



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AND
NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**SPECIAL JOINT MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 27, 2018
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 735 ANACAPA STREET**

CALL TO ORDER

Parks and Recreation Commission Chair Beebe Longstreet called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at City Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Parks and Recreation Commissioners Present

Chair Beebe Longstreet
Vice Chair Nichol Clark
Commissioner Jacob Lesner-Buxton
Commissioner Roger Perry

Commissioners Absent

Commissioner Tara Armbruster
Commissioner Andria Martinez Cohen
Commissioner Kathy McGill

Neighborhood Advisory Council Members Present

Chair Brittany Heaton
Vice Chair May O'Mahoney
Sebastian Aldana
Jacqueline Barrios (6:01)
Sally Foxen
Beebe Longstreet
Stacey Lydon
Rehman Qadri
Eve Sanford

Neighborhood Advisory Council Members Absent

Hector Sanchez

Staff Present

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Rich Hanna
Parks Manager Santos Escobar
Recreation Manager Judith McCaffrey
Executive Assistant Rose Nevarez

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Subject: Bohnett Park Renovation Project – For Discussion (Attachments)

Documents:

- Staff Report dated June 27, 2018
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff
- Consultant PowerPoint presented by Consultant

Speakers:

- Project Planner Justin Van Mullem
- SWA Group Managing Principal Landscape Architect Ying-Yu Hung
- Public Speaker Xavier Gutierrez
- Public Speaker Landon Ranck
- Public Speaker Richard Sander
- Public Speaker Michael Baker
- Public Speaker Brianna Lane
- Public Speaker Terra Taylor

Recommendation: That the Commission and Council receive a presentation and provide advisory comments on the Bohnett Park Renovation Project.

Project Planner Justin Van Mullem gave background on Bohnett Park and reported on renovation project goals and objectives, and the project process. The project will require Architectural Board of Review approval and assessment from the Planning Division. The Department believes permitting could be complete in early 2019.

Mr. Van Mullem introduced Managing Principal Landscape Architect Ying-Yu Hung and Landscape Architect Jana Wehby from SWA Group, the consultants hired for the project. Principal Ying-Yu Hung reviewed the needs and opportunities identified, from which a concept plan was developed. The plan was presented at a community workshop held on May 22, and a revised concept plan developed as a result of input received at the workshop. Ms. Hung presented the concept plan, describing its features, and the revisions made to the original plan to incorporate feedback from the workshop.

Questions from Parks and Recreation Commissioners and Neighborhood Advisory Council members were answered and they received comments from various community members.

Parks and Recreation Commissioners and Neighborhood Advisory Council members expressed support for the project and thanked community members for their participation in the process and for attending this meeting. They asked that concerns and suggestions expressed by community members be taken into consideration as the project progresses. Some suggestions mentioned were implementing construction

in phases, using artificial turf, accessibility improvements, flexible field uses, a preschool playground, a children's basketball court, and safety improvements, including improved lighting.

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary also thanked the community for their involvement. Staff will be meeting with SWA Group and determining how to integrate as much of the input as possible and refining the concept plan. The project will be brought before Commission again as the plan gets closer to being finalized.

2. Subject: West Beach Splash Playground – For Discussion (Attachments)

Documents:

- Staff Report dated June 27, 2018
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Project Planner Justin Van Mullem
- SWA Group Managing Principal Landscape Architect Ying-Yu Hung
- Public Speaker Brianna Lane
- Public Speaker Jim Hurnblad
- Public Speaker Amber Workman
- Public Speaker Terra Taylor

Recommendation: That the Commission and Council receive a presentation and provide advisory comments on the West Beach Splash Playground.

Project Planner Justin Van Mullem gave background on the West Beach Wading Pool and reported on the Splash Playground project goals and objectives, and the project process. The project will require Historic Landmarks Commission approval, a Coastal Development Permit, and may require Planning Commission approval. The Department believes design review and environmental permitting could be complete in late 2018.

SWA Managing Principal Landscape Architect Ying-Yu Hung reviewed design inspirations (nature, historic, and working waterfront) splash pad definition, existing conditions, constraints, and opportunities from which a concept plan was developed. A rough concept plan was presented at a community workshop held on May 24, and a revised concept plan was developed incorporating input received at the workshop. Ms. Hung presented the plan and described its features, noting those that resulted from feedback from the workshop. The location of a nesting habitat for Black Crowned Night Herons located in trees on Cabrillo Boulevard adjacent to the site is a key consideration.

Questions from Parks and Recreation Commissioners and Neighborhood Advisory Council members were answered and they received comments from various community members.

Parks and Recreation Commissioners and Neighborhood Advisory Council members expressed support and enthusiasm for the project and thanked community members for their participation in the process and for attending this meeting. They asked that

concerns and suggestions expressed by community members be taken into consideration as the project progresses.

Suggestions regarding the nesting birds included protecting their habitat, providing overhead protection from bird droppings, ensuring cleanliness of the recycled water, and incorporating informative bird habitat signage.

Other suggestions included consulting with the Chumash community on the proposed interpretive station, ensuring accessibility, restricting restroom use to playground users, choosing lasting materials for shade structures, incorporating a planted arbor for shade, posting educational water conservation signage, allowing food and beverages in the playground, and making the fence attractive to those on the outside.

Parks and Recreation Department Director thanked the Parks and Recreation commissioners, Neighborhood Advisory Council members, and public for their comments and considerations. As with the Bohnett Park project, Staff will be meeting with SWA Group and determining how to integrate as much of the input as possible and refining the concept plan. Moving forward, she hopes that the energy and desire to see a project like this constructed allows for achieving some version of it in balance with all the needs.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:10 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