



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES

Regular Meeting

July 16, 2008

6:00 p.m.

Burgess Recreation Center
701 Laurel Street

Call to order 6:10

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: (Chair) Naclerio, Breisch, Maurano and Tooley

OTHERS PRESENT: Community Services Director Barbara Santos George and Linda Munguia.

A. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

None

B. COMMISSION VACANCIES, APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS
SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Sports Fields – Andrew Kirkpatrick
No Report. Vice Chair Kirkpatrick was not present at the meeting.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT #1 (*Limited to 30 minutes*)

None

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of the Minutes dated June 18, 2008
This item was tabled for the September 17, 2008 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting.

E. PUBLIC HEARING

None

F. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. *Update on the Burgess Gymnasium Project – Larry Johmann*
Larry Johmann gave the Commission an update on the Burgess Gymnasium Project. He mentioned the gym will be located next to Burgess Recreation Center. He also mentioned the gym will have two basketball courts, bleachers on the side walls, and locker rooms. He mentioned these developments were preliminary and that there may be further developments.

City Council approved the contract with LSA Associates to conduct an Environmental Study.

He also gave an update on the Gymnastics building. He mentioned the Subcommittee will meet one more time to determine the final conceptual plan to bring to Council for consideration. The meeting will be next month so the plan can go to Council in September.

Following further discussion; no action was taken.

2. *Consideration of Conceptual Plan Alternatives for Improvements to Burgess Park-Larry Johmann*
Larry Johmann gave the Commission an update on the renovation alternatives for Burgess Park. He mentioned the alternatives are as follows: **Alternative 1** proposes that the existing baseball infield mix be replaced by natural turf to match the existing natural turf used on the rest of the multi-

use field. This alternative is estimated to cost \$211,000. This amount does not include the annual conversion cost. A significant portion of the cost is associated with modifying the infield's underlying base to match the sophisticated drainage base of the rest of the multi-use field. **Alternative 2** also proposes that the existing baseball infield mix be replaced by natural turf to make the existing natural turf used on the rest of the multi-use field. It also included the addition of field lights on the multi-use field as well as the little league field. This alternative is estimated to cost \$671,000, 3-times more than Alternative 1. **Alternative 3** proposes that the existing natural tuft of the multi-use field and the existing infield mix of the baseball field be replaced with artificial turf and that field lights be added around the multi-use field and the little league field. This alternative is estimated to cost \$2,675,000, 4 times more than Alternative 2 and almost 13-times more than Alternative 1.

Public Comments

Megan Gutelius- MP mentioned she was repeatedly told during the planning and construction meetings that there will never be night lights installed in the field for playing purposes. She mentioned that this is a residential area and it is an inappropriate location for night games. She feels that the City is currently having budget problems and considering putting lights and artificial turf is inappropriate at this time. She also mentioned that the lights will increase the existing problem of the homeless hanging out at the park at night, vandalism will increase not just at the park but also at the houses and buildings around the park, there will also be more trash, more wear and tear which will require more time for maintenance. The lights will also increase the danger for the residents along the park and for the elderly that walk along the park. She also mentioned that there is an observatory in the area and night lights make it difficult for them to see and do science that affects all of us.

Kathleen McIntyre-MP mentioned the park has given her a healthy lifestyle. She loves to walk in the park but always has to make way for the skateboarders, scooters and for bike riders. If the park is changed to full size soccer field there will be more traffic and congestion it would not be the quiet park that it is now. It is a park, not just for organized fields.

Steve Ellingson-President of the MP Strikers his biggest problem is getting space for the kids to practice and play. He believes alternative 1 is great, alternative 2 is better but alternative 3 is the best. These alternatives make a real difference for the kids in this community. This will maximize the space for the kids to play soccer and baseball.

Following discussion; the following motion was made:

Motion Commissioner Maurano to move forward with recommending to pursue alternative 1 for Burgess Park as long as Staff comes up with measures on how to handle increased trash and traffic; seconded by Commissioner Breisch and unanimously carried.

3. *Update on the Menlo Park Municipal Water District Supplemental Emergency Water Supply Project-Ruben Niño*

Ruben Niño gave the Commission an update on the Menlo Park Municipal Water District Supplemental Emergency Water Supply Project. He mentioned that on December 15, 2005 the City Council approved Seminary Oaks Park as the preferred site for further study of a new water storage reservoir. Seminary Oaks Park had been identified as the preferred site as it is centrally located within the Menlo Park Municipal Water District's eastern service area, and due to the absence of limiting factors such as high ground water and conflicts with existing facilities, and the availability of a deep aquifer as a supplemental water source at the site.

Staff is proposing to evaluate additional options to provide emergency water supply, and developed the following list of alternatives to the current scope of the project for further consideration:

Alternatives 1 - Smaller reservoir and well at Seminary Oaks Park site (reduce overall impact by lowering top of reservoir 4-5 feet)

Alternative 2 - Reservoir at Seminary Oaks Park site with wells at other locations (to be determined)

Alternative 3 - Reservoir at different site (Burgess Park, Willow Oaks Park, etc.) with wells at other locations, including Seminary Oaks Park

Alternative 4 - No reservoir, use ground water wells only with 1-2 treatment facilities

Alternative 5 - No project

This information is tentatively scheduled to be presented to the Council for consideration on August 26, 2008.

Public Comments

Rich Shane— MP mentioned having an emergency water supply is great but how much insurance do we want? How much water do we need? How many people will we serve and for how long? How many people will be without water? He feels that these are questions that are very important to the project. He also mentioned that he spoke with a consultant and was told that water pipes are very earthquake resistant. He read on the City website that all the trees except for one will be killed.

Bill (last name not available) – MP mentioned he visited the pump house in Mountain View and it has a high hazardous voltage, chemical signs and corrosion. He also mentioned that the trees at the top of the reservoir are not being supported. He feels it would be a shame to loose all the trees that are at Seminary Oaks Park now.

Following discussion; no action was taken.

4. *Update on Renaming of Bayfront Park to Bedwell Bayfront Park – Barbara Santos George*
Barbara Santos George gave the Commission an update on renaming Bayfront Park to Bedwell Bayfront Park. She mentioned that at the September 9, 2008 City Council meeting there will be a staff report recommending the renaming of Bayfront Park.

G. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

None

H. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

None

J. ADJOURNMENT at 8:25pm