



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

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, December 12, 2018
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 735 ANACAPA STREET**

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Roger Perry called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. at City Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Roger Perry

ROLL CALL

Commissioners and Staff Present

Vice Chair Roger Perry
Commissioner Tara Armbruster
Commissioner Jacob Lesner-Buxton
Commissioner Beebe Longstreet
Commissioner Kathy McGill
Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Rich Hanna
Recreation Programs Manager Judith McCaffrey
Senior Recreation Supervisor Susan Jang Bardick
Capital Projects Supervisor George Thomson
Recreation Coordinator Sarah Knowles
Executive Assistant Rose Nevarez

Commissioners Absent

Chair Nichol Clark
Commissioner Andria Martinez Cohen

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

Item 7 was taken before Item 6.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT:

Youth Council member Nathaniel Getachew reported three new members were appointed, making for a full Youth Council. The Youth Council had a fundraising bake sale and attended a joint meeting with the Gun Safety Task Force of the Coalition Against Gun Violence. Upcoming events include the end-of-year dinner on Monday, December 17th at the Franklin Center, to which Mr. Getachew invited the Commissioners, and the Annual Teen Leadership conference scheduled for the spring,

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS:

Commissioner Lesner-Buxton commended the Youth Council and is proud to be their Commission liaison.

Commissioner McGill attended the Police Station Public Workshop on November 13th at La Cumbre Jr. High.

Commissioner Longstreet attended the Sea Level Rise Adaptation Committee meeting.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS: None

CEREMONIAL ITEMS:

1. Subject: Employee Recognition – Service Award Pins

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary recognized Marketing Coordinator Summers Case and Code Enforcement Officer Christopher Clark for 5 years of service, and Tree Care Specialist George Jimenez for 20 years of service.

Commissioner McGill read an email from Chair Clark expressing her gratitude to Summers Case for her major contribution in rebranding and bringing a fresh, modern look to the Parks and Recreation Department advertising, promotional materials, and social media sites.

CONSENT ITEMS:

2. Subject: Minutes – For Action (Attachment)

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 14, 2018.

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Armbruster to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 14, 2018.

Vote:
Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

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 December 12, 2018
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Urban Forest Superintendent Tim Downey
- Public Speaker Jeff Kone (Item 3.E.1)
- Public Speaker Sebastian Aldana (Item 3.F.2)

Recommendation: That the Commission:

A. Approve the following Street Tree removal request, with conditions:

1. 2001 Grand Ave. – (6) *Tipuana tipu*, Tipu Trees – Cynthia and Vince Norris

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

Motion:

Commissioner Armbruster / McGill to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to remove the trees on the condition that they be replaced with street trees, number and location to be determined by Staff.

Vote:
Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

B. Approve the following Setback Tree removal request:

1. Cottage Hospital at W. Pueblo St. 2300 block of Bath St. – (1) *Erythrina caffra*, African Coral Tree, and (1) *Pinus canariensis*, Canary Island Pine – Martha Degasis, Arcadia Studio

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

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / McGill to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to approve the removals.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

C. Partially approve the following Street Tree removal request, with conditions:

1. 17 S. Milpas St. – (8) *Metrosideros excelsa*, New Zealand Christmas Tree, and (1) *Ficus microcarpa*, Indian Laurel Fig – Martha Degasis, Arcadia Studio

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

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Armbruster to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to approve removal of the 8 New Zealand Christmas Trees on the condition that the Architectural Board of Review approve the parking lot landscape plan and postpone a decision on the removal of the Indian Laurel Fig, and that the applicant review any placement of trees along the sidewalk to better accommodate pedestrians.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

D. Approve the following Setback Tree removal request, with conditions:

1. 1460 Crestline Dr. – *Schinus terebinthifolius*, Brazilian Pepper – Bart Millar

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

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / McGill to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to approve removal on the condition that a street tree be planted in the parkway at a location to be determined by Staff.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

2. 820 Alston Rd. – *Quercus agrifolia*, Coast Live Oak – Alexa Newman

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

Motion:

Commissioner McGill / Longstreet to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to approve removal on the condition the applicant receives a building permit for the new driveway and additional trees are planted in the location of the current driveway.

Vote:
Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

E. Deny the following Setback Tree removal request:

1. 1825 Mission Ridge Rd. – *Pinus canariensis*, Canary Island Pine – Christina Rottman 1402

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

Motion:
Commissioner Longstreet / Armbruster to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to deny removal.

Vote:
Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

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

1. 500 block of E Ortega St. – Consider change in designation – Staff

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

Motion:
Commissioner McGill / Longstreet to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to approve Catalina Cherry as designated species.

Vote:
Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

2. 00 block of S. Milpas St. – Consider change in designation - Martha Degasis, Arcadia Studio

The Commission received the report, listened to testimony, and the following action was taken:

Motion:
Commissioner Longstreet / McGill to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation to approve Queen Palm as co-designated species.

Vote:
Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

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

Documents:

-Staff Report dated December 12, 2018

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 Zachary reported on the holiday closure of City offices from December 24 through January 1. There will be a small crew at Los Baños Del Mar pool and a reduced Parks staff, enough to address basic maintenance and safety checks. Park Rangers will be on duty.

5. Subject: Dwight Murphy Field Master Plan – For Action (Attachment)

Documents:

-Staff Report dated December 12, 2018

-Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

-Capital Projects Supervisor George Thomson

-Public Speaker Meghan Salas, PONY Baseball

-Public Speaker Sebastian Aldana

-Public Speaker Victoria Strong, Gwendolyn Strong Foundation

Recommendation: That the Commission review the Dwight Murphy Field Master Plan and recommend to City Council that the Department proceed with advancing the preliminary design of the proposed park improvements when funding is available.

Supervisor George Thomson gave an overview of the steps taken on the project since it was last brought before the Commission at the Joint Commission and Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) meeting in August. Stakeholder meetings took place in September and October, and input from the Joint Meeting and stakeholder meetings was used to refine the Master Plan. The plan went before the Architectural Board of Review in November. Mr. Thomson gave a detailed report of the revised plan, including the multi-sport artificial turf field, accessible playground, youth baseball field, restroom facilities, and landscaping. He then discussed neighborhood compatibility issues, such as parking, traffic circulation, noise mitigation, and lighting.

The Master Plan will be presented to City Council on January 29. If Council gives direction to advance the plan, the Department will move ahead with Preliminary Design once future funding is received, including soils, parking and lighting studies, and specific design of park amenities and the right of way. The project is in the early stages, and future steps include community access decisions, Architectural Board of Review Final Design Review and Formal Concept Review, Planning Commission review, and a Coastal Development permit. Feasibility, cost, and potential phasing of construction will be addressed in the final design process. He then spoke about the project budget, including its inclusion in the Department's Fiscal Year 2020-2025 Capital Improvement Program.

Questions from the Commissioners were answered, then comments were taken from the public. Public speakers expressed support for the project, and thanked staff. Mr. Aldana suggested a transportation study and considering including a bike lane and sidewalk improvements.

Commissioner Longstreet is very supportive of the project and reminded everyone to take notice of the park's current state, and to envision what is proposed. She thanked the Gwendolyn Strong Foundation for their commitment to fundraising for the playground and participation in the process, as well as PONY baseball and others who have been involved. She asked that staff consider including a family restroom in the final design. Commissioner Longstreet believes that artificial turf needs to be incorporated, as the community cannot be without playing fields for the four months necessary to maintain natural turf fields.

Commissioner McGill also supports the project, and added that she believes it is a real testament to the seriousness of intent with which the Department took public engagement. Everybody worked together to develop a plan that meets the fundamental needs of all the stakeholders.

Vice Chair Perry commented that he joined the Commission last year in the hopes of seeing improvements and preservation to our parks and gives his highest regards to the efforts he has seen. Dwight Murphy is long overdue for an update.

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Armbruster to recommend to City Council that the Parks and Recreation Department proceed with advancing the preliminary design of the proposed park improvements at Dwight Murphy Field with the Commission's complete support.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

6. Subject: Facilities and Special Events – For Information (Attachment)

Documents:

- Staff Report dated December 12, 2018
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Senior Recreation Supervisor Susan Jang Bardick
- Recreation Coordinator Sarah Knowles

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a report on the Parks and Recreation Department Facilities and Special Events Section programs and services.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Susan Jang Bardick gave an overview of the Facilities section and its four program areas – indoor rentals at Chase Palm Park Center, Casa Las Palmas, Carousel House, MacKenzie Center, Ortega Welcome House, Louise Lowry Davis Center, Westside Neighborhood Center, and Franklin Neighborhood Center); 37 outdoor park and beach sites rentals; community special and sporting events permitting; and commercial photo/film shoot permitting. Rentals at the Cabrillo Pavilion will also be included once renovations are completed.

Recreation Coordinator Sarah Knowles gave an overview of the special event permitting process, describing her role in assisting applicants; the types of criteria used to determine an appropriate location; details of the application phase, the purpose of which is to minimize liability to the City, ensure public safety, and lessen any negative impact the event might have on the facility and surrounding neighborhood; pre-event phase; event day monitoring; and post event inspection.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Susan Jang Bardick described the commercial photo/film shoot permitting process, adopted by the City 10 years ago to streamline the permitting process for the commercial photography, film, and television industries.

The Commission received the report and their questions were answered.

Commissioner Lesner-Buxton expressed concern that food vendor booths at events often have high windows for receiving refreshments and high eating tables, both of which are prohibitive to some people with disabilities. He asked if this could be mentioned to food vendors. Senior Recreation Supervisor Susan Jang Bardick replied that the booth window requirement is set by the County Office of Public Health and she will pass on his concerns.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

7. Subject: Advisory Committee Interviews and Appointments – For Action (Attachments)

Documents:

-Staff Report dated December 12, 2018

Speakers:

-Maureen Masson
-Michael Woodard
-Larry Nowlin
-Frank Beeler
-John Craig
-Dominic Namnath
-Bob Cunningham
-Maury Treman
-Anthony De Mola

Recommendation: That the Commission hold interviews and make appointments to various advisory committees.

The Commission interviewed Maureen Masson, Michael Woodard, Larry Nowlin, Frank Beeler, John Craig, and Dominic Namnath for the Golf Advisory Committee and made the following motion.

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Armbruster to appoint Maureen Masson in the Santa Barbara Women's Golf Club category

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Armbruster to appoint John Craig in the Los Paisanos Golf Club category.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Armbruster to appoint Dominic Namnath in the Men's Club category.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Armbruster to appoint Michael Woodard, Larry Nowlin, and Frank Beeler in the Community At-Large category.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

The Commission interviewed Bob Cunningham, Maury Treman, and Anthony De Mola for the Street Tree Advisory Committee. At this time, applicant Maury Treman withdrew her application. Vice Chair Perry thanked Mr. Cunningham for his continued participation and welcomed Mr. De Mola.

Commissioner Longstreet bid farewell to Commissioner Armbruster, thanked her for her service on the Commission, and expressed a hope that she return someday soon.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:52 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