



**Recreation and Park Commission
Davis Senior Center Valente Room, 646 A Street
Thursday, June 18, 2015
MINUTES**

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

Commission Members Absent: Ira Bray, Travie Westlund, Francis Resta and Will Arnold

Council Liaison Present: None

Public Present: John Cook, Leslie Maulhardt, and Jeff Dubchansky

Staff Present: Samantha Wallace, Carrie Dyer, Lori Conrad, Steve Dalton, and Kristina McClellin

Vice Chair Cecilia Escamilla-Greenwald called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by K. Robinson, seconded by D. Einwalter, to approve the agenda, and was approved by consensus.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 21, 2015.

A motion was made by K. Robinson, seconded by D. Einwalter, to approve the meeting minutes with the following amendments:

- On page 7, Item #7, D. Einwalter requested the minutes reflect her written comments submitted regarding Toad Hollow Dog Park.

The motion was approved by consensus.

3. Public Comments

None

4. Written Communications

None

5. Presentation of \$2,114 Grant to the City of Davis by the Greater Sacramento Softball Association (GSSA)

GSSA Commission Jeff Dubchansky presented a check for \$2,114 for the GSSA grant award for Playfields Park.

6. Pickleball Pilot Project

Superintendent Wallace provided an overview on pickleball and the desire of citizens to be able to play pickleball on City tennis courts.

John Cook (resident) – spoke in favor of pickle ball pilot project.

A motion was made by E. Griswold, seconded by K. Robinson, to recommend to City Council for staff to paint no-volley lines on tennis courts at Covell Park and Slide Hill Park and update the signage to state “Courts To Be Used for Tennis and Pickleball Only.”

Motion passed unanimously.

7. Walnut Park and Woodbridge Greenbelt Public Art Installations

Community Services Supervisor Carrie Dyer presented information on desire for public art installations at Walnut Park and Woodbridge greenbelt.

C. Greenwald – question regarding original intent for shed in Woodbridge greenbelt.

K. Robinson – question about timeline for projects and requested for staff to take a look at the possibility of removing some of the panels on the shed located in the Woodbridge greenbelt. Dyer responded the timeline for starting the projects is Fall 2015.

E. Griswold – no comment.

D. Einwalter – requested clarification on staff recommendation for both art projects. Staff clarified the recommendations for each proposed project location could be made in two separate motions.

Leslie Maulhardt (resident) – expressed concerns that shed structure in Woodbridge greenbelt has seen increase in graffiti and fruit from surrounding trees being thrown against the building. She also expressed concern art inside the structure will not be seen due to some of the side panels and the art may be vandalized due to lack of visibility. She stated it might be wise to remove the south and east panels on the structure.

Superintendent Wallace – changes to the shed structure would require an inspection by qualified individuals to determine removing the panels would not present a structural issue and that any changes to the shed structure should also allow for time for the surrounding neighborhood to provide input.

Recommendation #1

A motion was made by D. Einwalter, seconded by K. Robinson, to approve staff recommendation to release a Request for Qualifications to hire an artist to create a new piece of City owned public art in Walnut Park. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #2

A motion was made by D. Einwalter, with a friendly amendment by K. Robinson, friendly amendment accepted by D. Einwalter, and seconded by K. Robinson, to recommend staff determine which sections of the shed structure may be removed, and to release a Request for

Qualifications to hire an artist to create a public art piece on remaining interior walls of the shed located in the Woodbridge greenbelt. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #3

By consensus, Commission appointed E. Griswold to participate in the panel for the Woodbridge greenbelt project and C. Escamilla-Greenwald to participate in the panel for the Walnut Park project.

8. Proclamation Recognizing July 2015 as National Recreation and Park Month

Superintendent Wallace provided an overview of National Recreation and Park Month.

A motion was made by K. Robinson, seconded by E. Griswold, that the Commission supports and reaffirms the importance of parks and recreation in our community and expresses its support to the City Council for the designation of the month of July 2015 as “National Parks and Recreation Month.”

9. Review and Discussion of Woodbridge Mini-Park and Greenbelt

The Commission reviewed a brief slide show of park photos that were taken by Chairperson I. Bray prior to open discussion.

C. Escamilla-Greenwald – liked all the available green space.

K. Robinson – the mini park is nice, appreciated the availability of edible landscape, likes the non-traditional fencing, likes the open bench seating, the Open Space native pollinator project may benefit this area.

D. Einwalter – the dead trees need to be removed, exceptionally nice mini park, plants are very water stressed right now.

E. Griswold – encouraged a partnership with Tree Davis to do a tree planting, in favor of more fruit tree planting, nice habitat planting, include public education and update signage, grant look for grant opportunities for enhancement of some areas, is there interest from neighbors to assist in care of plants, introduce more native plants to the understory and remove the more invasive plants.

Leslie Maulhardt (resident) – neighborhood loves the park, number of interested people to participate in a volunteer project, concerned about the last of water for trees, native pollinators are not being cutback.

Commission chose to skip a park for July 2015 due to other items planned for July’s agenda and Walnut Park was chosen to be discussed at September 2015 meeting.

10. Commissioner Announcements

E. Griswold – read an email she received from a citizen and email will be forwarded to staff.

K. Robinson – July might be her last Commission meeting.

C. Escamilla-Greenwald – commented plants in mini park near her residence are not looking good

due to drought and water restrictions.

11. Liaison Reports

None

12. Staff Reports/Updates

Superintendent Wallace provided an update on Parks Manager recruitment.

Meeting adjourned by consensus at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Samantha Wallace

Parks & Community Services Superintendent