Recreation and Park Commission
City Hall – Community Chambers
Wednesday, June 19, 2019
MINUTES

Commission Members Present: Cheri Harrington – Chair, Emily Griswold – Vice Chair, Ira Bray, Timm Herdt, Tyson Hubbard and Travie Westlund (Left at 7:42pm)

Commission Members Absent: Bruce Harland

Council Liaison Present: Dan Carson

Public Present: David Delpinia, Mary Grafton, Chris Granger, Todd Kamisky, Mary Keaton, Robin Kosoff, Janet Krovoza, Katie Lawler, Debbie Martin, Jennifer Nachmanoff, Nora Oldwin, Johan Stark, Craig Walberg and Zarah Wyly.

Staff Present: Rachel Hartsough, Christine Helweg, Martin Jones and Dale Sumersille

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
   Item 7D was moved for discussion between Item 6B and 6C by request of Commissioner Westlund. A motion was made by I. Bray to approve the agenda, seconded by T. Herdt as amended. The motion passed with a 6-0-1-0 vote.

   AYES: Bray, Griswold, Harrington, Herdt, Hubbard, and Westlund.
   NOES: None
   Absent: Harland
   Abstentions: None

3. Brief Announcements from Commissioners, Liaisons and Staff
   • D. Carson announced the final approval of the budget at the June 18, 2019 City Council Meeting, also included are the repairs to the Civic Gym.
   • C. Harrington informed the Commissioners of the Proclamation received by the Davis City Council recognizing July as National Parks & Recreation Month at the June 18, 2019 City Council Meeting.
   • D. Sumersille made the following Staff and City Council announcements to the Commission:
     ➢ The City of Davis invites residents to provide input on the potential renovation of Playfields Park. The City will incorporate the feedback received into its application for a Statewide Parks Program grant.
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- **Community Workshop #3: Site Mapping**—Wednesday, June 26, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Marguerite Montgomery Elementary School, Multipurpose Room, 1441 Danbury Street, Davis, CA 95618

- **Community Workshop #4: Concept Review at Fourth of July Celebration**—Thursday, July 4, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Community Park

- **Farmers’ Market Tabling**—Saturday, July 13, from 9 a.m. to noon at Central Park

- **Recreation & Park Commission** – July 17 at 6:30 pm in the City Council Chambers

- **City Council meeting** – July 30 at 6:30 pm in the City Council Chambers

- **Park Playground renovations**—Scheduled play area grand re-openings of the recently completed playground renovations are scheduled for July 20, 2019:
  - 09:00 am Slide Hill Park
  - 10:00 am Covell #20 Greenbelt
  - 11:00 am Hacienda Park
  - 12:00 pm Evergreen Greenbelt
  - 01:00 pm Arroyo Park

- **Action taken at the 6/18/19 CC mtg:**
  - City Council adopted the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 budget
  - Approved the Professional Services Agreement for On-Call Grant Writers
  - Approved MOU with Davis Kids Klub for the use for the Redwood Building for 2019-2021
  - Approved- staff submitted an informational item on consent for the use of Surveillance Technology for the Davis Community Transit – public hearing on July 30, 2019

- On May 22, Mayor Lee and the Director met with Slide Hill residents to discuss concerns regarding Pickleball. Staff is working on creating a survey to be sent out to ask for their feedback on design options. The staff will present the information to the RPC at a special meeting in August and forward RPC recommendation to the CC. Staff has been keeping Nora Oldwin, neighborhood representative informed as to the progress.

- I. Bray expressed his support for enhanced use Geographic Information Systems in City parks.

4. **Public Comment**
   - Todd Kamisky expressed that he would like to offer volunteer services for art installations in parks.
   - Janet Krovoza expressed how displeased she is with the sky track ride that was installed at Arroyo Park. The noise is a disruption to her daily life with park activities that begin at 8:00 am until sunset. Ms. Krovoza stated that they were not consulted about the installation of the equipment and proposes finding another location to place the equipment.
   - Mary Grafton expressed how much she liked the new playground that was recently installed at Slide Hill Park, though she was displeased that she did not have an opportunity to provide input on the design.
5. Consent Calendar
A. Meeting Minutes from April 17, 2019
Chair Harrington requested to amend May 15, 2019 minutes to record Vice Chair Griswold as calling the Commission meeting to order on in place of Chair Harrington.
A motion was made by T. Westlund to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by E. Griswold. The motion passed with a 6-0-1-1 vote.
AYES: Bray, Griswold, Harrington, Herdt, Hubbard, and Westlund.
NOES: None
Absent: Harland
Abstentions: Harrington

6. Regular Agenda Items
A. Presentation on City of Davis Arts & Culture
The Commission received a presentation by Arts & Cultural Manager Rachel Hartsough. The focus of the program presentation is as follows:
- Numerous featured art pieces throughout the City of Davis.
- Davis Shakespeare Festival
- Featured art sculptures and live music in the parks.
- Creation of a Public Arts Map.

Public Comment:
- Chris Granger encouraged fundraising and increased public participation for public art.
  Additional comments include a suggestion of having an anniversary to celebrate Slide Hill Park and to increase music in the parks.
- Nora Oldwin stated that when art is involved it helps the movement in the parks.

Commissioner comments are as follows:
- I. Bray suggested using the concrete at the Farmer’s Market Pavilion to incorporate art and games that could be painted on the concrete surface.
- T. Hubbard would like to see Davis as a center for Public Art and suggests using the roundhouse restroom building at Community Park for a public art project. Hubbard also likes the idea of using imprinted concrete to illustrate messages and incorporating playgrounds to display art features.
- E. Griswold expressed how inspired she was and is happy to hear the new ideas.
- C. Harrington appreciates the work that Rachel Hartsough has done and would like to see more community input or involvement.

Commissioner Westlund excused himself from the commission meeting at 7:42pm.

B. Presentation on N Street Mini-Park
The Commission received a final presentation by Tucker McPhaul and Commissioner Griswold on a Senior Project being conducted at N Street Mini-Park.
- T. McPhaul provided an update on the N Street Mini-Park final design process.
- Numerous responses were provided by residents on all three designs.

Public Comment:
- Craig Walberg stated that Tucker has done a remarkable job on the designs and working with the community. He expressed some concerns about the homelessness in the park but the beautification of the area would enrich the neighborhood and create greater visibility.
• Zarah Wyly thanked Tucker for listening to the neighborhood ideas.
• Jennifer Nachmanoff appreciates the effort that was put forward and how many of the ideas were integrated into the final designs. “These projects are how we create communities”.
• David Delpinia is a neighbor of the park and is very pleased with the final design. He presented Tucker with the Community Engagement Award for the year.
• Chris Granger the Director of Cool Davis emphasized the importance of neighborhood parks and how these projects bring neighbors together, which builds resilient communities.
• Johan Stark is happy with the new development of the park and is very impressed with what Tucker has completed.
• Debbie Martin liked how Tucker involved so many people in the process of designing this park.
• Robin Kosoff thanked Tucker for bringing the neighborhood together and presented him with a plaque of appreciation and a book.

Commissioner comments are as follows:
• T. Hubbard appreciates the work that Tucker completed and would like to encourage City Council to provide funding to complete the park.
• C. Harrington expressed to Tucker that he has created a great niche for himself by engaging the community and is very grateful for the completed work.
  o E. Griswold informed the commission that she has had conversations with Dale Sumersille who has identified numerous parks funding sources to pay for the project.

A motion was made by T. Hubbard to send a dispatch to City Council to prioritize funding to complete N Street Mini-Park and to use this process to increase Recreation & Parks Commission involvement in parks projects, seconded by I. Bray. The motion passed with a 5-0-2-0 vote.
AYES: Bray, Griswold, Harrington, Herdt and Hubbard.
NOES: None
Absent: Harland and Westlund
Abstentions: None

6C. Review and Discussion of Slide Hill 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 – no specific action is required.

Commissioner comments are as follows:
• T. Herdt was surprised by the disrepair of the tennis courts.
• E. Griswold mentioned that she witnessed numerous activities in the park and involvement with the pools and sport courts.
• I. Bray stated that overall this is a well maintained park; however, there is only one drinking fountain and suggested adding additional drinking fountains in the park. The dog exercise area sign is not visible and suggests adding additional signage, Commissioner Bray also suggested adding additional play equipment for young children by the concrete slide.
• C. Harrington stated that this is a great park, a wonderful place to socialize.
I. Bray is interested in conducting a sound (decibal) test at Slide Hill Park and additional City Parks.

Public Comment:
- Chris Granger stated that the older children like the new playground though the toddler area has disappeared, encourages staff to look at the capacity of the park. During the parks day of service there were a lot of active neighbors.
- Nora Oldwin stated that there is a need for additional swings and natural play structures. There is a need for staff to focus on the capacity of the park as the tennis courts get a lot of use.
- Todd Kamisky stated that the various activities and features bring lots of people to this neighborhood park. He is also looking forward to meeting with staff to discuss the pickleball/tennis court renovation.
- Mary Keaton mentioned that there are two main issues at this park, traffic and noise. Slide Hill is a neighborhood park, which is how it is classified. The proposed renovation to the tennis courts is the city not following the master plan.
- Katie Lawler informed the commission that pickleball has been played at Slide Hill since July 2015, the issue is not the renovated courts but the lack of involvement and notification of the neighbors. The pickleball club is 100% recreational, no tournaments are to be scheduled. Ms. Lawler would like to work with the neighbors to consider housing the pickleball courts at Slide Hill.

7. Commission Comments and Staff Communications
   A. City Council Liaison
      No information was provided.
   B. Aquatic Economic Analysis
      No information was provided.
   C. Art in Public Spaces
      E. Griswold stated that she was waiting until after the presentation from Rachel Hartsough before meeting to generate new ideas.
   D. Parks Maintenance Standards
      No information was provided.
   E. Volunteer Engagement Sub-committee
      Met to review Volunteer Coordinator job description before being returned to Human Resources. D. Sumersille has requested funds that will be used to purchase a trailer to be used for the new position.

8. Future Agenda Items
   - I. Bray would like an update on new commissioner prospects.
     ➢ D. Carson informed the commission that City Council will review appointments for new commissioners on July 9, 2019.
   - T. Hubbard would like to review Playfields Park for the July Commission meeting.
   - E. Griswold would like to move the Farmers Market presentation to another meeting date.
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- D. Carson informed the commission that it was just reported that there was an officer involved shooting in Sacramento, a classmate of Natalie Corona.

Commissioner T. Herdt moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by T. Hubbard at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Martin Jones  
Parks & Community Services Superintendent