



**PARKS AND RECREATION
COMMISSION MINUTES**

**Special Meeting
July 12, 2006
6:00 pm.
Onetta Harris Community Center
100 Terminal Avenue**

Chair Watkins called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chair Watkins, Vice Chair Cline, Commissioners Luder, Maurano, Robinson, Silano arrived at 6:09 p.m. and Whittaker arrived at 6:11 p.m.

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Taylor, Acting Community Services Director and Linda Munguia, Secretary

ABSENT: None

A. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:

None

B. COMMISSION VACANCIES, APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS:

None

C. PUBLIC COMMENT #1:

Nancy Borgeson – Menlo Park addressed the Commission regarding the Measure A Park Bond. She mentioned that it would be a good idea for the Commission to back the bond and to mention it to the City Council.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Approval of the Minutes Dated June 21, 2006:

- **Motion by Commissioner Robinson to approve the June 21, 2006 meeting minutes; seconded by Commissioner Luder and unanimously carried.**

E. PUBLIC HEARING:

None

F. REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Bayfront Park Feasibility Report

Kent Steffens, Director of Public Works, gave the Commission a presentation on the alternatives of athletic fields in various parks. He mentioned these alternatives would be presented to the City Council at the July 18, 2006 City Council Meeting.

Public Comments

John Butcher – Menlo Park mentioned the climate change that is rising above sea level. He does not think the Commission should consider putting fields at Bayfront until all studies have been done.

Arlen Comfort – Menlo Park mentioned that 3 feet a day is rising above sea level. He recommended the Commission look up what is happening with the climate changes before considering sports fields at Bayfront Park.

Eileen McLaughlin – San Jose mentioned that she feels more information needs to be given to the voters such as maintenance costs. She also is concerned for the Heritage Trees.

Robin Smith – Atherton – Sequoia Audubon Society mentioned the City has a contract that says Bayfront Park should be a regional park. She is also concerned with the lights at Bayfront Park because it is in the middle of the birth pathway.

Elizabeth Lasensky – Menlo Park mentioned that she does not think it is right for the Commission to be discussing spending \$1 million dollars on sports fields when City employees are losing their jobs. She would like the Commission to provide more information to the public.

Matt Henry – Menlo Park mentioned he would like the Commission to consider putting a four lane oval track at Kelly Park.

Nancy Borgeson – Menlo Park mentioned that the Commission needs to think about maintenance costs. She mentioned that astro turf maintenance may be expensive and the golf sinkage fund is 150,000 per year.

Carol Taggart – Menlo Park mention she is against fields at Bayfront Park. She would like Bayfront Park to become an environment resource learning center.

Commission Comments

- **Motion Commission Maurano to recommend alternative #3 to City Council with a full size soccer and baseball field and an oval track; seconded by Commissioner Luder and unanimously carried.**
- **Motion Commission Luder to send a resolution to City Council that there is not enough information to make a recommendation for the Bayfront Park proposals; seconded by Commission Whittaker and unanimously carried.**

2. Measure T Evaluation Work Plan

Will be discussed in the September 20, 2006 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

3. Child Care RFP (Request for Proposal) Update

Michael Taylor, Acting Community Services Director, updated the Commission on the Child Care RFP. He mentioned there were 28 requests and the deadline for bidding is July 28, 2006. The City staff is currently preparing their response for the selection process.

Per the request of Commission Luder to have his comment reflected in the public record, he is opposed to Vice Chair Cline participating in the Selection Committee for the Child Care Request for Proposal due to his running for City Council.

4. Arts & Cultural Programs

Michael Taylor, Acting Community Services Director, updated the Commission on the Arts & Cultural programs. He gave the Commission copies of the Arts Commission minutes for the last 12 months.

G. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. E-mails from Bonny Brown and Jose Dixon regarding dog park hours and location

Mike Taylor, Acting Community Services Director, mentioned that he responded to the e-mail requests for information immediately. The responses were sent to the Commission.

2. E-mail from Elizabeth Lasensky regarding Lyle Park sanitation and parking.

Mike Taylor, Acting Community Services Director, mentioned he has invited Elizabeth to appear at the September 20, 2006 Commission meeting and she has agreed.

3. Director's Update

Mike Taylor, Acting Community Services Director, mentioned the 4th of July was very successful, the Summer Concert Series is underway and he invited the Commission to attend. He also mentioned that Susan Stiglaz is requesting her money back from the Buy a Brick program.

Commissioner Robinson mentioned he would like recognition for the Commissioners that are leaving on the next agenda.

- **Motion Commissioner Luder to recommend to City Council that Mike Taylor be the permanent Director of Community Services; seconded by Commissioner Robinson. Motion carried with Chair Watkins opposing.**

H. PUBLIC COMMENT #2:

Tim Sheeper gave the Commission a summary of the activities of the Burgess Pool. He gave the Commission a calendar of weekly activities and information on the classes given at the Burgess Pool.

- Motion Commissioner Luder to have Tim Sheeper give a summary of the Burgess Pool to the Commission on a quarterly basis; seconded by Commissioner Silano. Motion failed on a vote of 3-4.

I. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.