



**Recreation and Park Commission
Davis Senior Center Valente Room, 646 A Street
Thursday, February 19, 2015
MINUTES**

Commission Members Present: Ira Bray (Chair), Katerina Robinson (Vice Chair), Dawn Einwalter, Cecilia Escamilla-Greenwald, Emily Griswold and Travie Westlund

Commission Members Absent: Francis Resta and Will Arnold

Council Liaison Present: None

Staff Present: Christine Helweg, David Luckscheider and Bob Wyatt

Public Present: Ken Bradford, Jerry Miszewski, Joe Pickens and Jon Waterson

Chair Ira Bray called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by T. Westlund, seconded by K. Robinson to approve the agenda and the motion was approved unanimously.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 15, 2015

A motion was made by C. Greenwald, seconded by D. Einwalter, to approve the minutes from January 15, 2015, and amended to change page 3 – fifth paragraph, “concerned about addressing additional decorations through policy...”. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Public Comments

Ken Bradford, Jon Watterson and Joe Pickens from the Davis Bike Alliance provided the Commission with an update on the demonstration bike pump track proposal, and emphasized the desire to gain approval by the City so that they may begin on site design and fundraising.

4. Written Communications

- a. Flyer on upcoming Ethics Training to be held on February 24, 2015
- b. Email correspondence from J. Miszewski related to agenda item #6

5. Introduction of Senior Park Supervisor

Parks & Community Services Superintendent, C. Helweg, gave a brief introduction of Bob Wyatt, the new Senior Parks Supervisor to the Commission and encouraged the Commission to discuss their varied backgrounds and interests in being on the Commission.

6. Final Recommendations on Slacklining Program

Parks & Community Services Superintendent, C. Helweg, gave a brief overview of the pilot program and described the proposed recommendation to keep the slacklining program status quo, and not to expand upon the existing locations that have been approved to date by the City Council.

The Commission recommended that clarifying language to the last arrow point, under the Assumption of Risk section be added.

Resident J. Miszewski spoke on behalf of the slacklining community and requested that the Commission consider expanding the program to additional park sites such as Slide Hill and Sycamore Parks.

C. Greenwald – Asked for suggestions on how to get the word out, signage recommendations.

K. Robinson – Expressed that it is important to have a permanent program and asked for Jerry Miszewski's assistance in steering users to approved City sites.

T. Westlund – Agreed that it would be best to use existing sites and encouraged staff to explore potential locations in the future if needed.

D. Einwalter – Is content with existing sites and agrees with T. Westlund regarding additional sites as needed if program grows.

E. Griswold – no comments

I. Bray – recommended articles in the Davis Enterprise, the Davis Vangaard, Davis Wikki and the Davis Patch for publishing purposes.

Resident J. Miszewski mentioned that UCD currently has a slacklining park located near Outdoor Adventures on campus.

A motion was made by K. Robinson, seconded by C. Greenwald to approve the slacklining program as status quo and as recommended by staff, with the above clarifying language added to the first page of the guidelines.

7. Development and Approval of 2015 Work Plan

Parks & Community Services Superintendent, C. Helweg, provided the Commission with an overview and status update on the 2014 Work Plan and Objectives, then proceeded to review the proposed goals and objectives for the coming year.

E. Griswold – suggested adding the monthly review of park sites to the work plan under Operating Standards, Goal 4b.

D. Einwalter – inquired as to the status of the Central Park/Oak tree performance area

T. Westlund – Would like to incorporate the status updates as part of the quarterly updates of major projects that the Commission has recently begun to receive.

K. Robinson – Requested a refresher of the Parks & Facilities Master Plan, possibly sometime in May or June since the Commission does have a few new members.

C. Greenwald – Inquired about an update on the current commercial facility rental rates. C. Helweg informed the Commission that the reduced rates had been implemented as previously discussed last year.

I. Bray – also suggested adding a goal under City Council goals to monitor and participate as needed in the review and development of ongoing revenue measures such as the Park Maintenance Tax or comparable revenue source.

A motion was made by C. Greenwald, seconded by K. Robinson, to approve the proposed 2015 Work Plan with the above amendments. Motion was passed unanimously.

The Commission also discussed the need to pre-designate park sites for future discussions. Oak Grove Park and Greenbelt was selected for the month of March, Northstar Park in April and Toad Hollow Dog Park in May.

8. Designate the Chair and Vice Chair Positions

Nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair were taken from the floor.

A motion was made by E. Griswold, seconded by C. Greenwald, to designate Ira Bray as the 2015 Chairperson. No other nominations were received. The motion passed unanimously.

Another motion was made by I. Bray, seconded by D. Einwalter, to designate C. Greenwald as the 2015 Vice Chair.

A second motion was made by E. Griswold, seconded by T. Westlund, to designate D. Einwalter as Vice Chair but the motion was later withdrawn.

The original motion made by I. Bray, seconded by D. Einwalter, to designate C. Greenwald as the 2015 Vice Chair passed unanimously.

Designate Commission Representatives to Serve as Liaisons to the Finance and Budget Commission and the Open Space and Habitat Commission for 2015 Calendar Term

Nominations for the positions of Liaison to the Open Space and Habitat Commission were opened.

D. Einwalter expressed her interest in serving as the liaison to the OSHC with no other commissioners expressing interest. D. Einwalter was unanimously designated as the Liaison for the 2015 calendar year.

No commissioners expressed interest in serving as Liaison to the Finance & Budget Commission, therefore the item was deferred until the March 2015 meeting.

9. Commissioner Announcements/Comments

E. Griswold announced the Dedication of the Gateway Garden on Sunday, May 3, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.

I. Bray discussed a recent article in the Sacramento Bee concerning signage in parks. This may be an item for the commission to consider in the future and as part of the monthly park site discussions. I. Bray also requested that an updated organizational chart of the department be sent out.

11. Liaison Reports

None.

12. Staff Reports/Updates

None.

The Commission also requested that staff schedule a small reception in honor of past Commissioner Charlie Russell.

Meeting adjourned with a motion by K. Robinson, seconded by C. Greenwald, and passed unanimously at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Helweg
Parks & Community Services Superintendent