



**PARKS AND RECREATION
COMMISSION MINUTES**

**October 18, 2006
6:00 p.m.
Burgess Recreation Center
700 Alma Street**

Chair Watkins called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chair Watkins, Commissioners Blythe, Maurano, Naclero, and Robinson

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Taylor, Acting Community Services Director

ABSENT: Commissioners Cline, Silano

A. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS: None

B. COMMISSION VACANCIES, APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS: None

C. PUBLIC COMMENT #1:

Elizabeth Lasenskly – Menlo Park addressed the Commission thanking the Commission for the prompt response to her request regarding the recent installation of the temporary portable toilet at Lyle Park. She asked that the Commission consider keeping the portable toilet at the Park, making the installation permanent.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Approval of the Minutes Dated September 20, 2006:

- **Motion by Chair Watkins to table the approval of the September 20, 2006 meeting minutes until the November 15, 2006 meeting.**

E. PUBLIC HEARING: None

F. REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Measure T Evaluation Work Plan

Michael Taylor, Acting Community Services Director, gave the Commissioners a packet including a draft presentation for the public process for the Measure T prioritization project. The presentation included information on phase 1 projects that have now been completed and that approximately \$7.2 million is estimated to be produced in revenues if a bond is issued in July 2007 for phase 2. He mentioned that the Commission needs to finalize a work plan, and figure out how to go about public outreach.

Commission Comments

The Commissioners discussed the previously “promised” phase 2 projects and what the public probably expects. It was questioned about the relevance of including all of the previously identified projects (particularly the Bayfront Park sports fields) if the public expects the gym to be completed in the next phase. The Commission discussed the difference between the current revenue projections and the estimated costs of the gymnasium/gymnastics center improvements.

Public Comments

Elizabeth Lasensky – Menlo Park asked what the timing for phase 3 of Measure T would be and how much is anticipated for that issuance.

Commission Comments

The Commission mentioned that when the community outreach is conducted, it is important to have full information on the bond issuance and the expenses of the projects for phase 2. Michael Taylor, Acting Community Services Director mentioned that he would like for the Commission to complete the updated 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 agreed to meet with the Acting Director and staff from Public Works/Planning and Finance to answer some of the questions regarding the bond process and cost estimates for certain projects. Acting Director Taylor agreed to try to schedule a meeting the week of October 23rd.

2. Discussion on placement of bike racks strategically throughout downtown Menlo Park to encourage bike riding in conjunction with the Transportation Commission, the schools, and increase awareness of bike safety campaigns

Commissioner Maurano requested that the Parks and Recreation Commission assist in the placement of more bike racks in downtown. Acting Director Michael Taylor mentioned that project would fall more to the Transportation Commission for action rather than Parks and Recreation. Following discussion, no action was taken.

G. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Director's Update

Michael Taylor, Acting Community Services Director, gave the Commission an update on the Halloween Event scheduled for October 28, the Prop 49 grant funding application for after school programming, the recent departure of one of the after school program assistants, and the participation of the Girls for a Change Teen Services group at a recent state-wide conference in San Jose. Acting Director Taylor invited the Commissioners to attend the upcoming sports field user group meeting scheduled for October 25th. Following discussion, no action was taken.

H. PUBLIC COMMENT #2: None

I. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.