

MINUTES
CITY OF SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Tuesday, October 18, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:01 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of South San Francisco was held on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at the Municipal Services Building, 33 Arroyo Drive, South San Francisco, California.

II. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Battaglia, Camacho, Holt, Reynolds and Velez

Absent: Chair Lock

Staff: Sharon Ranals, Director of Parks and Recreation
Greg Mediati, Recreation Manager
Samantha Haimovitch, Parks Manager
Marie Patea, Administrative Assistant

At this time, Chair Pro Tem called for a break to allow Commissioners to complete their mandatory ethics training. The meeting resumed at 7:31 p.m.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGENCE

IV. AGENDA REVIEW:

Director Ranals requested to move the Beautification Committee report before the approval of minutes. Report to follow in section IX.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Garrone made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2016 and September 20, 2016, Parks and Recreation Commission meetings. It was seconded by Commissioner Reynolds and unanimously approved.

VI. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: None

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Capital Improvement Projects Update

Manager Haimovitch reported that the Alta Loma Park Playground project is in the final stage before going out to bid. The City's Engineering Division and Swinerton (contracted project managers) are on track to award the contract at the end of 2016.

This project does not require a lot of grading allowing for winter construction. The project completion is planned for spring 2017.

Brentwood Park project is in process. Playground equipment has been removed and new equipment will be installed as well as an ADA parking space. Manager Haimovitch stated that with the Baseball Tomorrow Grant project, Interstate Grading has until January to complete the project and they are on track to be complete by the end of November 2016.

Francisco Terrace Park project was completed with the planting event on October 2, 2016, hosted by Improving Public Places. The plants will be watered by staff and once established no water is needed. This was the final park in the Four-Parks project.

Willow Gardens project had unforeseen infrastructure challenges and is in process and is scheduled to be complete by early November.

Gateway Assessment Medians are complete and aesthetically beautiful; Manager Haimovitch reported. The design details were provided to the City Manager for El Camino Real median consideration. She apprised the Commission with details on an issue that arose during the soil excavation; lead was detected. This area may have been home of Bethlehem Steel. The soil remediation was completed with the high content of lead soil trucked to Utah for proper disposal. She noted that the cost was \$300,000 for the soil remediation. The Median Project was \$660,000 for five medians with irrigation and plantings.

Orange Park Bleacher project and ball fields were discussed. Director Ranals mentioned that a Council sub-committee was formed making ballfields a Council priority. Mayor Addiego and Councilmember Garbarino are on the sub-committee. Manager Haimovitch reported the costs of natural turf and artificial turf of \$3 million and \$5 million respectively. Commissioner Garrone mentioned the pros and cons of natural versus synthetic turf. Director Ranals stated that Council is revisiting the idea of purchasing the Cal Water property. The Commission will be asked to weigh in on Measure W expenditure priorities such as Parks and Recreation/Library buildings, and ballfields. A joint meeting for the Library Board and Parks and Recreation Commission may be planned for January or February. Manager Haimovitch said that she will ask for capital improvement project money again for next year to replace the Orange Memorial Park bleachers. The score keeper booth was discussed and may not be part of the future plan due to the existing structure.

B. Urban Forest Update

Manager Haimovitch reported that thirty-six trees were removed on the El Camino Real near West Orange Avenue on the SF Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) property. SFPUC has promised to replace the trees with large shrubs. Director Ranals reported that the City Manager is also encouraging SFPUC to replant quickly.

Commissioner Reynolds asked if the Parks and Recreation Commission can do anything to help push for quick replanting; since the area is unsightly. Commissioner Garrone stated that the large shrubs that are currently on the site are providing some coverage. He is curious about the impact on the neighbors without the large trees separating their yards with the El Camino Real. Director Ranals mentioned that the fence will be replaced with a taller, screened fence. Manager Haimovitch said the plan is to have the area outside of the fence line landscaped by January.

PG&E is removing trees on private properties on Alhambra, Airport Boulevard as well as city trees on Junipero Serra. They are working with property owners and have agreed to pay the city \$500 for each tree removed. \$65,000 has been paid thus far and the current plan is to replant Sister Cities Boulevard, Hillside Boulevard and Junipero Serra; per Manager Haimovitch. She mentioned that sixteen trees are currently being removed at Orange Memorial Park. Eucalyptus trees are decayed and were planted in the 1940s. She stated that the next trees will be removed near the playground. She welcomes ideas from the Commission for tree plans in all parks especially Alta Loma, Sellick, Orange Park, and Sign Hill. Commissioner Garrone mentioned that San Bruno Mountain Watch requests an environmental study before trees are removed. Director Ranals said that we have prioritized dead tree removals that are closest to the homes near Sign Hill. Pro Tem Camacho noted that tree clubs and garden clubs are active on Next Door. Manager Haimovitch said that she is happy to provide advice on successful plants if needed. Director Ranals said that an urban forest master plan will be requested in the next year's budget.

C. Concert in the Park

Manager Mediati reported that an estimate of 4,000 – 5,000 people attended Concert in the Park. The professional bands *Pride and Joy* and *Lowrider* were well received. South San Francisco and El Camino High School bands were also a great draw. Friends of Parks and Recreation contributed a \$250 stipend to each of the high school bands as a thank you for their participation. The survey results stated that 70% of participants were SSF residents and 96% of the participants were satisfied with the event. Friends of Parks and Recreation sold beer, wine and bottled water and made \$3,600 net profit. Food trucks were well received but more are needed for next year. Director Ranals stated that a date for 2017 will be set asap; in order to secure entertainers and request sponsorships timely. She noted that events take years to build and she is pleased with Concert in the Park in its second year. Commissioners discussed sponsorship opportunities for next year, beverage location, 400 staff hours and how to compensate staff, car show, bouncy house, and advertising of the youth activities in the Fernekes Building.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Orange Pool Renovation and Replacement Feasibility Study

Manager Mediati recapped the feasibility study and reported that 45,000 people use the pool eleven months each year. A pool lifespan is 25-30 years and some of the improvements that have recently been completed are HVAC repairs, lobby flooring

and shower repairs. Marcy Wong of Wong and Logan Architecture was hired as the consultant. Manager Mediati reported on three scenarios:

- A. \$10,522,275, renovate existing pool;
- B. \$21,380,835, renovate existing pool and add a second pool adjacent;
- C. \$22,363,600, demolish existing pool and construct a new facility with two pools.

Director Ranals noted that Chair Lock requests that the existing pool is used during construction of a new pool, and perhaps a fourth scenario is needed. The Commission discussed competing projects and funding, naming rights, pool share with SSFUSD, utilizing the old corporation yard for a new pool site, and comparing costs side by side with lifespan of the pool and highlight safety issues. Director Ranals said that the pool study will probably be presented to Council in January.

B. Cancellation of December 2016 Meeting

Commissioner Holt made a motion to cancel the regular December Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. It was seconded by Commissioner Reynolds and unanimously approved.

IX. BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE:

Margie Casagrande reported on the September Coastal Clean-up; stating that a half mile of the bay was cleaned up by volunteers. She reported that five winners have been selected for Beautification awards in three categories and that the presentations are planned for a mid-December or January Council meeting after the City Council Reorganization. Margie also reported that Rich Busalacci is planning to apply for the vacant Beautification Committee member spot in January.

X. FRIENDS OF PARKS AND RECREATION:

Commissioner Holt congratulated Director Ranals and team on the Chili Cook-off win. He reported that Friends voted to give \$2,000 to the ballet studio, \$1,000 to special needs camp, \$2,000 to youth scholarships, and \$1,000 to summer camp. He thanked everyone for their help at Concert in the Park and is planning to attend the Cultural Arts Commission meeting to thank Cassandra and Jessica for their help.

XI. ITEMS FROM COMMISSION:

- Commissioner Holt attended Concert in the Park, Citizens Academy, IACC Bocce and won two games.
- Commissioner Battaglia attended Chili Cook off, Library on Monday, IPP planting, art show, ballet studio ribbon cutting and Concert in the Park.
- Commissioner Garrone called himself a ghost Commissioner but heard great feedback about the Concert. He inquired about maintenance responsibility of SSFUSD ball fields and changes. Manager Haimovitch replied that Buri Buri school's field is gone and that Ponderosa is having irrigation work done which is the responsibility of SSFUSD.

- Commissioner Velez congratulated Director Ranals and team on the Chili Cook off win. Stated that Citizens Academy was on point and well done. She loved the goodies. The addition of the high school bands was a nice touch at Concert in the Park this year. The ballet studio is a great use of space and looks good. She tried to attend the Grand Avenue Library reopening but it was too crowded. She congratulated Erin, Devin, and Martin on their promotions.
- Commissioner Reynolds attended Concert in the Park and noted that the consistency of pouring wine was a challenge. Citizens Academy was amazing to be reminded of how much Parks and Recreation does.
- Pro Tem Camacho congratulated Sharon and team on the Chili Cook off and letting her son assist. She asked that we include volunteer opportunities in the Citizens Academy presentation next year. She suggested thanking Bimbos on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Commission for their donation to Francisco Terrace Park. She noted that the art show attendance was huge and the food was good. She mentioned that her husband said that the best part of the Grand Avenue Library is the new landscaping and she agreed.

XII. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

A. Calendar of Events

Director Ranals highlighted that the Fun Run is November 19 and the Nutcracker will be on December 3 and 4. Commissioners Battaglia, Holt, and Camacho requested tickets. Director Ranals mentioned Halloween Extravaganza on October 22 and two tickets are available for each commissioner. Improving Public Places Wreath Workshop will be on December 4 and will include a succulent wreath workshop for an additional fee of \$60.

B. Administrative Update

Manager Mediati handed out Concert in the Park glasses, and offered business cards, and took sizes for new Parks and Recreation shirts. Commissioner Garrone requested a new Commissioner badge.

CPRS conference was discussed. Commissioners Velez, Camacho, and Battaglia are interested in attending. Once additional details are available the Commissioners will be notified.

Plans for the West Orange Library were discussed as a possible childcare facility after the library relocates to the new building; as part of Measure W.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Patea
Administrative Assistant

NEXT MEETING: November 15, 2016