



CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 18, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
Menlo Park Senior Center
110 Terminal Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025

Mayor Keith called the Regular Session to order 7:01 p.m. with all members present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Agenda item F-3 is being removed from the agenda.

A. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS: None

B. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE VACANCIES, APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS

B1. Consider applicants for appointment to fill one vacancy on the Bicycle Commission, two vacancies on the Environmental Quality Commission and one vacancy on the Library Commission ([Staff report #12-135](#))

Staff presentation by Margaret Roberts, City Clerk

For the one vacancy on the Bicycle Commission with a term ending April 30, 2014

ACTION: Andrew Combs nominated by Ohtaki, Michael Meyer nominated by Fergusson and Jamie Morgan nominated by Keith.

- Votes for Andrew Combs from Cohen and Ohtaki
- Votes for Michael Meyer from Cline and Fergusson
- Vote for Jamie Morgan from Keith.

With no applicant receiving three votes a second round of voting.

- Votes for Andrew Combs from Cohen and Ohtaki
- Votes for Michael Meyer from Cline, Fergusson and Keith

Michael Meyer is appointed to serve on the Bicycle Commission through April 2014.

For the two vacancies on the Environmental Quality Commission with terms ending April 30, 2016

ACTION: Allan Bedwell nominated by Keith, Elizabeth Houck nominated by Fergusson and Kristen Kuntz-Durisetti nominated by Cline.

- Votes for Allan Bedwell from Cohen, Ohtaki and Keith
- Votes for Elizabeth Houck from Cline and Fergusson
- Votes for Kristen Kuntz-Durisetti from Cohen, Cline, Fergusson, Keith, Ohtaki

Andrew Combs and Kristen Kuntz-Durisetti are appointed to serve on the Environmental Quality Commission through April 2016.

For the one vacancy on the Library Commission with a term ending April 30, 2016

ACTION: Deepa Butler nominated by Ohtaki, and with no other nominations was appointed by acclamation to serve on the Library Commission through April 2016.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

- Marrgie Creighton thanked the City Council for their support regarding the Exploratory Experiences Programs.
- Marilu Serrano advised the Council that she is running for the School Board.
- Rose Bickerstaff spoke regarding the poor conditions of the parks.
- Jacqueline Cebrien thanked the Council for holding this meeting in Belle Haven.
- Latreece read a letter of appreciation to Natasha.... Regarding opening the center when the school had a fire.
- Opha Wray stated that the streets in the Belle Haven area are not being maintained as they should be.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION: Motion and second (Cline/Ohtaki) to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted passes unanimously.

- D1.** Authorize the Police Department to accept the State of California, Department of Transportation Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) grant PT1341 in the amount of \$30,000 and authorize the Police Department to execute all agreements to conduct specified traffic enforcement operations ([Staff report #12-136](#))
- D2.** Authorize the City Manager to execute three separate agreements with the City and County Association of Governments, the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board and the San Mateo County Transit District for the operation and funding of the City's shuttle program for Fiscal Year 2012-13 ([Staff report #12-138](#))
- D3.** Adopt **Resolution No. 6102** authorizing the City Manager to execute a deed granting a sanitary sewer easement on 50 Terminal Avenue to West Bay Sanitary District ([Staff report #12-139](#))

E. PUBLIC HEARING: None

F. REGULAR BUSINESS

- F1.** Approve the development of a Request for Proposals for facilitation of a community process for the Belle Haven Neighborhood, allocate appropriate budget for the project, and authorize the City Manager to exceed the \$50,000 purchase limit if needed to contract for the process ([Staff report #12-137](#))

Staff presentation by Cherise Brandell, Community Services Director and Derek Schweigart, Social Services Manager ([PowerPoint](#))

Public Comment

- Rose Bickerstaff stated that there is no need for this consultant and study sessions on this, the top priority is education.
- Rachel Bickerstaff stated that spending this money would be wasteful, there just needs to be action and education is the top of the priority for this community.
- Marilu Serrano stated that education is key and the schools need to be held accountable.
- Carolyn Clarke stated that the last study was in 1993 and this is needed. This is a very diverse community with many backgrounds and there is a need to bridge the gap.

- Ed Harris stated that he understands education as he received his education here. He is in agreement with the Community Services Department and other issues need to be addressed.
- Eva Cuffy stated that there are a lot of people with a lot of skills and if you get the intelligent people in the neighborhood together you will get the information that is being sought. The community can create systems and do not like to be looked at through a microscope.
- Isis Contreras stated that they do need better schools and why are the community services so dismal on this side of the freeway. The programs should be geared toward what the residents can afford. This is the right direction but does not know if it is necessary to spend \$90,000.
- Opha Wray stated she supports the proposal but is unsure if it is necessary to spend \$90,000 but to do it within the community.
- James Cebrian stated that a visioning process is a great idea and believes that the Community Services Department with the stakeholders can do this without a consultant.
- Rafaela Quintero stated that in 2010 she lost her home and she did not know what to do and over 20 police officers responded and she thought this was excessive. People do not clean up after their dogs and this would be an opportunity to clean the sidewalks.
- Maggie Creighton stated that she found herself today after asking for donations, the East Menlo Park students do not have the same opportunities as those in West Menlo Park. What would happen if East Menlo Park and East Palo Alto could become a part of the Menlo School District? Education is the real problem here.
- Rachael Kaci stated that there is a need to do a new study and she agrees with the previous speakers.
- Johnny Walton stated that there is a fundamental problem with education, if everybody becomes a doctor, lawyer or engineer who is going to wash tables.
- Oseguena Ismael stated that the neighborhoods seem to be progressing except for Belle Haven, there is a lot of dog waste on the sidewalks and the bushes need trimming. Education is number one and something needs to be done.
- Dana Clarke stated that he has seen a drastic change and feels fortunate to have attended Oak Knoll and Belle Haven is just not an option right now. He would like to see Belle Haven be in the Menlo Park School District. Even if the opportunity is only through an exchange program between the West and East sides of Menlo Park.
- Emy Walton stated that she is thankful to Beechwood School, but Belle Haven needs help. The community look so sad and it is disturbing and it needs to be kept clean.
- Alejandro Vilchez stated that he has children at Beechwood, works at Belle Haven Community School and works for the City. He is supportive of the overall process. Education as a whole has been a large topic and with the exception of a very few, he does not see any people in the room come to Belle Haven School. The City does not have the role to assist education that is the role of the school district. The City has the role to break down the barriers to be able to get the education. He believes that change needs to happen.

ACTION: Motion and second (Fergusson/Cohen) approving the development of a Request for Proposals for facilitation of a community process for the Belle Haven Neighborhood, allocate appropriate budget for the project, and authorize the City Manager not to exceed the \$90,000 purchase limit if needed to contract for the process passes 3-2 (Ayes: Cline, Cohen, Fergusson Noes: Keith, Ohtaki).

- F2.** Adopt a resolution approving the revised investment policy for the City and the Community Development Agency of Menlo Park to become effective immediately
([Staff report #12-140](#))

Staff presentation by Carol Augustine, Finance Director

ACTION: Motion and second (Fergusson/Ohtaki) to approve the revised investment policy for the City and the Community Development Agency of Menlo Park becoming effective immediately passes unanimously.

- F3.** Provide feedback on the Commonwealth Corporate Center Project located at 151 Commonwealth Drive and 164 Jefferson Drive and authorize the City Manager to approve an augment to a contract with Atkins North America, Inc. in the amount of \$194,457 (for a total contract of \$236,769) and future augments as may be necessary to complete the environmental review for the project ([Staff report #12-142](#))

NOTE: This item was removed from the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

- F4.** Consider state and federal legislative items, including decisions to support or oppose any such legislation, and items listed under Written Communication or Information Item: None

G. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: None

H. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION: None

I. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- I1.** Belle Haven Afterschool Program Cost Recovery Update ([Staff report #12-141](#))
The City Council received the report.

J. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Council Members reported on meetings attended in compliance with AB1234 reporting requirements.

NOTE: Council Member Cohen and City Attorney McClure are recused from rail discussions due to the proximity of their property and left the Council meeting at 9:31 p.m.

K. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

- Marilu Serrano stated this was a positive meeting with the community. There was no report that community members and parents came out in force to assist with the cleanup of Beechwood School from the recent fire.

L. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.



Margaret S. Roberts, MMC

City Clerk

Minutes accepted at the Council meeting of October 9, 2012