



DRAFT

**MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
May 27, 2008
City Hall
250 Hamilton Ave**

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

Commissioners Absent: Paul Losch

Others Present: Council Liaison Morton

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

I. ROLL CALL CONDUCTED BY: Catherine Bourquin

II. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION – Summer Recreation Camps and Aquatic Programs - Khashayar Alae, Recreation Supervisor provided the Commissioners with a presentation on what the city offers in the way of summer recreation camps and aquatic programs.

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

IV. AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, and DELETIONS – Commissioner Davidson questioned why business item #3 *Composting in Palo Alto – Feasibility Study Results* was an informational item instead of an Action item as requested at last months meeting.

V. BUSINESS:

1. Approval of Draft Minutes of March 25, 2008 and April 22, 2008 Meeting –

The draft minutes of March 25, 2008 were approved with 1 abstention.

Approved 5:1 (Commissioner Davidson absent)

The draft minutes of April 22, 2008 were unanimously approved **Approved 6:0**

2. Library/Community Center Bond Measure Education Effort – Deferred

3. **Composting in Palo Alto – Feasibility Study Results** – Matt Raschke, Senior Engineer with Public Works presented to the Commission the results of a feasibility study on composting in Palo Alto.

Oral Communications

Emily Renzel – 1056 Forest, Palo Alto – Spoke on the use of the dedicated park land that the proposed compost site would continue to be located at.

Tom Jordan – 474 Churchill Ave, Palo Alto – Encouraged the Commissioners to be educated on the composting issue before making any quick decisions.

The presentation was followed with question and answers from the Commissioners and Mr. Raschke along with Mr. Ron Arp Manager of the Environmental Control Program.

A motion was made by Commissioner Davidson:

To have the dedication of Park Land/compost placed on the Commission Agenda as a Commission discussion for policy recommendations to Council for the July Commission Agenda.

*Approved 4:2 Voted for it - Commissioners Crommie, King Markevitch, and Davidson
Voted Against it - Commissioners Panelli and Walsh*

4. **Byxbee Park Hills (Landfill) Grading Plan Update On How The State Approved Grading Plan Conforms with the Hargreave's Grading Recommendations of January 2007** – Mr. Raschke gave a update on the landfill grading plan. He provided a slide handout that covered the historical perspective and background information. He also included in his presentation the recent changes and the current plan. The Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions.

Oral Communications

Emily Renzel – 1056 Forest, Palo Alto – Provided the Commissioners with background information and expressed her hopes that the Commission would support the Hargreave's grading recommendations.

5. **Update on Recommendations for Dogs Off-Leash in Parks** – No update. It has been difficult for the Sub committee to schedule a meeting.

6. **Subcommittee Reports**

- a. Playing Fields – The Committee has been meeting every two weeks. They are working on a draft field allocation for next month.

- b. Culture of Fitness – The Committee met with Anne Cribbs on the hosting of the Senior Olympics. Commissioner Crommie will be assisting with interfacing with

the Palo Alto Neighborhood Association to promote the need for volunteers for this event.

- c. Partnership – No report.
- d. Open Space – The Committee met with Emily Renzel to obtain information on the Master Plan update. Will be setting up another meeting in June with the environmental groups.

VI. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Update on Jordan Field Activity – Staff Betts commented on the results of California Land Managements review of the Jordan site. The results were that they did not find much noise during their checks.
2. Report on Budget Hearings – Staff Betts announced to the Commission that the City Council and Finance committee reviewed and accepted the recommendations for \$30,000 to be used for restoration projects in Open Space and Parks. Final adoption will be on June 9th.
3. Staff Betts announced that the Friends of Lytton Plaza will be holding a public meeting on Wednesday, May 28 at 7 – 8:30 at City Hall.
4. Staff Betts also announced that their will be a stake holder meeting at Foothill Park at 7pm on Wednesday, May 28th regarding the Wildlife Fire Management Plan development.
5. Council Liaison Morton told the Commission that it would be appropriate for the Commission if they wanted to come to the Council during the budget hearing and speak on any budget issue on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

VII. AGENDA FOR MAY REGULAR MEETING: June 24, 2008

1. Approval of May 27, 2008 Minutes
2. Baylands Master Plan
2. Golf Course Study
3. Draft Field Brokerage

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 10:35 pm