



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

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Regular Monthly Meeting**

Wednesday, July 23, 2008

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER Chair Conner called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Commissioner Forsell

ROLL CALL

Commissioners & Staff Present

Commissioner Ada Conner
Commissioner Beebe Longstreet
Commissioner Steve Forsell
Commissioner Arnaldo Gonzalez
Commissioner Daraka Larimore-Hall
Parks & Recreation Director Nancy Rapp
Asst. Parks & Recreation Director Jill Zachary
Urban Forest Superintendent Timothy Downey
Executive Assistant Karla Megill
Recreation Programs Manager Sarah Hanna
Parks Manager Santos Escobar
Business Manager Nancy Woods

Commissioners & Staff Absent

Park and Recreation Commission Intern Christina Gonzalez

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Conner acknowledged receipt of correspondence from two members of the public concerning agenda item 3A (1) Street Tree Removal Request for 141 Coronada Circle.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Speakers: Ken Loch spoke. Mr. Robert Grijalva, Kevin Kemper, and Cheryl Giefer spoke expressing concern that they could no longer get a permit for Body Boot Camp at Shoreline Park.

COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOGNITION None

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS

Commissioner Forsell reported on the activities of the Golf Course Advisory Committee. He talked about the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Santa Barbara Municipal Golf

Course and encouraged the public to contact the Golf Course or the Parks and Recreation Department for more information about playing golf or attending some of the other events.

Commissioner Forsell announced that Richard Chavez, Director of Golf, and Nancy Woods, Business Manager, are retiring and Scott Jorgensen, Golf Manager retired last week. Mr. Forsell expressed that it is going to be difficult to replace this team; these individuals have done a great job and will be missed.

Commissioner Forsell reported on the activities of the Park and Recreation Community (PARC) Foundation.

Commissioner Longstreet reported on the activities of the Lower Westside Center Advisory Committee. She said the Afterschool Program (all day) is in good shape, and the young woman running it has some very good ideas. Ms. Longstreet said the meeting was well-attended by members of the public, and those in attendance expressed interest in youth violence issues and that they are attempting to mobilize themselves in the neighborhood.

Commissioner Longstreet reported on the activities of the Creeks Advisory Committee. She said they received the Public Opinion Survey. She asked that the Commission be given a presentation about the changes over the years.

Commissioner Longstreet reported on the activities of the Douglas Family Preserve Technical Advisory Committee Site Visit. She encouraged the Commissioners to go to the site and look at the restoration sites. Ms. Longstreet indicated that the Committee is actively planning into the year 2009. She further said that Ms. Frye is moving forward on the Management Plan and combining all of the elements to make it a useful document.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Rapp replied to the public comment item regarding Body Boot Camp. She said that due to the increasing number of complaints from Shoreline Park neighbors and users, and the amount of unpermitted commercial activities taking place in Shoreline Park, staff would likely be bringing forward a proposed fee structure and different guidelines for those types of activities at the September 2008 meeting.

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **Summary of Council Actions**
2. **Approval of Minutes**

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 25, 2008.

Commissioner Beebe Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Steve Forsell, and passed 3/2. that the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 25, 2008.

Commissioners Larimore-Hall and Gonzalez abstained.

STREET TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ITEMS

3. Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations

Recommendation: That the Commission:

A. Approve the following Street Tree removal requests.

1. 141 Coronada Circle - Linda Sullivan - Eucalyptus citiodora, Lemon-scented Gum

Mr. Downey reported that the Committee and staff recommend approval of the request on the condition that two California Sycamore trees be replanted at locations about 40 feet each side of the existing tree where the parkway is much wider.

Commissioner Forsell commented that this is a PUD Development with a Homeowners' Association. He asked whether the approval of the Homeowners' Association will also be needed to plant the two trees in the parkway.

Mr. Downey responded that he has not looked into that, but the City has the right to plant in those locations, and said that staff will obtain all necessary approvals to move forward with the plantings.

Commissioner Daraka Larimore-Hall moved, seconded by Commissioner Beebe Longstreet, and passed 5/0 that concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to approve the removal request identified in item 3A (1).

B. Deny the following Street Tree removal request.

1. 3705 Pescadero Dr. - Frank Fernandez - Eucalyptus ficifolia, Red Flowering Gum

Mr. Downey reported that the Street Tree Advisory Committee and staff recommend denial of the request because the reason for the request does not justify the removal of the tree.

Commissioner Beebe Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Steve Forsell, and passed 5/0 to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to deny the removal of the tree identified in item 3B (1).

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

4. Director of Golf Recruitment Process

Recommendation: That the Commission hear a report on the process to recruit a new Golf Professional Concessionaire at Santa Barbara Golf Club.

Ms. Woods provided this report.

9. Advisory Committee Interview and Appointments

Recommendation: That the Commission interview and consider appointing Mr. William Balles, representing the community at large, to the Adapted Advisory

Ms. Hanna introduced Mr. William Balles, member of UPC Work Inc., She briefly highlighted his background. Commissioner Longstreet asked Mr. Balles what he would like to see happen in the community. Mr. Balles said he would like to see more participation through the City and board getting more programs back.

Commissioner Steve Forsell moved, seconded by Commissioner Beebe Longstreet, and passed 5/0 to appoint Mr. William Balles, representing the community at large, to the Adapted Advisory for a term ending December 31, 2010.

5. 2008 Department Annual Awards Program

Recommendation: That the Commission hear a report on the 2008 Department Annual Awards Program.

Ms. Rapp provided a report on the 2008 Department Annual Awards Program. She identified the 2008 Annual Award winners.

Commissioner Longstreet said she attended the awards breakfast and said it was a wonderful event. She thanked staff for their efforts.

Commissioner Forsell said he has worked with many groups over the years, and the Parks and Recreation Department is as professional and responsive a group as he has ever worked with. He said the staff is excellent; he said Ms. Megill's contributions cannot be overstated and specifically thanked her for her help to him as a Commissioner over the years. Commissioner Forsell said it has been a pleasure to work with Parks and Recreation staff over the years, and stated that it is important to recognize people who have worked hard all year.

Chair Conner concurred with Commissioners Longstreet's and Forsell's comments and said it is a testament to the management of Parks and Recreation. She said the camaraderie and can-do attitude is a positive reflection of management.

OLD BUSINESS

6. Plan Santa Barbara - Policy Options

Ms. Rapp reminded the Commission that they were provided with a copy of the Plan Santa Barbara Draft Policy Options report. She said the Commission needs to review the draft recommendations. She further indicated that the Draft Policy summarizes input from the community gathered from a number of public meetings. Ms. Rapp said the Draft Policy is now being reviewed again; there have been several public meetings--one is tonight at the Faulkner Gallery. She said once the document is complete, it will go to the Planning Commission and then to City Council, and will form the basis of the scope of the EIR, which is the next stage in the City's update to the General Plan. Ms. Rapp stated that the EIR process will take about eight months, and the Commission will have the opportunity for input to that as well.

Ms. Rapp said it is important for the Commission to review the Policy Options, as there are many things in it that relate to parks, beaches, open space, park and recreation opportunities, and dense neighborhoods, etc.

Ms. Rapp said that the Creeks Advisory Committee will have a presentation from the Plan Santa Barbara staff and develop their specific recommendations on August 13th. She said on August 20th, the Commission will have a three-hour special meeting, the first part of which will be to address several tree items, and the remainder of that meeting will be to address the Plan Santa Barbara Policy Options and formulate the Commission's input. Ms. Rapp said that following the meeting, staff will take the Commission's input and incorporate it into the draft document and forward it to the Planning Commission. She said the Planning Commission is having two full-day work sessions on September 10th and 11th to develop their recommendations to City Council, which is the reason the Commission needs to have a special meeting on August 20th. Ms. Rapp said the Plan Santa Barbara Policy Update is tentatively set to go to City Council on October 8th.

NEW BUSINESS

7. Annual Advisory Committee Reports

Recommendation: That the Commission receive the Annual Advisory Committee Reports.

Ms. Rapp said these reports are provided for the Commission's information and that staff are available to answer questions.

8. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Recommendation: That the Commission elect a Chair and Vice Chair to serve presiding officer for the period of August 1, 2008, through July 30, 2009.

Commissioner Steve Forsell moved, seconded by Commissioner Arnoldo

Gonzalez, and passed 5/0 that elect Beebe Longstreet as Chair and Daraka Larimore-Hall as Vice Chair to serve presiding officer for the period of August 1, 2008, through July 30, 2009.

10. Cancellation of August 27, 2008, Regular Meeting, and Scheduling of Special Work Session for August 20, 2008

Recommendation: That the Commission cancel the regular meeting of August 27, 2008, and schedule a special work session for August 20, 2008.

Commissioner Beebe Longstreet moved, seconded by Commissioner Daraka Larimore-Hall, and passed 5/0 that cancel the regular meeting of August 27, 2008, and schedule a special work session for August 20, 2008.

Ms. Rapp briefly discussed the Semiannual Advisory Committee Recruitment. She said it will take place in the fall, and the appointments will begin in January. She encouraged anyone in the community who is interested in learning more about what a Park and Recreation Commissioner does to contact her or one of the Commissioners. Ms. Rapp said the City is always looking for people who are interested in the public good and the services that the Parks and Recreation and the Creeks Restoration and Clean Water Management Programs bring to the community.

Commissioner Larimore-Hall asked whether advisory committee members are notified of current vacancies. Ms. Rapp said her understanding is that the Departments notify the advisory committees. Ms. Rapp said the Department could notify them.

Commissioner Larimore-Hall stated that the time he has served on the Park and Recreation Commission has been interesting and rewarding, and the staff is excellent and good at getting someone up to speed very quickly. He encouraged members of the public, if they care about parks, if they think there should be exciting, equitable, and accessible programs provided by the City, they should really think about becoming a commissioner or advisory committee member.

Commissioner Forsell thanked Chair Conner for her service as Chair and said she did a great job.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business for the Park and Recreation Commission, at 5:17 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Rapp
Parks and Recreation Director