



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
Wednesday, September 25, 2013
6:30 p.m. – 700 Alma Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025
Arrillaga Family Recreation Center
Cypress Room**

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT – J. Cebrian, K. Cox, T. Cecil, M. Palefsky, J. Tooley, N. Zasslow

ABSENT – K. Blythe

Staff Present – Derek Schweigart, Assistant Director Community Services; Natalie Bonham, Program Supervisor at Belle Haven Child Development Center

Minutes:

A. PUBLIC COMMENT #1:

Stephen Calder, of Menlo Park, spoke about the weekend usage of the Arrillaga Family Recreation Center. Mr. Calder suggested that staff consider running firm control and make the weekend schedule consistent with the weekday hours of operation. Mr. Calder said that weekend usage of the facility for public rentals is disturbance to the neighborhood around the area and suggested earlier shut down.

The commission members agreed to set this issue for discussion in a future meeting.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of minutes dated July 24, 2013

ACTION: Motion and second (Cebrian/Tooley) to approve the minutes of July 24, 2013 with the following amendments:

- The correction of spelling: K. Cox instead of C. Cox.
- The meeting was adjourned to proceed with the visit to Kelly Park

Motion passed with all present members in favor.

Item D1 preceded item C1.

D. PRESENTATION

D1. Belle Haven Child Development Center

Natalie Bonham, Program Supervisor gave the presentation to the Commission which provided a brief history of the program, background regarding last year's closure of one of the classrooms as well as the opening of the classroom this year for a half-day preschool program in the morning. The estimated cost to operate a full-day preschool classroom is approximately \$200,000. Commission members expressed their disappointment over the lack of funding available for re-opening the classroom and all agreed that affordable early education has to be the priority in Menlo Park's Belle Haven Neighborhood.

C. REGULAR BUSINESS

- C1. Discuss and give input on the Work Plan for the General Plan Update**

The item was moved to a future agenda.

C2. Review of City Council Goals and discussion of Parks and Recreation Commission Work Plan Update for 2013-2015

The Work Plan is presented to the Commission and modified every two years. The Commission members reviewed and discussed the current plan goals and past achievements. The Commission members agreed to form a sub-committee to focus on sorting out the current and proposed Work Plan goals and provide a draft at an upcoming Commission meeting. The following is a list of potential goals for the Commission to consider, a number of which the Commission said they may want to combine:

1. Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center with regard to the City and the School District joint-use agreement.
2. Social Services; Community needs for recreation programs
3. Public-Private Partnerships
4. Menlo Park's Parks, in particular Bedwell-Bayfront Park; Review park enhancements and amenities
5. Belle Haven Child Development Center; educational opportunities for youth
6. Belle Haven Visioning Process
7. Sports Fields and field and time-slot allocation
8. Gymnastics Center long-term strategic planning
9. Arts and cultural events, public arts
10. Maintaining the liaison between the community and the city

E. INFORMATION ITEMS

The information items for the month of August and September were presented in the agenda attachment.

F. ADJOURNMENT at 8:50PM.

Minutes submitted by Jelena Gaines