



**PARKS AND RECREATION
COMMISSION MINUTES**

**September 20, 2006
5:30 p.m. – Special Time
Burgess Recreation Center
700 Alma Street**

Chair Watkins called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chair Watkins, Vice Chair Cline left at 7:10 p.m., Commissioners Maurano, Naclero, Robinson arrived at 6:00 p.m. and left at 7:10 p.m., and Silano arrived at 6:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: None

A. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:

1. Recognition of outgoing Commissioners Luder and Whittaker

Chair Watkins thanked Commissioner Luder and Whittaker for their efforts. Mike Taylor, Acting Community Services Director, mentioned that the Mayor presented Commissioners Luder and Whittaker with a Certification of Recognition for their dedicated service to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Mike Taylor, Acting Community Services Director also welcomed Commissioner Naclero to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

B. COMMISSION VACANCIES, APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS:

None

C. PUBLIC COMMENT #1:

Brielle Johnck – Menlo Park addressed the Commission regarding the contract with Tim Sheeper. She mentioned that she finds no mention of the Commission discussing the City's decision to sign a contract with Tim Sheeper. Chair Watkins replied that in the March 15, 2006 minutes she would find that the commission did approve 5-1 with Chair Watkins opposing the proposed program schedule and fees as presented by Mr. Sheeper.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Approval of the Minutes Dated July 12, 2006:

- **Motion by Vice Chair Cline to approve the July 12, 2006 meeting minutes; seconded by Commissioner Maurano and unanimously carried.**

E. PUBLIC HEARING:

None

F. REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Measure T Evaluation Work Plan

Mike Taylor, Acting Community Services Director, gave the Commissioners a packet of the Measure T expenditures. He mentioned that phase 1 is completed and that now 7 million dollars could be produced in bonds in July 2007 for phase 2. He mentioned that the Commission needs to develop a work plan, and figure out how to go about public outreach. The Commission mentioned that community outreach is important to them and that they would like an update on the expenses of the projects for phase 2. Mike Taylor, Acting Community Services Director mentioned that he would like for the Commission to complete a list of priority projects by February. Staff requested that a few Commissioners volunteer to help work on the Measure T priority projects. Commissioners Maurano and Naclero volunteered.

Motion Vice Chair Cline to hold three public hearings to hear feedback from the public for phase 2 of Measure T; seconded by Commissioner Maurano and unanimously carried.

2. Burgess Pool Summer Program Update

Mike Taylor, Acting Community Services Director, mentioned that on the September 26, 2006 City Council meeting a Staff Report will be given to City Council updating them on how things went over the summer at the Burgess Pool. The Commission mentioned that they are frustrated that they don't get to see the Staff Reports before they go to City Council. The Commission mentioned they would like a Burgess Pool Report at the October 18, 2006 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. Following discussion, no action was taken.

3. Sanitation and Parking Issues Surrounding Lyle Park

Michael Taylor, Acting Community Services Director, received an e-mail from Elizabeth Lasensky regarding the sanitation and parking issues surrounding Lyle Park.

Public Comments

Rev. Rick Line – Pastor of First Baptist Church, Menlo Park mentioned that the lack of restrooms is a major problem especially during the weekends when there are soccer games and a lot of people at the park. He mentioned that the people come to use the restroom at the church; which is fine with him, but some kids urinate in the bushes at the park. He recommended that the Commission consider putting restrooms at Lyle Park.

Elizabeth Lasensky – Menlo Park gave the Commissioners a letter from Susan Chung, who lives by Lyle Park, regarding the lack of restrooms at Lyle Park.

Commission Comments

The Commission discussed possible short-term solutions such as portables. The Commission also recommended to Staff to send out a letter to user groups to use the restrooms prior to going to the park and to not allow their children to urinate in the bushes.

Motion Commissioner Robinson for staff to investigate the sanitation issue across the City, due to the need at Lyle Park, and to address short and long term solutions including cost for the next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting; seconded by Vice Chair Cline and unanimously carried. Friendly amendment by Commissioner Silano that if an immediate solution is found full discretion is given to City Staff to go forward.

4. Redevelopment Agency Projects Update

Mike Taylor, Acting Community Services Director, mentioned that there were no updates.

G. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. E-mails from Brielle Johnck via Chair Watkins regarding Burgess Pool

The Commission received copies of the e-mail from Brielle Johnck regarding Burgess Pool and the response from Chair Watkins. Following discussion, no action was taken.

2. E-mail from Christine Soldahl via Chair Watkins regarding Burgess Park Duck Pond cleaning

The Commission received copies of the e-mail from Christine Soldahl regarding the Burgess Park Duck Pond and the responses from Staff. Following discussion, no action was taken.

3. E-mail from Gil Hanoch via Chair Watkins regarding Stanford Hills Park Pathways

The Commission received copies of the e-mail from Gil Hanoch regarding Stanford Hills Park Pathways. Following discussion, no action was taken.

4. Director's Update

Mike Taylor, Acting Community Services Director, gave the Commission an update of the accomplishment of the Community Services Department for fiscal year 2005-2006. He mentioned that the Community Services Department offered over 6,843 classes, enrolled over 35,226 participants, hosted over 17,673,722 individual "visits" and provided 18,533,937 student hours of service. Following discussion, no action was taken.

H. PUBLIC COMMENT #2:

Steve Schmidt – Menlo Park mentioned that the comments from the Commission and the Public have inspired him to say it is a good time for the Commission to review their charge. He mentioned that it is a recurring theme that the Commission does not have enough information to make a decision. He encouraged the Commission to insist to the City Council and City Manager that they have the information before going to Council.

I. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.