

MINUTES



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

January 22, 2008

City Hall

250 Hamilton Ave

Commissioners Present: Deirdre Crommie, Joel Davidson, Carl King, Paul Losch, Pat Markevitch, Alex Panelli, Daria Walsh

Others Present: Jack Morton

Staff Present: Greg Betts, Catherine Bourquin, Rob de Geus, Lester Hodgins

Roll Call Conducted by: Catherine Bourquin

I. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Sheri Furman, 3094 Greer, PA – Spoke on her concern for pocket parks in Palo Alto.
Faith Braff, 809 Garland Drive, PA – Spoke on Jordan Fields
Manu Kumar, Garland Drive, PA – Spoke on Jordan Fields – provided a letter from the Jordan Neighbors.

II. AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, and DELETIONS: None

III. BUSINESS:

1. Approval of Draft Minutes of December 18, 2007 Meeting –

The draft minutes of the December 18, 2007 meeting were approved with one correction.

Approved: 7:0

2. Introduction of the Council Liaison Morton

Chair Losch recognized that Council Liaison Morton would be continuing as the Parks and Recreation Commission Council Liaison.

3. Election of Chair

Commissioner Markevitch was nominated for the position of Chair and accepted the position of Chair. It was unanimously approved. **Approved 7:0**

4. Election of Vice Chair

After nominees Walsh, King, and Davidson declined the position of Vice Chair, Commissioner Crommie was nominated and accepted the position of Vice Chair. It was then unanimously approved. **Approved 7:0**

5. California park and recreation trends

Staff Betts introduced Staff Lester Hodgins, Supervisor Open Space who presented the Commissioners with a presentation on Park and Recreation Trends in California. Handouts were provided for future reference.

6. Greer Park Phase IV design and reaffirmation of the conceptual design

Oral Communications were given before discussion of this Agenda item.

Annette Ashton, 2747 Bryant, PA – Annette provided the Commissioners with a brief background on the Task force that was created to work on the ideas for the design of Greer Park Phase IV.

Sheri Furman, 2094 Greer, PA – Sheri is the Chair for the Midtown Association and requested the Commission to accept the conceptual design that was already approved.

Barbara Millin, 1944 Emerson, PA – Spoke on having the Commission reconsider the possible usage of the Greer park phase IV for a dog run instead of a passive park.

Jean Scott, 3136 Genevieve, PA – Resident of Midtown that has been around for all the phases of Greer Park, she requested that the Commission approve the conceptual design keeping it as a passive park.

Charles Scott, 3136 Genevieve, PA – Mr. Scott also requested that the Commission reaffirm the conceptual design as previously approved. He encouraged the Commission not to delay this Phase IV any longer.

Herb Borock, P.O. Box 632, PA – Referred the Commission to the environmental usage study that had tennis courts as a future possibility at that location.

Adelaide McNamara, 810 Fielding Drive, PA – Spoke on having the Commission consider the area as a possibility for a dog run so she had a place for her active dog to play in.

The Commission spent time discussing Greer Park Phase IV in depth and the new Commissioners had questions on the possibility of using it for a Dog run. After much discussion it was agreed that the conceptual design should stay as it was originally agreed upon, moving forward to create a “Passive park”. A motion was made by Commissioner Losch and seconded by Commissioner Davidson.

Motion: The Commission agreed to reaffirm the original direction for Greer Park Phase IV. Approved 5:2(Walsh and Crommie)

7. Meeting format: Where should guest presentations be placed on the Agenda?

The Commission discussed how they might make it more convenient for the Public to know when to be present for a topic of interest. It was suggested that the

APPROVED

Commission prioritize their guest presentations at an earlier time, changing the regular meeting time to 7:30pm and scheduling their informational presentations at 7pm referring to it as a Study Session. Staff would confirm with the Clerks office that this was an acceptable form to use for their Commission meetings.

8. Finalization of 2008 Commission Priorities with Specific Goal Statements

Commissioner Chair Markevitch requested the Commissioners provide their goals for their designated priorities as agreed from their last meeting. Each Commissioner responsible for a priority provided their ideas for goals for their priority.

- Open Space – Walsh
- Playing Areas – Panelli
- Working Resources – Davidson
- Healthy lifestyles – Crommie

After much discussion, Commissioner Markevitch requested that each commissioner continue working on their goals for their priorities and forward their reports to Staff two weeks before the packet goes out. These will then be sent to all Commissioners so they can have adequate time to review for discussion and finalization at the next meeting. It was also decided to request Anne Cribbs to come and speak on the area of Healthy lifestyles.

V. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Staff Betts provided a handout to the Commissioners on Stanford University, Dept of Athletics on a Self survey on the certification in the NCLWA.
2. Staff Betts informed the Commission that he met with California Land Management and provided them with the checklist for them to use at Jordan fields per Commissioner Kings suggestion. CLM will be providing monthly reports back to Staff, these will be available for review upon the Commissions request.
3. Staff Betts let the Commission know that there was a great turnout for the dedication of renaming the City Plaza to the Martin Luther King Plaza.
4. Tour of California flyer handed out. To be held on February 17, 2008 at 1pm refer to website www.amgentourofcalifornia.com.

VI. AGENDA FOR JANUARY REGULAR MEETING: February 26, 2008

1. Anne Cribbs to come and speak
2. Liaison Council Morton to speak on the Council priorities
3. Parks and Recreation Commission Priorities – Finalization
4. Dog issues
5. Library Masterplan

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 10:40pm

