



City of Santa Clara

Meeting Minutes

Parks & Recreation Commission

11/15/2022

7:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54953(e) and City of Santa Clara Resolution 22-9150, the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting will be held by teleconference only. No physical location will be available for this meeting; however, the City of Santa Clara continues to have methods for the public to participate remotely:

Via Zoom:

<https://santaclaraca.zoom.us/j/91316665755>

Meeting ID: 913 1666 5755 or

Phone: (669) 900-6833

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Caldwell called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Present 6 - Vice Chair Dana Caldwell, Commissioner Maureen Chu, Commissioner Burt Field, Commissioner Eversley Forte, Commissioner Sajid Hai, and Commissioner Brittany Ricketts

Absent 1 - Chair Kelly Cox

Comissioner Chu made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hai to excuse Chair Cox.

Aye: 6 - Vice Chair Caldwell, Commissioner Chu, Commissioner Field, Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Hai, and Commissioner Ricketts

Excused: 1 - Chair Cox

CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Field abstained from voting on item 1.B. of the Consent Calendar.

Commissioner Forte made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Field to approve the Consent Calendar.

Aye: 6 - Vice Chair Caldwell, Commissioner Chu, Commissioner Field, Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Hai, and Commissioner Ricketts

Excused: 1 - Chair Cox

- 1.A [22-1327](#) Action on the Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes of the October 18, 2022 Meeting

Recommendation: Approve the Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes of the October 18, 2022 Meeting.

- 1.B [22-1343](#) Consider a Request from the Santa Clara Youth Soccer League for a Financial Grant in the Amount of \$6,693 from the Wade Brummal Youth Sports Grant Program

Recommendation: Approve the SCYSL request for a Wade Brummal Youth Sports Grant in the amount of \$6,693.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Lu, a member of the public attended the meeting. He spoke about the speed of scooters along the San Tomas Aquino Trail as a point of concern that should be addressed in the future.

Julie Corrigan, the Santa Clara Swim Club Team Manager attended the meeting and expressed her appreciation to Commission and staff for maintaining the pools. She supports the concepts to the Central Park Master Plan, and having a 50 meter pool that is also part of the Central Park Master Plan. She is looking forward to getting the Mary Gomez Park pool up and running soon as there are 700 hundred kids in swim programs there.

GENERAL BUSINESS

2. [22-1326](#) Consideration of the Schematic Design - Master Plan for the New Public Neighborhood East Park at 5155 Stars & Stripes Drive (Related Urban)

Recommendation: Recommend that Council approve the proposed Schematic Design - Master Plan for the East Neighborhood Park to be located at 5155 Stars & Stripes Blvd.

The Commission received additional input from the public about the need to design the park for recreation purposes and transportation/bicycles, and to judiciously use the right trees in the right place in the design, which the Commission took into consideration in reviewing the Schematic Design. The Schematic Design is prioritized for recreational usage for the community. The usage of drought tolerant trees and plantings conforms with the approved Related City Place Project.

Commissioner Forte made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Chu to recommend approval of the Schematic Design - Master Plan for the new public neighborhood East Park at 5155 Stars & Stripes Drive (Related Urban).

Aye: 6 - Vice Chair Caldwell, Commissioner Chu, Commissioner Field ,
Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Hai, and Commissioner Ricketts

Excused: 1 - Chair Cox

3. [22-1356](#) Initiate Community Input Process for the proposed Schematic Design for a New Public Mini Park at 3000 Patrick Henry Drive (SummerHill - Patrick Henry Drive Specific Plan)

Recommendation: Provide input on a proposed Schematic Design for a New Mini Park to be located at 3000 Patrick Henry Drive.

The Commission provided feedback about community input and encouraged the public to take advantage of opportunities to participate in surveys and meetings for the new public Mini Park at 3000 Patrick Henry Drive. Flyers about this project will be available at the Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 2. There will be a virtual public meeting for this project at 6:30 PM on December 12. Detailed information will be available on the Park Projects webpage. As a standard practice, the Department's social media channels will publicize the outreach efforts. In addition, **Director Teixeira** provided a summary to give the Commission context about the location of the new Mini Park, which will be immediately adjacent to the proposed art center that the commission will review at an upcoming meeting. The Mini Park consists of active recreational spaces. The two spaces will function synergistically to provide a unique experience for patrons.

Commissioner Chu made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Field to initiate the community input process for the proposed schematic design for the new public mini park at 3000 Patrick Henry Drive.

Aye: 6 - Vice Chair Caldwell, Commissioner Chu, Commissioner Field ,
Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Hai, and Commissioner Ricketts

Excused: 1 - Chair Cox

4. [22-1328](#) Parks & Recreation Commission Work Plan Goals for FY2022/23

Recommendation: Report on activities and efforts in support of the Commission's Work Plan Goals for FY 2022/23.

Work Plan Goals:

A: 1) Review park site and facility condition assessments and recommend priorities given existing and anticipated service levels and available resources;

Subcommittee: Vice Chair Caldwell, Commissioner Field, and Chair Cox.

Status as of 11/15/2023: The subcommittee had an enlightening meeting with Parks & Recreation Department staff at City Hall for a holistic review of park projects that included current status, funding, timelines, deficiencies, etc. which will assist the subcommittee in recommending the prioritization of projects. They learned more about the aged and failing infrastructure within the park system and the importance of updating the facility condition assessment planned for 2023. The subcommittee received feedback from Mr. Gupta (affiliated with the Santa Clara Swim Club) regarding support for the Central Park Master Plan particularly in the context of having a new swim center given the failing infrastructure of the International Swim Center. Families involved with swimming programs have a vested interest in becoming more involved in supporting efforts to see the Central Park Master Plan executed.

B: 1) Review and solicit community input on the existing City park rehabilitation projects based on the current Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget and schedule; and 2) Review residential developer proposed schematic designs for new neighborhood parks that serve new residential development;

Subcommittee: Commissioner Chu and Commissioner Hai.

Status as of 11/15/2023: B1. The subcommittee plans to increase community input through neighborhood Facebook groups for the proposed Schematic Design for the new Mini Park at 3000 Patrick Henry Drive. B2. Subcommittee is pleased to see the Commission approve the new public neighborhood park at 5155 Stars & Stripes Drive.

C: 1) Host and develop recommendations for the annual Santa Clara Art & Wine Festival 2023; and 2) participate in Citywide Special events; and

Status as of 11/15/2023: No update..

D: 1) Partner with at least one other City commission to build on/expand at least one existing Parks & Recreation event by adding one extra element for patrons to interact with during the event.

Subcommittee: Commissioner Forte and Commissioner Ricketts.

Status as of 11/15/2023: Commissioner Forte met with the Cultural Commission and the Youth Commission respectively on December 7 and 8. The Cultural Commission was receptive to collaborating and learning more about adding a multicultural market to one of the summer concert series or one of the holiday events. The Youth Commission was very receptive to collaborating on special events to increase youth attendance at Parks & Recreation events. They provided many ideas, which the subcommittee will be reviewing and sharing with the Commission at an upcoming meeting.

Commissioner Forte made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Chu to remove the word commission in the term "Parks & Recreation Commission" as follows for Work Plan Goal D 1) Explore and partner with at least one other City commission to build on/expand at least one existing Parks & Recreation event by adding one extra element for patrons to interact with during the event.

Aye: 5 - Vice Chair Caldwell, Commissioner Chu, Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Hai, and Commissioner Ricketts

Excused: 1 - Chair Cox

Abstained: 1 - Commissioner Field

STAFF REPORT

Deputy Director Seale provided an update on Warburton Park Playground Rehabilitation Project and Henry Schmidt Park Playground Rehabilitation Project which will be coming to the Commission in the new year to initiate community input in developing the master plan and schematic design for both parks. The forensic engineering study for the International Swim Center Request for Proposal (RFP) in light of its failed infrastructure is expected to commence in early 2023. The construction phase for the City Plaza Park Gazebo Project is expected to start in late November. The Westwood Oaks Park Playground Rehabilitation Project is at 100% PS&E and is undergoing final interdepartmental review ahead of the project going out to bid. He encouraged the public and commissioners to visit the Parks Projects webpage to keep up to date on all major park projects. The Mary Gomez Park pool is down due to the plastering of the pool dislodging as a result of its aged infrastructure and extensive use. The Department continues to work on addressing this issue and is seeking professional input in considering re-plastering of the pool surface.

Manager Castro provided the Recreation Division update to the Commission. Staff attended the California Parks & Recreation Society Mini Conference in early November for professional development. The Senior Center natatorium is open for four days per week for indoor aquatic activities, and drop in swimming, along with exercise classes. She encouraged commissioners to attend and to be on stage for the Holiday Tree Lighting Event in Central Park on Friday December 2, which will honor the late former Fire Chief Bill Kelly. The Community Recreation Center, Youth Activity Center and Teen Center will be closed for budgetary reasons. Cultural activities are being planned for next year particularly after Commissioner Forte attended meetings with sister Parks & Recreation commissions regarding collaboration in planning events.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Commissioner Chu: She noted that Henry Schmidt Park has important amenities such as the EV charging stations in the off-street parking lot and that the City has several parks with EV charging stations. She visited Harris Lass House and found that it has a beautiful garden, which has potential for recreation programs.

Commissioner Hai: Visited Earl Carmichael Park and walked through Westwood Oaks Park.

Commissioner Field: Received input from a park patron regarding how well Machado Park playground was rehabilitated, and complemented city staff on the success of the project. He has been visiting Maywood Park regularly.

Commissioner Forte: Visited and worked out at Henry Schmidt Park. He attended the Cultural Commission and the Youth Commission meetings and spoke about collaborating with each commission on planning special events.

Commissioner Ricketts: She has been working closely with **Commissioner Forte** in developing strategies on the work plan goals and working with other commissions on special events. She's been continually visiting Henry Schmidt Park and is looking forward to future improvements there.

Vice Chair Caldwell: He has been enjoying visiting Maywood Park and keeping the park clean particularly after usage of the park by park patrons.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Chu made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Forte to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM until the next Parks & Recreation Commission meeting at 7:00 PM on January 17, 2023.

Aye: 6 - Vice Chair Caldwell, Commissioner Chu, Commissioner Field , Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Hai, and Commissioner Ricketts

Excused: 1 - Chair Cox

MEETING DISCLOSURES

The time limit within which to commence any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City is governed by Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure, unless a shorter limitation period is specified by any other provision. Under Section 1094.6, any lawsuit or legal challenge to any quasi-adjudicative decision made by the City must be filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which such decision becomes final. Any lawsuit or legal challenge, which is not filed within that 90-day period, will be barred. If a person wishes to challenge the nature of the above section in court, they may be limited to raising only those issues they or someone else raised at the meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Clara, at or prior to the meeting. In addition, judicial challenge may be limited or barred where the interested party has not sought and exhausted all available administrative remedies.

If a member of the public submits a speaker card for any agenda items, their name will appear in the Minutes. If no speaker card is submitted, the Minutes will reflect "Public Speaker."

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