

City of Richmond - RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
Community Services Building, Council Chambers, 440 Civic Center Plaza

MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018, 6:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting called to order by Chair Hurlbut at 6:04 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Maryn Hurlbut, Pardip Saini, Steven Paskowitz, Joey Smith, Benjamin Schwartz

ABSENT: Payal Patel, Soheila Bana,

C. AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION

- Add a moment of silence observing this is the date Martin Luther King Jr was assassinated.

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS THROUGH THE CHAIR

Chair made several announcements

- Outstanding Items
 1. Round Table Work Session is the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Next meeting is April 10, 2018 at 305 Seacliff Way in Richmond at 6 p.m.
 2. Plunge pool repairs will occur this fall.
 3. The water fountain installations at Humboldt Park have been scheduled.
 4. Park and facility names are in sync on the official city website.
 5. List of the Recreation and Parks commissioners with park assignments is now online.
 6. Current trust balance is \$512.62
 7. Fee schedule and fee waivers for community centers will be discussed next month (item goes before council next month also).
 8. Community center suggestions are being addressed diligently. Chair Hurlbut urged the public to continue giving suggestions.
 9. All of the Plunge Pool items will be addressed during the closure for renovations in the fall.
 10. There is a new Recreation and Parks Commissions page. Chair Hurlbut asked for feedback on what the public wants to see on it. <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3600/Recreation-Parks-Commission>
- Membership Changes
No changes

E. OPEN FORUM

- Cordell Hindler, Richmond Resident – Suggested future agenda items: 1. Have Yader Bermudez from Public Works come to a meeting and talk about the Plunge closure. 2. Would like to see revised list of who is over what park. 3. Have someone from engineering to make a presentation related to construction at the parks. Chair Hurlbut informed Mr. Hindler that Yader Bermudez will be at the next meeting to speak of all the capital improvements in the city.
- June Hight, Richmond resident – Concerned that areas near her home have become dangerous. Cars are speeding, drag racing and side shows are occurring. She is asking the city to consider a raised crosswalk mid-block on S Garrard where Buena Vista dead ends. She provided signatures of residents supporting the request. 2. At the intersection at Western and Garrard, motorists can't see oncoming traffic on Garrard. The community members are suggesting a three-way stop sign, a mirror or additional speed tables be installed to mitigate the danger in the tunnel. 3. The intersection by the Plunge is dangerous. Asking to have a raised crosswalk installed, but not a stop light. 4. Between E Richmond and Canal, drag racers are using the strip to race. Community members are suggesting the same measures as mentioned above, in addition to the possibility of converting two lanes into parking lanes to accommodate the growing community and new businesses.

- Howard Lacheen, Richmond Resident - Cars drive through the tunnel and honk at pedestrians aggressively, they also race on the one-mile stretch of road. Suggested a crosswalk be installed. Chair Hurlbut asked if a speed bump would help and his response was yes. Director Monk asked if this information had shared with Police department or neighborhood council? He believes internally it has been discussed with neighborhood council, but not with police department.
- Lewis Watts, Richmond resident- Lives on Oregon near the crosswalk mentioned by previous speakers. There's an uninterrupted stretch causes people to speed, and motorcyclist rev their engines in the tunnel. Suggested raised crosswalk at Beuna Vista, Garrard and Oregon, as well as speed bumps at beginning and end of tunnel. Add and ADA entrance to make bike entrance safer.
- David Schoenthal, Richmond resident – The tunnel used to have a mirror so you could see if there is oncoming traffic, but it's been taken down and needs to be replaced. Had a conversation with Director Monk about providing the community center to the Neighborhood Council once a month. Suggested to have the community center opened 5-10 hours per month that are open access to the community groups and non-profits to use at no fee. Procuring insurance has been an issue. Received one bid that was \$1000 for a one-day event. Director Monk asked for clarification on what the event was that they received the \$1000 insurance fee bid and he stated it was at the Spring Fling event. Chair Hurlbut asked if there had ever been any incidents. He replied no.
- Hilary Brown, Richmond Resident - has concerns about speeding, safety. Suggested: 1. Installation of a table crosswalk at Oregon and Garrard, 2. Install stop sign at Garrard and Western. 3. Turn two lanes on Garrard between E Richmond and Richmond parkway into parking, make stretch a bit more uniform. Commissioner Smith asked for clarity as to where the suggestion for parking would happen. Ms. Brown explained to give her a better idea of the area she was referring to.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

- APPROVED – Commissioner Smith motioned to have the March 7, 2018 minutes approved. Commissioner Schwartz seconded. All were in favor. March 7, 2018 were approved.

G. STAFF REPORTS

- Parks Division –
 1. Greg Hardesty was not in attendance. Maryn Hurlbut gave a brief oral report in his absence. Play structures being planned at Martin Luther King and Nicholl parks. Improved or new restrooms being installed at JFK, Southside and Lucas parks. The fountain at Humboldt Park has been scheduled and will be installed soon. The basketball Court resurfacing at Boorman Park will be scheduled soon.
- Community Services Department –
 1. Rochelle Monk provided oral report as well as a written report on the Tool Library. The broken window has been replaced. Security cameras have been installed and we are working with KCRT to get the recording component up and running. We are close to hiring a part-time tool manager which will allow us to increase hours of operation and offer more workshops. Lighting in the auditorium is being tested and the next steps to improving the lighting situation is being looked into.
 2. There will be a Park Rx event happening April 29th from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at John F Kennedy Park. On April 26th from 8:30-12:30 at the Recreation Complex, there will be a disaster preparedness training. This will be the first training, a second will be held at a future date TBA.
 3. Commissioner Paskowitz asked Director Monk for a list of the major projects for the next fiscal year that aren't currently funded at the next meeting.

H. PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSIONS, & ACTION ITEMS

Following discussion of each item, the Commission may vote to make recommendations to staff or to the City Council.

1. Dirt World Bike Park Project Update – Jeanine Strickland, Landscape Architect, Vallier Design Associates, Inc. – Provided a PowerPoint presentation. Having access to nature close to home is important. There are no bike trails in the East Bay. There are not many people of color on most bike trails and they would like to change that. It's an activity that will help counteract the disconnection the youth have because they're always on their phones, this gets them out and exploring nature and connect with their families.
2. Brown Act Review – Rochelle Monk, Community Services Director
 - Meeting requirements
 - Posting agendas
 - Describing an agenda item
 - Limited exceptions
 - Requirements before closed session
 - Closed session
 - Requirements after closed session
 - Penalties and remedies
 - Resources

I. COMMISSIONER LIAISON REPORTS

- Commissioner. Saini – Concerned with the hygiene at MLK Park. Went by there on April 3, 2018 and there was lots of trash and homeless people sleeping on the benches. Went to Richmond Annex and Booker T. Anderson Park and noticed homeless people there as well.
- Commissioner Schwartz – Attempted to attend the Richmond Neighborhood Council meeting but could not get into the building. Not sure if it's at a new location or different time. The weeds were overgrown at Tiller park.
- Commissioner Smith – Went to Atchison Village for a meeting and there was a painting class instead. There will be an EBMUD Earth Day fair in downtown Oakland from 11:30 -1 p.m. this Saturday April 7, 2018
- Commissioner Paskowitz – No report
- Chair Hurlbut – Asked the other commissioners to look at list of Parks and facilities and ensure they are identical. Started the new page for the commission. Currently there's only the list of parks and name of neighborhood council on it. MLK Park tennis courts were cleaned up. Greg Hardesty and group patched more than 10 holes that were in the fences. 8 giant garage bags of refuse was removed from that park in one day.

J. ACTION ITEMS RECAP

- Inform Yader Bermudez, Tim Higaes and the police are informed of the speeding issue and pedestrian safety in Point Richmond before Yader Bermudez presents next month.
- Suggest turning two of the lanes in Point Richmond into parking lanes.
- Request EBMUD send a representative to assist in the installation of water fountains in Humboldt Park.
- Next meeting will be on the budget, priorities for capital improvements, and staffing advocacy
- Director Monk will answer questions posed in reference to the Brown Act
- Motion to support the development of Dirt World Bike Park
- Information on Proposition 68

K. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM RECOMMENDATIONS

- May Valley presentation
- Community Center fee schedule update
- Update of the city website in reference to the Recreation and Parks Commission
- Yader Bermudez going over pool closure at The Plunge.
- Juneteenth Festival

L. MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

M. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

N. SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Commission Meeting – Wednesday, May 2, 2018, 6:00 p.m., Community Services Building, Council Chambers, 440 Civic Center Plaza.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: _____
Delana Elarms-Andrews – Office Clerk