

# Library Commission Parks and Recreation Commission



## LIBRARY COMMISSION AND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION SPECIAL JOINT MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** 05/22/2024  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Locations:** Teleconference and  
Belle Haven Community Campus  
100 Terminal Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025

### A. Call To Order

Chair Orton called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

### B. Roll Call

**Present:** Grass, Joshua, Lee, Oza (joined at 6:50 p.m.), Theriault, Sherman, Herrick, Pollack, Shafer, Westcott, Orton  
**Absent:** Brosnan, Wise  
**Staff:** Library and Community Services Director Sean Reinhart, Library and Community Services Assistant Director Nick Szegda, Library and Community Services Supervisor Rondell Howard, Management Analyst Ashley Walker, Library and Community Services Supervisor Tricia Mullan, Library and Community Services Supervisor Rose Waldman, Recreation Coordinator Mayra Monje, Recreation Coordinator Da'Shawn Williams, Recreation Coordinator Airel Tinajero

### C. Presentations and Proclamations

#### C1. Belle Haven Community Campus opening programs (Attachment)

Library and Community Services Supervisor Rondell Howard, Library and Community Services Supervisor Tricia Mullan, Library and Community Services Supervisor Rose Waldman, Recreation Coordinator Mayra Monje, Recreation Coordinator Da'Shawn Williams and Recreation Coordinator Airel Tinajero made the presentation (Attachment).

### D. Informational Items

#### D1. Library and Community Services department updates (Staff Report PRC-2024-016 / LC-2024-016)

#### D2. Tentative agenda calendars (Attachment)

**ACTION:** By acclamation, the Library Commission added a review of survey collection tools to the tentative agenda calendar.

**ACTION:** By acclamation, the Commissions added reporting to the City Council, identifying opportunities for the Library Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission to work together, and a joint meeting to the tentative agenda calendar.

**E. Commissioner Reports**

None.

**F. Adjournment**

Chair Orton adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Ashley Walker, Management Analyst

A wide-angle landscape photograph of the Belle Haven Community Campus. The scene features a winding waterway with a small island of reeds in the foreground. The background shows rolling green hills under a blue sky with large, white, fluffy clouds. The overall atmosphere is serene and natural.

# BELLE HAVEN COMMUNITY CAMPUS

Opening Programs and Services



## A NEW COMMUNITY CAMPUS

Belle Haven Community Campus (BHCC) is intended to serve as a catalyst for positive change, providing essential services, opportunities, and a sense of belonging to a neighborhood that was historically underserved and overlooked in the past.

- **Gathering.** Community, events, public meetings, cultural activities
- **Learning.** Educational programs and classes
- **Empowerment.** Programs, services, and community connections
- **Sustainability.** All-electric, zero combustion, onsite solar power, battery microgrid, and electric vehicle charging
- **Resiliency.** Durable structure with seismic stability to serve as an emergency shelter.

## FOR THE COMMUNITY

### Access to resources

- Educational programs
- Job training
- Healthcare services
- Fitness and wellness

### Inclusive programs

- For all ages and abilities
- Neighborhood-oriented
- Community driven





# BELLE HAVEN LIBRARY



- Continued programming
  - Public story times 3x a week
  - English conversation club
  - Teen Advisory Group
  - Teen Fun Fridays
- New programs and classes
  - Homework Center (Monday - Thursday)
  - “Free Make” Open Art in the Makerspace



## BELLE HAVEN POOL

Through partnership with Menlo Swim and Sport

- Youth swim lessons
- Community lifeguard trainings
- Aquatic community events
- Swim exercise classes
- Youth swim camps
- Open swim times
- More ideas in the works!





# BELLE HAVEN YOUTH CENTER



- Provides parents and children with safe, structured environment for learning and growth at an affordable price
- Offers an inclusive environment for children of all backgrounds and needs
- Encourages children in relationship building and creating friendships in a positive environment
- Creates new opportunities and services for youths
  - Academics
  - Social Skills
  - Health and wellness
  - Innovation and creativity
- Strives to be a trusted resource for families.





# BELLE HAVEN YOUTH CENTER COLLABORATIONS



- **Belle Haven Library.** Literacy, reading games, makerspace
- **Belle Haven Pool.** Partnership with aquatics operator
- **Menlo Park Senior Center.** Walk-a-thon, bingo, community service
- **Onetta Harris Community Center.** Classes and programs
- **New connections.**
  - Nutrition Services Coordinator
  - Colleges
  - Tutoring
  - Dentist and clinic

## MENLO PARK SENIOR CENTER

- Provides healthy, nutritious meals
- Social interaction opportunities and emotional support
- Connects seniors to resources
- Quality of life, and a sense of purpose and belonging
- Programs include:
  - Classes for ceramics, sewing, language, arts, and fitness
  - Daily nutrition services that focus on specific needs of seniors
  - Community events for seniors.

## MENLO PARK SENIOR CENTER

Additional programs in development:

- Returning ceramics class and other art classes in the makerspace
- Tai Chi classes
- Learning of different languages
- Social Services check ups and counseling
- Emergency preparedness events
- Water exercise classes
- Zumba Gold/Movement classes for active seniors

## ONETTA HARRIS COMMUNITY CENTER

- An inclusive hub where residents can access essential resources, engage in educational opportunities, and foster social connections.
- By offering a safe and welcoming environment, Onetta Harris Community Center will be able to empower individuals to enhance their skills, build relationships, and strengthen their sense of belonging in their community.

## ONETTA HARRIS COMMUNITY CENTER

- Collaborate with local Menlo Park businesses and non-profits to bring vocational classes such as:
  - Construction
  - Health Care
  - Technology
  - Culinary Arts
- Classes taught by City employees
  - Arts & Crafts
  - Introduction to Cheer
  - Possibilities are endless!



## ONETTA HARRIS COMMUNITY CENTER

- Create new programs and classes
  - Bike program
  - Rug Tufting
  - Music Production
  - Craft Classes
  - Track & Field
  - Circuit workout
  - Futsal



## FOR THE COMMUNITY

- Comprehensive community services
- Health & wellness
- Cultural enrichment
- Social connections
- Library access and programs



## A COMMUNITY PLACE

The BHCC is a dynamic, neighborhood-oriented space where people can learn, grow, connect, and thrive.

The new campus continues to embody the qualities and spirit of community place which have been a staple in the community, even when the neighborhood was underserved in the past.







**QUESTIONS?**



**THANK YOU**