



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
Wednesday, April 23, 2014  
6:30 p.m. – 700 Alma Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025  
Arrillaga Family Recreation Center  
Cypress Room**

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Meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

PRESENT – J. Cebrian, K. Cox (Vice Chair), N. Zasslow, M. Palefsky, C. Harris, K. Blythe

ABSENT – T. Cecil (Chair)

Staff Present – Derek Schweigart, Community Services Assistant Director

**Minutes:**

**A. PUBLIC COMMENT #1:** None

**B. CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approval of minutes dated March 26, 2014

**ACTION: Motion and second (Cox/Harris) to approve the minutes of March 26, 2014.**

**Motion passed with all present Commission Members in favor.**

**C. REGULAR BUSINESS**

**C1.** Review and discuss the defunct Arts Commission scope of work and explore areas for consideration consistent with the Commission's work plan goals.

Derek Schweigart, Community Services Assistant Director, provided the Commission with background information on the scope of work performed by the defunct Menlo Park Arts Commission to help guide their discussion on potential topics to consider in support of their work plan goals. The following questions were asked to the Commission to help guide the discussion: What other information does the Commission require in helping to guide their discussion on ways to support their work plan goal? What are the topics the Commission would like to consider that addresses their work plan goal? What arts groups would the Commission like to hear from over the course of their current work plan? Given the lack of funding sources to support the outcomes discussed, are there other sources of funding that can be identified and/or suggestions for reallocation from other sources? What role does the Commission want to play in addressing their work plan goal?

**Public Comment**

Jim Lewis – Spoke to the Commission regarding how thrilled he was to see this item on the agenda. He mentioned that he would like to see the Arts Commission reinstated with interested and qualified people that the City Council has appointed. He would like the Commission to recommend to the City Council to reinstate the Arts Commission.

Elizabeth Houck – Spoke to the Commission regarding the defunct Arts Commission. She mentioned she thinks it is sad that Menlo Park does not have enough arts.

Following discussion the following action was taken:

**ACTION: Motion and second (K. Cox/J. Cebrian) to form a sub-committee for the Arts Commission with K. Cox and J. Cebrian as members.**

**Motion passed with all present Commission Members in favor.**

**C2.** Review and discuss the Update on the Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center and the Menlo Grant for the Arts Program

Matt Milde, Recreation Coordinator, provided the Commission with an update on the Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center and the Menlo Grant for the Arts Program. The following questions were asked to the Commission to help guide the discussion: Does the Commission have any feedback with regards to the Menlo Grant for the Arts Program and/or any of the recipients of the grants for the coming year? Does the Commission have any suggestions or feedback for staff on increasing programs at the M-A Performing Arts Center? Given the current challenges, does the Commission have any suggestions on improving communications between M-A school staff and the City? In light of the Commission's work plan goal to research and evaluate opportunities to support and increase arts program offerings for the community, what role does the Commission want to play with the M-A Performing Arts Center moving forward?

Following discussion, no action was taken.

#### **D. PRESENTATION**

**D1.** Presentation by Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center User Group

Jean-Kepler's Arts and Lectures, gave the Commission a presentation regarding her program. She mentioned that in March of 2013 she received a grant from the City of Menlo Park to bring an author for a lecture and it was a big success. She mentioned that one of her biggest challenge is receiving a quick response from Menlo-Atherton when she is organizing an event.

Following discussion, the Commission recommended she make collaboration with Menlo-Atherton staff, City staff, the parent committee and herself to try and get some outside ideas to help with the challenges of scheduling the Performing Arts Center.

#### **E. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**E1.** Community Services Department Director's Update

Derek Schweigart provided an update to the Commission. No discussion followed.

**E2.** City Council Proposed Master Fee Schedule for Community Services FY 2014-15

Derek Schweigart proved the Commission with the Proposed Master Fee Schedule for Community Services FY 2014-15.

Following discussion, not action was taken.

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT #2** None

#### **G. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.  
Kristin Cox took over as Chairperson for the entire meeting.

Minutes submitted by Linda Munguia