



**Recreation and Park Commission
Davis Senior Center Activity Room, 646 A Street
Thursday, February 20, 2014
MINUTES**

Commission Members Present: Ira Bray (Chair), Katerina Robinson (Vice Chair), Dawn Einwalter, Cecilia Escamilla-Greenwald, Francis Resta, Charlie Russell, Travie Westlund and Marq Truscott - Alternate

Commission Members Absent: None

Council Liaison Present: Lucas Frerichs

Staff Present: Christine Helweg, David Kemp, David Luckscheider and Samantha Wallace

Public Present: Lars Anderson and Lani Fulcher

Chair Ira Bray called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved by a motion from C. Greenwald, seconded by K. Robinson. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes of January 16, 2013 were amended to include a correction under Item #9, under T. Westlund comments – misspelling of no to now. The motion to approve the amended minutes was made by T. Westlund, seconded by C. Russell. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comments

None.

4. Written Communications

None

5. Designate Commission Representatives to Serve as Liaison to the Finance and Budget Commission for 2014 Calendar Term

K. Robinson was appointed as the primary liaison to the Finance and Budget Commission, with C. Greenwald being appointed as the alternate.

6. 2013 Annual Report from Explorit Science Center

Lars Anderson, Executive Director and Lani Fulcher, Administrator for the Explorit Science Center provided a summary of the center's activities and service levels from the past year, and briefly reviewed some of the financial difficulties that the organization is facing.

7. Review and Discussion of Northstar Park

I. Bray provided a slideshow of various locations within Northstar Park. Some of the photos shown included interpretive signage near the Partansky Pond that is difficult or unable to be read. I. Bray also requested if more information could be placed in the display case.

F. Resta – empty garbage racks, JP Ponds – possible arboretum walk, beautiful park, unable to read pond signage, possible dog run (SE) of pond (F and Anderson).

D. Einwalter – popular park for person with sight impairment.

T. Westlund – parks maintenance bicycle cart used frequently, nature trail concerns seemed to be addressed, garbage all over JP Pond near overlook decking. Maintenance is generally good, leaves blown into shrubbery.

M. Truscott – well maintained, missing bollard, has the ability to reduce turf areas around pond.

C. Greenwald – great park, should promote as a “hallmark” park.

K. Robinson – ponds and habitat areas are so nice, duck walk, new interpretive signs would be nice to add.

C. Russell – active turf areas are heavily used, picnicking areas are in the best shape now than in decades past, nice park.

The Commission recommended that potentially replace interpretive signs as a Scout project as well as South Davis signage. Next month’s discussion and site visit will be to Pioneer Park, 5036 Hamel Street.

8. Commissioner Announcements/Comments

F. Resta – status of VMC Feasibility.

T. Westlund – shrubs along Moore Blvd tagged, DG areas are the worst.

M. Truscott – Introduction of himself as new Alternate member of Commission, Landscape Architect in Sacramento, Lecturer @ UCD.

K. Robinson – Paso Fino project - tree mitigation proposal near Covell/Moore Blvd. (8 houses).

9. Liaison Reports

City Council Liaison – Councilmember Frerichs reported that the City Council is holding a Tuesday and Wednesday meeting next week in order to accommodate the workload of discussion items, including the hiring of a new City Manager. The Paso Fino project still has a long road ahead, ½ cent sales tax measure approved and possible parcel tax in November.

Open Space & Habitat Commission – no report.

Finance and Budget Commission - Commissioner Bray reported that the Finance Budget Commission met last Monday and discussed sales tax increase but have no recommendation, and that there are 4 new members.

10. Staff Reports/Updates

Samantha Wallace, Community Services Superintendent, reported on the summer annual lease and the City Council's consideration for a 3-5 year lease by Aquadarts for the Community Pool complex.

Commissioner Bray also requested if the meeting packets could be prepared as searchable pdf files (OCR).

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Helweg
Community Services Superintendent