



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

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, April 26, 2017
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 735 ANACAPA STREET**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Beebe Longstreet called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. at City Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Beebe Longstreet

ROLL CALL

Commissioners and Staff Present

Chair Beebe Longstreet
Vice Chair Nichol Clark
Commissioner Jacob Lesner-Buxton
Commissioner Andria Martinez Cohen
Commissioner Ed Cavazos
Commissioner Tara Armbruster
Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Rich Hanna
Recreation Manager Judith McCaffrey
Parks Manager Santos Escobar
Creeks Manager Cameron Benson
Business Services Manager Mark Sewell
Urban Forest Superintendent Tim Downey
Airport Facilities Manager Jeff McKee
Integrated Pest Management Citizens Advisory Chair Gregg Chittick
Executive Assistant Rose Nevarez

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: Item 6 was taken in advance of Item 5.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ken Loch

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT:

Jensen Steady, SB Youth Council Treasurer, reported on a number of Youth Council activities including an update on the ALMA (Adolescent Leaders Modeling Acceptance) Project, recruitment, a Youth to City project, the Youth Leadership Banquet on May 22nd, and the end of year dinner on June 5th.

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS:

Commissioner Lester-Buxton reported on the Neighborhood Advisory Council meeting.

Commissioner Cavazos reported on the PARC Board Meeting and commented on the April 19th Budget Work Session.

Commissioner Clark reported she did not attend the Integrative Pest Management Committee but attended the Street Tree Advisory Committee site visits on April 6th, reported on the PARC Foundation Board Meeting on April 19th, and commented on the April 19th Budget Work Session.

Commissioner Andria Martinez Cohen did not attend the Arts and Crafts Advisory Committee meeting but reported on some agenda items, was not able to attend the Creeks Advisory Committee as it was rescheduled and conflicted with the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, and commented on the April 19th Budget Work Session.

Commissioner Armbruster reported on the Golf Advisory Task Force meeting and attended the April 19th Budget Work Session.

Chair Longstreet reported she missed the Neighborhood Advisory Committee meeting but reported on the semi-annual Commission Chairs and Vice Chairs Meeting held at the Airport.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS: None

CEREMONIAL ITEMS: None

CONSENT ITEMS:

1. Subject: Summary of Council Actions – For Information (Attachment)

No comments.

2. Subject: Minutes – For Action (Attachment)

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 22, 2017.

The Commission received the items.

Motion:

Commissioner Clark / Cavazos to waive the reading and approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 22, 2017.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

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.

3. Subject: Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations – For Action (Attachments)

Documents:

- Staff Report dated April 26, 2017
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Urban Forest Superintendent Tim Downey
- Public Speaker William Smith (Item 3.C.1.)

Recommendation: That the Commission:

A. Conditionally approve the following Street Tree removal request:

1. 434 Paseo Del Descanso – *Liquidambar styraciflua*, American Sweetgum – Katherine Farhadian

The Commission received the report and the following action was taken.

Motion:

Commissioner Clark / Armbruster to conditionally approve the removal on the condition a Weeping Acacia be planted as proposed on the application.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

B. Conditionally approve the following Setback Tree removal request:

1. 333 Vista De La Cumbre – (2) *Koelreuteria paniculata*, Goldenrain Tree – Arbor Services, Inc.

The Commission received the report, their questions were answered and the following action was taken.

Motion:

Commissioner Martinez Cohen / Cavazos to approve the removals on the condition the applicant replace with trees as proposed on the application.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

C. Approve the following Setback Tree removal request:

1. 2433 Calle Soria – (3) *Eucalyptus spp.*, Eucalyptus, and (1) *Ficus spp.*, Fig – William and Julie Smith

Due to new information discovered after distribution of the Street Tree Advisory Committee report, staff provided a memorandum recommending the Commission approve removal of all trees on the application on the condition that at the time the last of the Eucalyptus trees is removed, a replacement tree that can eventually achieve 40 feet in height be planted.

The Commission received the report, listened to testimony from the applicant, their questions were answered and the following action was taken.

Motion:

Commissioner Cavazos / Martinez Cohen to approve the removal of all the trees on the application on the condition that at the time the last of the Eucalyptus trees is removed, a replacement tree that can achieve 40 feet in height be planted.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

D. Partially approve the following Setback Tree removal request:

1. 1308 E. Yanonali St. – (1) *Afrocarpus gracilior*, Fern Pine and (2) *Pinus spp.*, Pine – Punam Prajapati

The Commission received the report, their questions were answered and the following action was taken.

Motion:

Commissioner Clark / Armbruster to approve the removal of both pines and deny the removal of the *Afrocarpus gracilior*, Fern Pine.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

E. Approve new designation to the Street Tree Master Plan:

1. All of Paterna Rd. – *Quercus engelmannii*, Engelmann Oak – Resident request

The Commission received the report, their questions were answered and the following action was taken.

Motion:

Commissioner Martinez Cohen / Cavazos to approve the designation of the Engelmann Oak to the Street Tree Master Plan.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

4. Subject: Director's Report – For Information

Documents:

-Staff Report dated April 26, 2017

Speaker:

-Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a presentation on the status of the various Parks and Recreation Department initiatives and activities.

Director Jill Zachary reported on the Helping Hand Service Project, State Trails Day on the San Ysidro Trail, EGGStravaganza, pickle ball expansion, and the Santa Barbara Foresters playing at Pershing Park.

Commissioner Cavazos commented he is excited about the Santa Barbara Forester's coming to Pershing Park, which he feels is underutilized, and mentioned he was working on a youth music program at the band shell in Plaza del Mar. He was also happy to hear tennis was not being negatively impacted by the pickleball expansion.

Chair Longstreet said she was happy to see the expansion of programs at Pershing Park and Plaza del Mar. She thanked staff for their work in accomplishing this.

The Commission unanimously received the report.

5. Subject: Integrated Pest Management Annual Report – For Action (Attachments)

Documents:

- Staff Report dated April 26, 2017
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
- Parks Manager Santos Escobar
- Airport Facilities Manager Jeff McKee

Recommendation: That the Commission review and approve the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) 2016 Annual Report and forward the report to City Council.

The Commission received the report, their questions were answered and the following action was taken.

Motion:

Commissioner Cavazos / Armbruster to accept and approve the report.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

6. Subject: Parks and Recreation Recommended Fiscal Year 2018-19 Budget – For Action (Attachments)

Documents:

- Staff Report dated April 26, 2017
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
- Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Rich Hanna
- Creeks Manager Cameron Benson
- Business Manager Mark Sewell

Recommendation: That the Commission recommends City Council approval of the Recommended Fiscal Year 2018 and Fiscal Year 2019 Parks and Recreation Department Budget, including the General Fund, Creeks Fund, Golf Fund, Capital Program, and Fees and Charges Schedule.

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary gave an overview of the proposed budget: 4 funds – Creeks, Golf, Parks and Capital; personnel; and expenditures and revenue by fund.

Creeks Manager Cameron Benson presented the Creeks Division proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2018 and 2019.

Chair Longstreet asked if they anticipated grants coming in within the next 2 years to offset the use of reserve funds. Creeks Manager Benson replied that has happened in the past but there is no guarantee.

The Commission opted to vote on each section of the proposed budget.

Motion:

Commissioner Martinez Cohen / Clark to recommend to City Council that they accept the Creeks Budget subject to the Creeks Advisory Committee approval.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

Business Manager Mark Sewell presented the General Fund FY18 recommended budget.

Chair Longstreet asked if there were marketing plans in place to promote the re-opening of the Cabrillo Pavilion after the remodel. Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary responded that more detailed plans for promotion of the Pavilion will be brought to the Commission at a later date.

Commissioner Martinez-Cohen asked about the plan during the remodel for programs taking place at the Bathhouse including the Junior Lifeguards. Assistant Director Rich Hanna responded that the Junior Lifeguards will be moved to Leadbetter Beach. Some of the beach programs will remain at East Beach, with portable toilets on the east side of the facility year-round and on the west side seasonally.

Commissioner Cavazos recommended finding ways to bring down expenses and raise fees to get costs and revenue numbers closer.

Chair Longstreet noticed a reduction of hourly staff hours and expressed concern that reducing hourly positions will impact services greatly, particularly parks maintenance and youth services.

Chair Longstreet appreciates that the fees are reviewed every year and adjusted as needed to maintain programs. She asked that we convey to Council that the Commission sees issues that are looming and are concerned about being able to keep the level of services up and maintain facilities and parks while providing affordable alternatives to the community.

Commissioner Clark asked that we add her comment that parks and recreational programs are critical infrastructure to the health of our community.

Commissioner Armbruster asked if competitive comparisons were done when considering raising program fees. Business Manager Mark Sewell responded that

markets are compared where possible and staff are very conscious of them when setting fees.

Motion:

Commissioner Cavazos / Martinez Cohen to recommend to City Council that they accept the FY18-19 Budgets for the General Fund and the Fees and Charges Schedule.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

Business Manager Mark Sewell presented the Golf Fund FY18 recommended budget.

Commissioner Cavazos asked what the current green fees were. Business Manager Mark Sewell responded there were many different fees but from staff research they were the best value in the area. Commissioner Cavazos responded that they were a good value and could probably be raised a bit.

Chair Longstreet would like to convey to Council that the Commission is pleased with the direction the golf course is going and what is happening out there.

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Cavazos to recommend to City Council that they accept the FY18-19 Budget for the Golf Budget and the Fees and Charges Schedule.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

Department Head Jill Zachary reported on the Capital Budget.

Chair Longstreet stated that Vice Chair Clark's comment regarding infrastructure needs to be recognized in this portion of comments to Council. To provide the recreation areas for our community and the services we want we need to reinvest in capital all the time and bring some of our facilities up to date. The Splash Playground project is a good example. If you look at what is available in other communities they are up to more modern standards. We have good playgrounds, but we could do more as far as amenities. We need to take a step into these areas – for a beach community we don't have that many aquatic facilities. The Carrillo Ballroom air conditioning – this is an investment in a building we have spent money on maintaining and it's important.

Commissioner Cavazos commented we have great facilities. The line items individually are not that expensive per project and the staff has a good grasp on what they want to accomplish and how to do it. To him there is no question and he believes they all sense that.

Vice Chair Clark stated that if we are looking at increasing revenues, we do have to look at the tourist aspect and almost all of the items in the Capital Budget are going to increase the perception of Santa Barbara as a beautiful place, a tourist destination; someplace that people want to come and spend their money.

Chair Longstreet – the playground at Muni not only serves an underserved community but gives a needed facelift to a historic site. Bohnett Park another example of providing for an underserved community. If we're going to continue to build housing in the density we're seeing right now, we need to provide amenities to the residents with dogs and children. There is not one project on the list that she does not see as important.

Motion:

Commissioner Martinez Cohen / Cavazos to support the FY18-19 Capital Improvement Budget and recommend it be accepted by City Council.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:31 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