



**Recreation and Park Commission
City Hall – Community Chambers
Wednesday, April 17, 2019
MINUTES**

Commission Members Present: Cheri Harrington – Chair, Emily Griswold – Vice Chair (6:32 PM), Ira Bray, Timm Herdt, Tyson Hubbard and Travie Westlund

Commission Members Absent: Bruce Harland

Council Liaison Present: Dan Carson (6:34 PM)

Public Present: Delaine Easton, George Hague, Dr. Amy Chen and Dr. Rajeevan Amirtharajah, PhD

Staff Present: Dale Sumersille, Christine Helweg and Martin Jones

The meeting was called to order by Chair Harrington at 6:30 pm.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by I. Bray to approve the agenda, seconded by T. Westlund. The motion passed with a 5-0-2-0 vote.

AYES: Bray, Harrington, Herdt, Hubbard, and Westlund.

NOES: None

Absent: Griswold, Harland

Abstentions: None

3. Brief Announcements from Commissioners, Liaisons and Staff

- I Bray attended the N Street Park planning session and reported that there were a lot of ideas and feedback from attendees.
- T. Hubbard shared his experience visiting McCormick Railroad Park while in Phoenix, Arizona. He was especially interested in the efficiency of the water features in the park.
- E. Griswold announced that the Central Park Gardens was awarded both the Environmental Legacy Award and the Environmental Restoration Award. She also acknowledged I. Bray for attending the N Street Park meeting.
- D. Sumersille discussed the actions taken by City Council at their April 9, 2019 meeting.
 - Approved and renewed the aquatic co-sponsor facility use agreements with Davis Aquadarts, Davis Aquamonsters, Davis Aquastarz, Davis Aquatic Masters, Davis Water Polo Club and the Davis Joint Unified School District.

- Authorized a task order for the on-call Landscape firm to design the first phase of the Sport Rehabilitation Project and approved the task order for the on-call Geotech firm to complete Geotech testing of all sport courts.

4. Public Comment

None.

5. Consent Calendar

A motion was made by T. Hubbard to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by I. Bray. The motion passed with a 6-0-1-0 vote.

AYES: Bray, Griswold, Harrington, Herdt, Hubbard, and Westlund.

NOES: None

Absent: Harland

Abstentions: None

6A. Consideration of Michael Scott Collins Memorial Stone in El Macero Greenbelt.

The Commission considered a proposal presented by friends and neighbors of Michael Scott Collins to purchase and install a memorial decorative stone in the El Macero greenbelt.

The memorial project focuses on:

- Installation of memorial stone and plaque for Michael Scott Collins.
- The location of the memorial in the El Macero greenbelt North of Marden Street.

Public Comment.

- Delaine Easton, a long-time friend of Mr. Collins, asked the Commissioners to strongly consider approving the memorial.
- George Hague, expressed to the Commission how well-liked Mr. Collins was in the neighborhood and how Mr. Collins was always willing to help his fellow neighbors. The area chosen for the memorial is frequented by the residents and this memorial will keep the presence of Mr. Collins in the neighborhood.
- Dr. Amy Chen stated that the memorial is a wonderful idea but feels her concerns have not been heard. She has asked the Commission to delay the vote for continued open dialogue as she has concerns regarding the memorial Blue oak that was also planted and fears the tree will be too large for the area. Dr. Chen also expressed concerns that the tree and memorial would bring vandals into the area. Dr. Chen provided staff with a copy of her written comments to be added to the official meeting record.

A motion was made by T. Herdt to approve the installation of the memorial stone for Michael Scott Collins in the El Macero greenbelt, seconded by T. Westlund.

The motion passed with a 5-1-1-0 vote.

AYES: Bray, Griswold, Harrington, Herdt and Westlund.

NOES: Hubbard

Absent: Harland

Abstentions: None

6B. Discussion on 2018 Aquatics Interest Survey

The Commission reviewed and discussed the results of the 2018 Aquatics Interest Survey. This is an informational item only - no action is required.

Commissioner comments are as follows:

- C. Harrington – Stated that there is a need to be efficient with taxpayers' money and questioned whether the community members have adequate access to the pools they are paying for.
- I. Bray – Expressed that there is too much emphasis on clubs and not enough on recreational swim. I. Bray also inquired if there could be an additional pass other than a season pass for patrons. He also inquired about offering a reduced rate for disadvantaged residents.
- T. Hubbard – Provided the Commission with a review of the consultant minutes:
 - The biggest concern is contemplating two 50-meter pools.
 - Some residents resent that a community pool is off limits to the community for 9-months of the year.
 - Davis has a much older demographic and the current pools do not meet the needs of these residents.

6C. Review and Discussion of Pioneer Park.

The Commission selects a park location each month to review and discuss existing amenities and potential maintenance related issues. This is an informational item only – no specific action is required.

Commission members made the following comments:

- I. Bray – Mentioned that the turf was well maintained and the hand dryer in the restroom was a benefit as well as is the free community little library box. However, there are numerous weeds in the tennis courts and the bare concrete floors in the restrooms could pose a slipping hazard. I. Bray suggests using a microbial epoxy on the floors for cleanliness and to prevent slipping hazards.
- T. Hubbard – Mentioned that the new play equipment looks great.
- E. Griswold – Stated that the park and playground was well used and the children are utilizing all of the equipment. A specific comment was directed to the abundant natural shade over the play area.
- T. Westlund – Noted that the picnic area accumulates a lot of leaf litter and there was broken glass by the Redwood trees on the hill. Other than that, the park is well used and there are very few weeds.
- T. Herdt – Stated that the tennis courts have an abundance of weeds. He also mentioned that the basketball court was a good use of space and the abundance of shade in the play area especially in the late afternoon.
- C. Harrington – The topography of the park is a nice feature as is the shaded picnic area. However, the dog park boundaries are confusing and the gate latch to the tennis courts is broken.

7. Commission Comments and Staff Communications

- A. City Council Liaison - D. Carson mentioned that City Council was pleased that the tennis court renovation was moving forward.
- B. Aquatic Economic Analysis – nothing further to report at this time.
- C. Art in Public Spaces
 - E. Griswold attended the Civic Arts Commission - Rachel Hartsough will make a presentation before the Recreation & Parks Commission in May regarding the Public Arts Program.
 - E. Griswold would like to develop a sub-committee made of Commissioners from Recreation & Parks and Civic Arts Commissions.
- D. Parks Maintenance Standards
 - T. Westlund discussed the large abundance of weeds in the City and used of landscape materials as being very concerning.
 - T. Westlund witnessed Tree Davis clearing weeds from tree wells in the Wildhorse neighborhood, disposing of pulled weeds behind existing shrubs and mulching tree wells.
 - T. Westlund would like to see more specific guidelines for work being completed by Landscape Contractors on City property. Furthermore, numerous newly planted trees are dying due to them being planted in areas without functioning irrigation.
- E. Volunteer Engagement Sub-committee – nothing further to report at this time.

8. Future Agenda Items

- The Commission requested that the next park to be reviewed is Northstar Park.

Commissioner E. Griswold moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by I. Bray at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Martin Jones
Parks & Community Services Superintendent