



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

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, February 28, 2018
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 735 ANACAPA STREET**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Beebe Longstreet called the meeting to order at 4:00 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 Tara Armbruster
Commissioner Jacob Lesner-Buxton
Commissioner Andria Martinez Cohen (arrived 4:02 pm)
Commissioner Kathy McGill
Commissioner Roger Perry
Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
Parks Manager Santos Escobar
Urban Forest Superintendent Tim Downey
Recreation Manager Judith McCaffrey
Senior Recreation Supervisor Jason Bryan
Capital Projects Supervisor George Thomson
Aquatics Recreation Supervisor Tony Sholl
Recreation Coordinator Amber Workman-Hatsedakis
Executive Assistant Rose Nevarez
Public Works Supervising Civil Engineer Ashleigh Shue

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: Item 8 was taken in advance of Item 6.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: John Jeffries, Pilgrim Terrace Affordable, LP

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT:

Chair Jensen Steady reported the Youth Council held a meeting regarding gun violence and completed filming a public service announcement with City TV regarding the new smoking law. They will begin recruitment for new members in March or April and will be holding a Community Education Workshop on April 28, in a yet to be determined location.

Chair Longstreet asked that the Commission be informed on the Youth Council's activities regarding gun violence as they move forward.

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS:

Commissioner Perry attended and reported on the Arts and Crafts Advisory Committee meeting.

Commission Armbruster attended and reported on the Golf Advisory Committee meeting.

Commission Martinez Cohen attended and reported on the Creeks Advisory Committee meeting.

Commission Clark reported on the Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee meeting, and attended and reported on the PARC Foundation Board meeting.

Commissioner Lesner-Buxton attended and reported on the Neighborhood Advisory Council meeting.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS: None

CEREMONIAL ITEMS:

1. Subject: Employee Recognition

Director Jill Zachary recognized Leslie Lund, Recreation Coordinator, for 20 years of service.

CONSENT ITEMS:

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

The Commission received the report and their questions were answered.

3. Subject: Minutes – For Action (Attachment)

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 24, 2018.

Motion:

Commissioner Perry / McGill to waive the reading and approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 24, 2018.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (7/0)

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.

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

Documents:

- Staff Report dated February 28, 2018
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Urban Forest Superintendent Tim Downey

Recommendation: That the Commission:

A. Deny the following Setback Tree removal request:

1. 3849 Connie Way – *Araucaria columnaris*, Star Pine – Leon Thorpe

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

Motion:

Commissioner Clark / Perry to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to deny the Setback Tree removal.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (7/0)

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

1. 100 block of E. Sola St. – consider co-designation – Street Tree Advisory Committee

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

Motion:

Commissioner Martinez Cohen / Armbruster to approve the change of the Street Tree Master Plan for the 100 block of E. Sola Street to include *Magnolia grandiflora* 'Little Gem', Little Gem Magnolia.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (7/0)

2. 3400-3700 Modoc Rd. - Las Positas/Modoc Rd. Multiuse Path Project

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

Motion:

Commissioner Martinez Cohen / Clark to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee and approve the co-designation of the *Quercus tomentilla*, Island Oak, and remove *Jacaranda mimosifolia*, Jacaranda.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (7/0)

3. Las Positas Rd. – Cliff Dr. to Modoc Rd. - Las Positas/Modoc Rd. Multiuse Path Project.

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

Motion:

Commissioner McGill / Perry to approve *Quercus agrifolia*, Coast Live Oak, as the designated tree and remove *Jacaranda mimosifolia*, Jacaranda.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (7/0)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

5. **Subject: Santa Barbara Swim Club Recognition and Report on Los Baños Del Mar Pool Improvements and Repairs – For Information (Attachment)**

Documents:

- Staff Report dated February 28, 2018
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Aquatics Recreation Supervisor Tony Sholl
- Recreation Coordinator Amber Workman-Hatsedakis
- Paul Castleberg, Santa Barbara Swim Club President

Recommendation: That the Commission:

- A. Recognize the Santa Barbara Swim Club for its continued support of the aquatic community and \$35,000 donation for a secondary sanitation system at Los Baños del Mar; and
- B. Receive a report on Los Baños del Mar Pool improvements and repairs completed in December 2017.

Recreation Coordinator Amber Workman-Hatsedakis reported on the history of Los Baños del Mar and the improvements and repairs made to the pump room, weight room, offices, pool, deck, and locker rooms. Aquatics Recreation Supervisor Tony Sholl reported on the new sanitation system donated by the Santa Barbara Swim Club and Sea Forward Foundation and recognized the Santa Barbara Swim Club for the donation and their 50 years of support of the Aquatics program. Supervisor Sholl also recognized the Friends of Los Baños for their assistance with improvements, along with Public Works Facilities staff.

The Commission received the report and their questions were answered.

Chair Beebe Longstreet thanked Paul Castleberg, Santa Barbara Swim Club President, for the Club's partnership with the Aquatics program and presented a certificate of appreciation. Mr. Castleberg thanked the Commission and expressed the Club's consensus on the importance of the partnership and their appreciation of Aquatics staff.

6. Subject: Director's Report – For Information (Attachment)

Documents:

-Staff Report dated February 28, 2018

Speakers:

-Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary

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

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary reported on the Kids World re-opening and ribbon cutting, City Council approval to explore the concept of a Franceschi House interpretive pavilion and a master plan update, and the Carousel House renovation.

The Commission received the report and their questions were answered.

7. Subject: Capital Projects Update – For Information (Attachment)

Documents:

- Staff Report dated February 28, 2018
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
- Capital Projects Supervisor George Thomson

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a presentation on the status of the active Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Projects.

Capital Projects Supervisor George Thomson gave a brief overview of the Capital Improvement Program. The Department currently has 43 projects identified, only a small number of which are currently funded. The Cabrillo Pavilion and Bathhouse Renovation and the Cabrillo Ball Park Renovation are under construction. Projects in various stages of design, permitting or bidding, include Thousand Steps, Municipal Tennis Center Playground and Tennis Patio, MacKenzie Park Off-Leash Dog Area, Louise Lowry Davis Center Renovation, Franceschi House and Park, West Beach Splash Playground, Ortega Park, Dwight Murphy Field, Bohnett Park, and Parma Park Sustainable Trail Plan.

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary added that many Parks and Recreation facilities date from the 1920's through 1940's, and park infrastructure is in need of reinvestment. The fact that renovations of facilities have not taken place in a long time make it an exciting time and gives an opportunity to reach out to stakeholder groups to make sure planning will meet the needs of the community, as community needs have changed substantially since the facilities were built.

The Commission received the report and their questions were answered.

OLD BUSINESS:

8. Subject: Las Positas/Modoc Road Multiuse Path Project – For Action (Attachments)

Documents:

- Public Works Staff Report dated February 28, 2018
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
- Public Works Supervising Civil Engineer Ashleigh Shue
- Brian Hannigan, RRM Design Group, Consultant

Recommendation: That the Commission provide comments on the proposed landscaping plans and make recommendations to the Architectural Board of Review.

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary observed that this was an important opportunity for the Commission to express its views, particularly as they relate to the landscaping for the multiuse path project, what it means for how the corridor will appear once the new facility is installed, how it relates to the area's current rural nature, and the consideration of the cost of maintenance over time.

Public Works Supervising Civil Engineer Ashleigh Shue gave an overview of the project, located on the south side of Modoc Road, between Calle de Los Amigos to Las Positas Road, then on the west side of Las Positas Road all the way to Cliff Drive, just under 3 miles. This path will complete an important link in the City's bicycle network, connecting the Pacific coastal route and the crosstown bicycle route. Its purpose is to separate bicyclists, runners, and pedestrians from traffic, providing a safe space for people of all ages and abilities along the high speed corridor of Las Positas and Modoc Road.

The Commission's previous action was in January of 2017, when they approved the removal of up to 114 various trees along the corridor with the conditions that replacement tree sizes be varied, up to and including 60-inch box, have a diversity of native species, as many existing trees as feasible be preserved, and no tree be removed until construction is funded.

The goals of the preliminary landscape plans are to be compatible with and enhance the existing natural setting and tree canopy by incorporating native trees, natural stone materials, and limited native drought tolerant plants at some key locations. No new trees are proposed in the parkway area on Las Positas due to restrictions by the Fire Department as it is a high fire zone.

Constrained areas along Las Positas will require a physical barrier between the road and path and will be a key item for the Architectural Board of Review. The barrier must be crash rated, sustain impact from a vehicle and protect those on the path. There are a variety of types and staff are looking at different options with a rural feel. Visibility at intersections has been addressed with low landscape plantings, green striping for bike lanes at intersections and new striping for pedestrian crossings, and signage. There will be stop signs for bicycles on the path and vehicle stoplights at crossings.

The project will fund maintenance for a minimum of 7 years for trees and 6-12 months for other plantings during establishment period, after which it will be turned over to the Parks and Recreation Department. The project will return to the Architectural Board of Review in March or April for their comments.

Construction funding is not currently secured, staff will apply for grant funding this summer. If they receive grant funds, the funding year would be fiscal year 2019-20, with a potential construction start date of late 2019.

The Commission received the report and their questions were answered.

Chair Longstreet stated this is a good time to think about long range impacts of the costs of maintenance with budget hearings coming up. She believes it is not progressive to consider adding irrigation and water meters to rural areas. The ABR will be looking at the project from a purely aesthetic point of view, but one can plant a beautiful aesthetic project that looks terrible in 10 years without funds to maintain it. She wants to ensure the Commission's statement comes across from the reality of what we have and what we see in the future.

Commissioners expressed their support of the project with comments to maintain the rural quality and native plantings; to minimize the need for maintenance; and a restriction against added irrigation, as that does not make environmental sense at this time. The Commission supports the plant palette with the removal of Jacaranda. To the Commission, this is not a street tree or development project, it is a rural connection and it is important that it remain that way, and the variety of tree sizes is still important to ensure a more natural setting.

9. Subject: Memo from Commission Regarding Draft Coastal Land Use Plan – For Action (Attachment)

Recommendation: That the Commission review and approve the memo to the Planning Commission and City Council regarding the draft Coastal Land Use Plan.

Discussion provided that a comment should be added addressing the fact that granting access and maintaining access will preserve the public's willingness to preserve habitat.

Motion:

Commissioner Clark / Perry that the Commission approve the memo to the Planning Commission and City Council regarding the draft Coastal Land Use Plan as amended

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (7/0)

NEW BUSINESS:

10. Subject: Advisory Committee Liaisons – For Action (Attachment)

Recommendation: That the Commission review and consider advisory committee liaison appointments.

Commissioner McGill was designated liaison to the PARC Foundation Board and Commissioner Lesner-Buxton was designated liaison to the Youth Council and removed as liaison to the Neighborhood Advisory Council.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:05 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