



Recreation and Park Commission
Davis Senior Center Valente Room, 646 A Street
Thursday, January 19, 2017
MINUTES

Commission Members Present: Cecilia Escamilla-Greenwald-Chair, Travie Westlund-Vice Chair, Ira Bray, Emily Griswold, Tyson Hubbard, Stephanie Koop, Maurice Pitesky and Vanessa Richter (Alternate)

Commission Members Absent: None

Council Liaison Present: None

Public Present: Dave Hart, Carl Hiller, Nancy Price, Carolyn “Sunny” Shine, and Colin Walsh

Staff Present: Christine Helweg and Martin Jones

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Greenwald at 7:02 pm.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Introduction of two new Commissioners – Tyson Hubbard and Vanessa Richter

2. Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by T. Westlund to approve the agenda, seconded by I. Bray. The motion passed with a 7-0-0-0 vote.

AYES: Bray, Greenwald, Griswold, Hubbard, Koop, Pitesky and Westlund
NOES: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

3. Brief Announcements from Commissioners, Liaisons and Staff

- Assistant Director Christine Helweg announced that Commissioners Griswold and Westlund were nominated and selected as the 2016 recipients of the California Park and Recreation Society Champion of the Community Award. They will be honored at a banquet in Sacramento on Friday, March 3, 2017 as part of the training conference.
- Commissioner Bray discussed a recent article that he read regarding Eugene, Oregon and its need to raise additional revenues to maintain existing infrastructure. Staff will send out the link to all Commissioners.

4. Public Comment

Resident Dave Hart spoke regarding his opposition to the proposal by the Davis Youth Softball Association to skin and make additional modifications to the ballfields at Slide Hill Park. Resident Carl Hiller also commented on this issue and agree with Mr. Hart’s previous comments.

5. Consent Calendar

A motion was made by T. Westlund to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by I. Bray. The motion passed with a 7-0-0-0 vote.

AYES: Bray, Greenwald, Griswold, Hubbard, Koop, Pitesky and Westlund

NOES: None

Absent: None

Abstentions: None

6A. Presentation by Friends of Russell Fields

Residents, Sunny Shine, Colin Walsh and Carl Hiller made a brief presentation regarding the past history of the fields and their current status. The group requested that the Commission consider forwarding the letter to the City Council confirming their support and interest in preserving the fields.

A motion was made by Tyson Hubbard, seconded by Travie Westlund, to send an alternate letter to the City Council in advance of the Board of Regents meeting and City Council meeting on January 24, 2017, stating the following:

“The City of Davis Recreation and Park Commission urges the City Council to continue to advocate for the preservation of the UC Davis Russell Boulevard Athletic Fields in their current year-round physical use. The loss of these fields as a local athletic resource, and the displacement of the current users for the fields, would have significant impacts on the City of Davis parks and its residents.”

The motion passed with a 6-0-0-1 vote.

AYES: Bray, Greenwald, Hubbard, Koop, Pitesky and Westlund

NOES: None

Absent: None

Abstentions: Griswold

6B. Designate the Chair and Vice Chair Positions for the 2017 Calendar Term

A motion was made by E. Griswold, seconded by C. Greenwald to nominate Commissioner Travie Westlund as the new Chairperson.

A second motion was made by I. Bray, seconded by S. Koop to nominate Commissioner Emily Griswold as Chair for the coming term. The motion passed with a 4-2-0-1 vote.

AYES: Bray, Greenwald, Koop and Pitesky

NOES: Hubbard and Westlund

Absent: None

Abstentions: Griswold

A third motion was made by C. Greenwald, seconded by E. Griswold to nominate Commissioner Pitesky as Vice Chair for the coming term. The motion passed with a 6-0-0-1 vote.

AYES: Bray, Greenwald, Griswold, Hubbard, Koop and Westlund
NOES: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: Pitesky

6C. Designate Commission Representatives to Serve as Liaisons to the Finance and Budget and the Open Space and Habitat Commissions for the 2017 Calendar Term

A motion was made by E. Griswold, seconded by I. Bray to nominate Commissioner Stephanie Koop as the new Liaison to the Finance and Budget Commission. The motion passed with a 6-0-0-1 vote.

AYES: Bray, Greenwald, Griswold, Hubbard, Pitesky and Westlund
NOES: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: Koop

A second motion was made by I. Bray, seconded by S. Koop to nominate Commissioner Vanessa Richter as the new Liaison to the Open Space and Habitat Commission. The motion passed with a 7-0-0-0 vote.

AYES: Bray, Greenwald, Griswold, Hubbard, Koop, Pitesky and Westlund
NOES: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

6D. Development and Approval of 2017 Commission Work Plan

A motion was made by I. Bray, seconded by T. Westlund to approve the 2017 Work Plan with the identified modifications, including:

- Under Operating Standards #3, adding the monthly park visitations and presentations
- Under the Proposed 2017 Goals, adding a new item #2 – discussion and community outreach on pool operational hours
- Under City Goals #2, adding an additional objective for possible joint meeting with Civic Arts Commission to enhance closer collaboration.

The motion passed with a 7-0-0-0 vote.

AYES: Bray, Greenwald, Griswold, Hubbard, Koop, Pitesky and Westlund
NOES: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

The Commission also requested that information about the Recreation and Park Commission be added to the seasonal Recreation Guide and on the Department's web site main page.

7. Commission and Staff Communications

- a. Commission Work Plan – the Commission requested that the monthly park visitation and presentations be added back to the regular meeting agendas. Cannery parks were selected for the month of February.

- b. Upcoming Meeting Items/Events – no report.

- c. Subcommittee Reports/Inter-Commission Liaison Reports
 1. City Council Liaison – no report
 2. Finance & Budget Commission – T. Westlund reported the FBC did not have any relevant items this past month.
 3. Open Space & Habitat Commission – no report.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Helweg
Parks & Community Services Assistant Director