Recreation and Park Commission
* Special Meeting *
Remote Audio and Video Meeting Participation
Wednesday, May 6, 2020
MINUTES

Commission Members Present: Timm Herdt – Chair, Darci Silbaugh – Vice Chair, Emily Griswold, Bruce Harland, Cheri Harrington, Tyson Hubbard, Robert Ono and Erik Vink

Commission Members Absent: None

Council Liaison Present: Dan Carson

Public Present: Gene Endicott, Pam Gunnell, Josh Jones, PK, Matt Keisling, Alan Pryor, Eileen Samitz, Nancy Price, Colin Walsh, Carson Wilcox and Matt Williams

Staff Present: Christine Helweg, Dale Sumersille, Martin Jones, Sherri Metzker

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

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Approval of the Agenda
   A motion was made by R. Ono to approve the agenda, seconded by C. Harrington. The motion passed with a 7-0-0-0 vote.

   AYES: Griswold, Harland, Harrington, Herdt, Hubbard, Silbaugh and Ono
   NOES: None
   Absent: None
   Abstentions: None

3. Public Comment
   Carson Wilcox – adding a new community asset, such as a softball field, would benefit the whole community as part of the ARC project.

   Josh Jones – supports the Commission’s subcommittee recommendations.

4. Regular Agenda Items
   A. Consider Sub-committee Recommendations related to Parks, Greenways and Recreational Amenities Proposed for the Aggie Research Campus Project
      The Commission received the sub-committee’s recommendations on proposed “Baseline Project Features.”
A motion was made by E. Griswold, seconded by D. Silbaugh to make modifications to the sub-committee’s recommendations specific to items 1, 2, 5, delete 7, and add new items 9 and 10 concerning private ownership of public spaces and Municipal Art fund (Attachment A). The motion passed with a 7-0-0-0 vote.

AYES: Griswold, Harland, Harrington, Herdt, Hubbard, Silbaugh and Ono
NOES: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

B. Discussion on Regular Meeting Date of May 20, 2020
Due to the lack of priority discussion items, the Commission decided to cancel their regular meeting date of May 20, 2020. All items to be deferred to the regular meeting date in June 2020.

A motion was made by E. Griswold, seconded by B. Harland. The motion passed with a 7-0-0-0 vote.

AYES: Griswold, Harland, Harrington, Herdt, Hubbard, Silbaugh and Ono
NOES: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

5. Future Agenda Items
No discussion

6. Adjourn
Commissioner R. Ono moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by C. Harrington at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Helweg
Assistant Director
The City of Davis Recreation and Park Commission met on April 15, 2020, to receive a presentation and solicit community input related to Parks, Greenways, and Recreational Amenities Proposed for the Aggie Research Campus (ARC) Project. At the Commission meeting on April 15, 2020, the Commission voted to create a sub-committee of the Commission to make recommendations to the City Council concerning specific “Baseline Project Features” to be included in the project exhibits and plans submitted for voter approval pursuant to Measure R. The sub-committee met and completed its task.

The Recreation and Park Commission reconvened on May 6, 2020, and solicited additional public comment concerning the Project. Ultimately the Commission voted to adopt the below (A) Proposed “Baseline Project Features” and (B) Proposed Recommendations for submission to City Council and the Planning Commission.

A. Proposed “Baseline Project Features”

1. **Onsite Park Details** – Developer will ensure public access through a recorded easement to a minimum of 15 acres of onsite parks. Of the minimum of 15 acres of onsite parks, a neighborhood park of a minimum of 7.5 net acres of contiguous park land will be established in accordance with the City of Davis Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The parks will be designed and maintained to meet the needs of the residents who reside at the project site, and will include children playgrounds and picnic facilities with adequate shading, public art, natural/landscaped areas, and multi-use open fields. This neighborhood park will include a softball / multi-use field that meets the field of play regulations appropriate for youth and adult organized softball for use by employees and residents of the project site, as well as Davis community sports programs, and will include permanent spectator seating, dugouts, fencing, and lights for use at night and in the evening. The neighborhood park will be completed in Phase 1, and within 3 months from when the first person occupies a residential unit at the project site. All use of the onsite parks, including rental by Davis residents, will be managed by the City of Davis Parks and Community Services Department in accordance with City Council Policy for rental and use of city facilities. The City of Davis shall be entitled to charge and collect a fee for the reserved use of the onsite parks.

2. **Park Construction and Design** – Developer will be responsible to construct all onsite parks and open space, and will consult with the City of Davis Recreation and Park Commission as well as City of Davis Parks and Community Services Department concerning all programming and equipment installed in the onsite parks. The parks will be designed in accordance with best practices so as to provide a safe place for City residents to recreate, including, as necessary, appropriate measures to protect park visitors from nearby roadways. The Developer agrees to receive approval from the Parks and Community Services Department on all final park designs and programming.

3. **Park Maintenance** – Developer will ensure that all maintenance associated with onsite parks and open spaces will meet or exceed the standards expected as Class-A
commercial facilities in perpetuity, and will further meet or exceed all operative City of Davis maintenance standards for parks, including but not limited to the City of Davis Integrated Pest Management Policies and Procedures, as those policies and procedures may be amended from time-to-time, as well as the ban imposed by the City of Davis on the use of glyphosate in City parks. Developer agrees that all maintenance costs associated with meeting the foregoing standards will be assumed by Developer and/or by the ARC Master Owners’ Association, and to the extent that the City is required to expend its own resources to meet the standards agreed to herein that the City shall be entitled to compensation from Developer and/or ARC Master Owners’ Association for the value of City’s resources so expended.

4. **Peripheral Trail** – Developer will ensure public access through fee or easement to a 7.5 acre peripheral trail that will run along the perimeter of the Project site and which will include a walking path and a class 1 bike trail. At least a material portion of either the walking path or the class 1 bike trail must be completed in Phase 1, and within 3 months from when the first commercial tenant occupies the site so as to provide recreational opportunities for the employees who will work at the site. The trail will also be open to residents of the site and the public at large.

5. **Turf Usage** – Parks and recreational areas will minimize the use of natural grass turf while balancing the needs of certain sporting activities.

6. **Off-Grade Bicycle Crossing** – A class 1 bike trail will parallel the Mace Drainage Channel, be serviced by an off-grade crossing of Mace Blvd, connect with the City easement located east of the Project site, and will enhance overall regional bicycling connections.

**B. Proposed Recommendations**

7. **Strain on City Facilities** – The residents of the 850 residential units and the 6,000 employees will undoubtedly further the strain on existing City resources. The Commission recommends that City Council require, either as a Baseline Project Feature or as part of a Developer Agreement, that the Developer agrees to make a financial contribution to a parks development fund, in addition to park impact or construction tax fees, for the City to use on projects identified in the Masterplan Park Update, on infrastructure updates, or on other high-priority projects.

8. **Skateboarding Facilities** – As the project will eliminate any future use of the “Davis Ditch” unauthorized, but frequently used skateboarding area on the Southeast corner of the project site, the Developer should be required to contribute toward a future skatepark or improvement as identified in the Masterplan Park Update.

9. **Private Ownership** – The Commission is concerned that the private ownership of land proposed to be used as a public park via easement presents potentially novel issues related civil liberties. For example, will private security or local police have jurisdiction
to patrol the parks? Will citizens have a right to protest on this sort of privately owned public park lands in the same way as they would on traditional City-owned park land? The Commission encourages City Council to work with the City Attorney to fully analyze these concerns so as to ensure the protection of residents’ civil liberties.

10. Municipal Arts — The Commission encourages City Council to have a discussion with the Developer about an appropriate plan for creating spaces for public art within the Project. The Commission proposes that the Developer be required to make a financial contribution to public arts to be managed through the City’s internal processes for selecting and installing public art in accordance with City standards.