and Pyrus calleryana

Commissioner Steve Forsell moved, seconded by Commissioner Arnoldo Gonzalez, and passed 4/0 that the Commission postpone a

decision on the street tree removal request of Joshua Hagqmark, Engineer, for 25 E. Anapamu Street.

E. Approve the following Street Tree Designation.

1. 3000 block State St. and 3000 block De La Vina Ave. - Bob Cunningham - Street Tree designation - Acacia stenophylla

Ms. Longstreet asked whether this is a change in the Street Tree Designation. Mr. Downey said that there is a Cedar in the median that is designated to be moved to a new location, but the Street Tree for the 3000 block of State Street is currently the King Palm, the Street Tree for the 3000 block of De la Vina is currently the Pottocarpus gracillior, and the idea was to match the landscaping a little closer.

Commissioner Beebe Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Steve Forsell, and passed 4/0 that the Commission approve the street tree designation for 3000 block State St. and 3000 block De La Vina Avenue as Acacia stenophylla.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

5. Parks and Recreation Community (PARC) Foundation Annual Report

Recommendation: That the Commission receive the Parks and Recreation Community (PARC) Foundation Annual Report for the period of September 1, 2006 - August 31, 2007

Ms. Rapp advised the Commission that the report is provided for information only.

Ms. Rosalind Amorteguy, PARC Foundation Board President, thanked the Commission for their support. She expressed that she would like the Foundation to become more useful to the Department and the City. She solicited suggestions from the Commission and encourage the Commissioners to pass on their suggestions to the Foundation.

Commissioner Forsell said that Ms. Amorteguy is doing a good job as President of the PARC Foundation.

Commissioner Forsell indicated they were missing pages 2 and 4 of the PARC Annual Report. Ms. Rapp advised that staff would mail the entire report to the Commission.

Commissioner Longstreet acknowledged the fact that the PARC Foundation is an all volunteer organization and she commented that the Foundation has done a tremendous amount of work, without staff.

Ms. Amorteguy acknowledged the support she receives from the Department and from their part-time Administrative Assistant.

Ms. Amorteguy said that the Foundation Board members are community leaders, and it is a challenge to get them going. Ms. Amorteguy stated her belief that the Foundation could be more effective than they are currently.

Commissioner Longstreet said that under Ms. Amorteguy's leadership, it seems as though that will happen.

Chair Conner echoed Commissioners Forsell and Longstreet's comments. She said that Ms. Amorteguy is doing an excellent job as President of the PARC Foundation and encouraged her to keep up the good work.

6. Annual Parks and Recreation Participation Report

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a report on the Parks and Recreation Participation report for Fiscal Year 2007.

Ms. Woods highlighted the Annual Parks and Recreation Participation Report.

Commissioner Longstreet asked regarding Aquatics number whether the number was for competitions.

Ms. Rapp responded saying that the number represents competitions, camps, classes, drop-in participation, etc.

Commissioner Gonzalez asked whether there was a limit on the number of scholarships given out. He further asked if there are procedures established that govern how scholarships are given out. Finally, he asked how you establish the amount of the scholarship.

Ms. Woods indicated that Council has provided \$60,000 to the Department in the Youth Activities budget for scholarships. She said that individuals complete a form requesting a scholarship, and the amount of their scholarship is determined by the criteria that is set up.

Ms. Rapp interjected that the Department has refined the criteria over the years and the criteria is based on that which is most commonly used by the School District. She said that the Department often works with School District personnel to determine the need and the families' need. Ms. Rapp said it is a case-by-case basis. Ms. Rapp said that the \$60,000 is strictly for the afterschool program. She said that some of the scholarships are for summer camps. Ms. Rapp said that the Department subsidizes camperships in the City-run programs, like nature camp and aqua camp, and negotiate with the contractor who are doing the camps and ask them to participate in providing the scholarships. She said that the

Department works with people when they receive a request for a scholarship, but there are also formal scholarship programs.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

7. Consideration of Request to Locate a Verizon Telecommunications Facility at the Santa Barbara Municipal Tennis Facility (1414 Park Place)

Recommendation: That the Commission:

- A. Review and discuss a proposal from Ridge Communications to locate a Verizon Cellular telecommunications facility at the Santa Barbara Municipal Tennis Courts (Muni Tennis);
- B. Provide comments regarding the feasibility and appropriateness of leasing park and recreation land at this location for a cellular telecommunications facility; and
- C. Provide direction to staff on whether it is in the best interests of the department and the community to forward the item to City Council for further consideration.

Ms. Zachary provided a brief introduction and history of this proposal. She highlighted the Tennis Advisory Committee recommendation; the staff recommendation on proposed site location; and potential benefits to the community and Parks and Recreation Department. She talked about what was expected of the Commission tonight and the next steps and then introduced Mr. Dino Putrino, Ridge Communications.

Mr. Putrino provided a presentation on the Ridge Communication proposal to locate Verizon Telecommunications Facility at the Santa Barbara Municipal Tennis Facility.

Commissioner Forsell commented regarding the proposed location that he could consider the possibility of the cell tower being placed in location 2 as there are some telephone poles close to that area, the trees are very big, the tower could be fairly hidden and would not be too obtrusive. Mr. Forsell said he does not feel location 3 is the best location, as it is in an open area and would be obtrusive.

Commissioner Forsell said regarding the City Charter and the fact that would require a vote of the electors, "But you can get by that with purposes to which the property is devoted by the City permits and accessory to." Mr. Forsell asked who will make the determination. He further asked how you make a determination that a cell tower is compatible with tennis court use.

Ms. Zachary said that staff has not had specific discussions regarding what the rationale might be, with the exception that cellular phones are in widespread use,

and people that use public and private facilities use cellular phones. She said it may be that with the Commission's and Council's consideration, that there is a finding that it is accessory to because there is no cell service at this location.

Commissioner Forsell expressed that as he reads the City Charter he thinks it will be difficult to get the City Attorney and Council to agree to this proposal.

Ms. Rapp interjected that it will be based on findings made by the Commission and forwarded to City Council and City Council would concur with those findings.

Commissioner Forsell suggested that the lease period be for the shortest period of time so the City could evaluate how obtrusive it is and also to evaluate how much of a benefit it is to the community, and also safety issues.

Commissioner Forsell said that \$25,000 to \$40,000 per year is not a great deal of money. He suggested the Department negotiation a higher lease payment.

Commissioner Forsell asked whether there would be a special fund set up, and how would the Tennis Advisory Committee be assured the money would be strictly used for the municipal tennis facility. He said the Tennis Advisory Committee was very adamant that the money would be additional money to be used for that particular facility.

Commissioner Longstreet asked what the on the ground square footage is of the tower.

Mr. Putrino said 800 square foot.

Commissioner Longstreet as how high it is.

Mr. Putrino said it is 58 feet high.

Commissioner Longstreet commented that Verizon is submitting this proposal, but asked whether this tower can be used by other companies.

Mr. Petrino said that it can be used by other companies. He said that the City can consider the allowing other carriers to co-locate their facilities with the Verizon facility.

Commissioner Longstreet clarified her question asking whether other carriers can use the Verizon Tower.

Mr. Petrino said no, they can use the same location, but not the same antenna.

Commissioner Longstreet expressed a concern about having a number of telecommunication facilities popping up around town.

Mr. Gary Clark, Tennis Advisory Committee, said that the Committee conducted a visit to the proposed site. He said that the Committee does not support the placement of a telecommunications facility at location 1. Mr. Clark said that the Committee could accept the placement of a telecommunications facility at either location 2 or 3. He further said that the Committee is very adamant that the revenue from this lease be an enhancement to the current Tennis Services budget. Mr. Clark said they are also concerned about the aesthetics; therefore, location number 2 would be the preferred site, because there are existing mature trees.

Commissioner Conner asked regarding location 2 whether the height of the tree as reflected on the slide is actual, and whether it is in the flood plane area.

Mr. Putrino said yes to both questions.

Commissioner Conner asked whether there is a difference in the flood plane area; is it lower in some spots and higher in others.

Mr. Petrino said yes, the landscape area at the end of the parking lot is somewhat raised, and that would allow a carrier to use that height to create more shallow foundation.

Commissioner Gonzales asked whether there are any plans to expand the Tennis Courts at any time.

Ms. Rapp said that we are a Department with a lot of facilities in need of rehabilitation. She said that community groups have approached the Department to renovate the facility, but they have not come to light. Ms. Rapp said it is important to note that, and she would like to keep that in mind.

Commissioner Longstreet commented that the land used for this purpose has to be non-active recreational land; it needs to be auxiliary land.

Commissioner Longstreet said that the revenue has to go to tennis, and it has to be enough to make a difference.

Commissioner Longstreet said we are really at the conceptual stages at this time, simply stating that the proposal needs to move forward to City Council. She said that the project needs allot of aesthetic help, which the Commission is not prepared to demand or give at this point. Ms. Longstreet said that the Commission would require allot of trees to help offset this. Ms. Longstreet said that this is something that should be pursued, and if there is land at various sites that become appropriate, we should explore it. Ms. Longstreet stressed that we should not take second place on aesthetics.

Commissioner Forsell concurred with Commissioner Longstreet and he agreed. It is the beginning of the process and they cannot stop the process at this time.

Ms. Rapp interjected stating that if the Commission did not support the feasibility and appropriateness of having a cell telecommunication site on parkland, that needs to be made clear to staff now, because that will end the issue.

Commissioner Longstreet said that is clear and she would not take up active recreation land; but there is some land that is not appropriate for other things, and would not be a loss for recreation life.

Chair Conner said that if this is a way to help enhance facility repair without impeding recreational areas, she is on board with it.

Commissioner Gonzalez asked whether there is a timeline that would expire the proposal.

Mr. Putrino said no.

Ms. Rapp said that staff brings this forward with a clear understanding that whichever the facility the revenue is generated from, the revenue will benefit that facility, and an account will be set up for those funds.

Ms. Rapp said that staff would like the Commission to take action on the item.

Commissioner Beebe Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Arnoldo Gonzalez, and passed 3/1 that the Commission move the proposal for consideration of leasing City land at the municipal tennis facility for telecommunications facility forward to City Council with the condition that the revenue be dedicated the municipal tennis courts.

Commissioner Forsell voted against moving the proposal forward to City Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Steve Forsell moved, seconded by Commissioner Beebe Longstreet, and passed 4/0 that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Rapp
Parks and Recreation Director