



CITY OF PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA
REGULAR MEETING OF THE RECREATION, MUSIC & PARKS
COMMISSION

City Hall Council Chamber
11 English Street
Petaluma, CA 94952

MINUTES

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Marianne Bertuccelli, Mary Kate Delucco, Stacey Earl, Kate Greenspan,
Hannah Rizzo Simons, Karen Nau
ABSENT: Megan Kelly

GENERAL

PUBLIC

COMMENT

During **General Public Comment**, the public is invited to make comments on items of public interest that are within the City Council's subject matter jurisdiction and that are not listed on the current agenda. Public comments are limited up to three minutes per person. Depending on the number of persons wishing to address the Council, time will be allocated in equal shares totaling no more than twenty minutes, subject to the Council's discretion (Cal. Gov't. Code §54954.3(a), Petaluma City Council Rules, Policies and Procedures, III).

PRESENTATIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes for the meetings of February 15, 2023 and March 15, 2023

Motion H. Rizzo-Simmons Motion to approve February 15th Minutes. K. Greenspan Seconded.

M. Bertuccelli Motion to approve March 15th minutes. H. Rizzo-Simmons Seconded. made by , seconded by .

Absent: Megan
Recused: None

Kelly

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

2. 2023-2024 Parks and Recreation Operational Overview and Recommendations for Prioritized Investments - Receive a summary of the Parks and Recreation Department's Operational Overview. Review and provide input on the proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 recommended investments in parks, projects, and programs. Delana Bradford, Management Analyst II, Rachel Beer, Recreation Supervisor, Cindy Chong, Superintendent of Parks & Facilities, and Drew Halter, Director of Parks and Recreation.
D.Halter, C. Chong, and R. Beer presented on Proposed Fiscal Year 2023-24 Recommended Investments.

M. Bertucelli- How does facilities maintenance team function?
C.Chong- All City facilities fall under Parks and Rec facilities team. Parks maintenance, facilities maintenance, and LADs moved from PW&U when Parks & Recreation became their own department two years ago. D.Halter- A lot of collaboration happens daily with PW&U because of the CIP program and Citywide maintenance needs.
M.Bertucelli- Do you have an appropriate budget for maintaining all facilities that you are responsible for? C. Chong- Based on three year old facilities assessment, we are understaffed and underfunded. Deferring maintenance continues to be a challenge. M.Bertucelli- Is the budget for facilities separate from Parks? C. Chong- Shared resources in the sense of staffing, we don't charge back to parks budget but materials/contractors are charged back to Parks. M. Bertucelli- Does parks have a dedicated budget? D. Halter-We have an annual budget process through Council, there are provisions in Measure M that require a set amount of funding that have to be maintained from a pre-established baseline year.. Going below that baseline could affect eligibility for Measure M.

H.Rizzo -Simmons- Could facilities go back to PW&U? C. Chong- There haven't been any related discussions. H.Rizzo-Simmons- Is PW&U funded more heavily than Parks? C.Chong- Not from the general fund but they do have more revenue bearing streams. We are a cost center, providing a service not generating revenue. H.Rizzo-Simmons-The parks rental fees are going in to the General Fund and not coming back to Parks. D.Halter- Some divisions do have a higher cost recovery and its part of the budget process to ensure equity across services. H.Rizzo-Simmons- The turf replacement fund is an example of making money at a park that can go back in to the park

that it is being used at. D. Halter cautioned against a pay to play model that can result in inequality among parks that don't have amenities that can be rented

M.Bertucelli- Do we know what the amount of money is coming from park rentals going back to the General Fund? D. Halter- We can report back on that. M.Bertucelli- Any money generated by Parks should come back to Parks, those funds could be distributed evenly to the parks that generate funds and the parks that do not generate as much, how do we make that happen? D. Halter- We take input here and it carries us to Council, fees staying within Parks is a slippery slope when you look at other departments that are in a similar situation. Advocating for improvements in the parks are apparent in this budget and this type of support is unheard of in the last decade.

K.Nau-Slide 13- Green slice label? D. Halter- Enhanced Services, Park Repairs, and Supplies. K.Nau- Where is the Museum? D. Halter- The Museum is a cost center under Recreation Services. There is a CIP project to complete a seismic retrofit at the Museum.

H.Rizzo-Simmons- Was the PCSF construction a phased project? Why the selected location of the restroom/concession stand? D. Halter- Masterplan of entire site is three phases, first soccer/lacrosse with restroom/concession installed two years later. The baseball project, under construction now also calls for another restroom/concession stand. Third phase will be softball/baseball as well as parking and landscaping.

S.Earl-As park acreage grows, the funding doesn't grow. Is there a way to say what percentage we are operating at and then what amount of money it would take to be at 80% or 100% of Parks needs? D. Halter- That is input that we want to hear, how can we better tell our story? We started with benchmarking parks maintenance staff and now we have to talk about how not all acreage is created equal.

S.Earl-Which portion of the enhanced maintenance are coming from Measure M? D. Halter- There are requests for enhanced maintenance that were approved outside of Measure M. S. Earl- Any recent surveys regarding Measure M? D.Halter- We are almost at the halfway point, this would be a great time to check in with the community regarding the priorities that were set in 2019. S. Earl- Is \$650k for phase one of Skate Park or the whole project? D.Halter- This is in addition to the initial approximately \$380k that was already funded in the project. S. Earl- The locker rooms at the Swim Center are out of compliance with Safe Sport.

K.Greenspan- Really excited to see significant funds to preserve trees

and for the grazing program.

Kenilworth Park Revitalization Project Update - Summary of Community Engagement Findings and Receive Input on Scope of Design - Receive an update on the Kenilworth Park Project's community engagement process and provide input on the scope of initial park design priorities - Erica Jacobs, Project Manager with Public Works & Utilities Department and Drew Halter, Director of Parks and Recreation.

K. Nau- Bike racks can be used as public art opportunity. Sand volleyball hasn't been used recently. Did we send postcards to the neighbors for this project?

J.Medina- Yes, we did. K.Nau-A lot of travelers use Washington St. and can use this area to picnic. Unsheltered population keep families from wanting to use Kenilworth. D. Halter- Workshop demonstrated that community members are using this as a pass-around vs. a pass through which we are hoping to change with this project. K. Nau- Children from McKinley use the Payran crosswalk for safety.

K.Greenspan- Curious if/where ReLeaf would fit in to these plans? E.Jacobs- We do have a grant that applies but there may be a timing issue. C.Chong- The Cal Fire grant does apply to this park, there will be a timing issue but we are in talks with Releaf to address Kenilworth and additional funding opportunities.

H. Rizzo-Simmons- A lot of people from the neighborhood want safe access to Kenilworth. How does the City's take over of the Fairgrounds affect Kenilworth?

D.Halter- There is an issue of timing, we are underway on this project and the Fairgrounds has an interim transition to preserve a fair where the long term vision with strong community input will take 3-5 years. We are hopeful to have an all new park space before that timing. H. Rizzo-Simmons- Volleyball court in Cotati is used every single night, volleyball is an underserved sport.

M. Bertucelli- Slide 22- Could the project boundaries include a space that connects the Teen Center, Library, and Kenilworth in a more cohesive way? D. Halter- That is the feedback that we want to hear, if other Commissioners feel the same, we would like to hear that.

M. DeLucco- Are you familiar with Tunnel Tops? Kenilworth has the opportunity to provide the same integration, the children's park is art work that the kids are using as their play equipment. E. Jacobs- The prospective design teams have articulated some creative play elements and there is a real opportunity for

synergy with public art.

K. Greenspan- Where does the Daily Acts rain garden fit in to this design? E.

Jacobs- That area is not a part of this park design but we did hear from the community that there is a desire to connect or expand on what is already there.

D.Halter- We will be sure to invite Daily Acts to the table to extend their expertise and resources especially for rain catchment opportunities.

H. Rizzo-Simmons- Can the drainage issues become play elements? E. Jacobs- A bioswale may be an option.

S. Earl- Can the fence around the teen center come down and become a basketball court? D. Halter- The teen center is being used for weekday programming that does not necessarily need fencing. The weekend events do spill out in to the area, the area is in disrepair and this project does not currently include the Teen Center. The workshop reflected that we do not want to ignore this area since square footage is limited. S. Earl- The volleyball net was taken down for safety reasons, community members would like this amenity especially for 4th -8th grade students, there is not another volleyball court in town. There could be a walkway from the Library in to the park, the garden currently has a walkway to nowhere.

COMMITTEE COMMENT

K.Greenspan- No parks updates. Thank you to staff for their work with community input and collaboration. Youth Commission- still working on restructuring.

S.Earl- There is a lack of response from under 18 crowd for Kenilworth, could we use Superintendent of Schools (Matthew Harris) with their home room to get a survey out?

J. Medina- Love the idea, the comms team is working more closely with Petaluma City Schools.

H. Rizzo- Simmons- Parks look good. Missed last art meeting. Could Parks and Rec have a Google calendar so community members know what is happening in the parks at any given time? Could we get attachments to the agenda a week ahead of time to be better prepared for the meetings?

M. Bertucelli- Have to commend Staff for their hard work, this time of year is always nice in parks. Museum- Executive Director has been hired, there was an open house to recruit new board members. Petalumans of yester-year are working with school and will be walking in Butter & Eggs parade.

K. Nau- Is the Museum truck in the Parade? M. Bertucelli- Yes. K. Nau- The hand sanitizer stations are awesome but empty. Leghorn Park- sign boards that the structure is closed but no noticeable reason. There were cute sheep for the Transhumance festival with real wool with a QR code for information on the festival. Pickleball courts

are being damaged by non-pickleball users.

M. DeLucco- My parks look great. Westridge park is still closed, are we close to getting wood chips? D. Halter- Cindy will provide an update in her comments. M.DeLucco- Tree committee will develop an ad-hoc for the Tree Ordinance.

M. Bertucelli- Sunrise Park has construction staging. C.Chong- PG&E. D. Halter- Yes, there were new trees taken out, we have been promised a beautiful park when they are done.

S.Earl-Missed Bike & Ped meeting. The dumpster at the Swim Center has been graffitied, is that something we would do something about? C. Chong- We don't own them but can report to Recology. S.Earl- For the new skate park, what is the stance on graffiti? H.Rizzo-Simmons- we could consider walls specifically for graffiti. D.Halter- Grindline has asked the question knowing that our community is split on the matter. This will be discussed at each step of the design process.

STAFF COMMENT

C.Chong- Busy because of rain in March. Leghorn benches and picnic tables have been refurbished. Drinking fountains are going to come back online. Westridge playground had a retaining wall that was no longer holding in the sand. There is now a concrete retaining wall and it will be filled with engineered wood chips on May 2nd. Tree committee is very busy and active, two new ad-hocs are being developed. Releaf plantings were completed with help from the Parks team. Cal Fire grant- we are in review of the tree inventory with a hopeful completion of this summer. Turf maintenance is kicking in to high gear, there is a lot on staff's plate but they are moving full force ahead.

D. Halter- Wood chips are being sourced, the Grant playground will get chips this week or next. Fencing will come down and Grant will be open within the week. Opening Ceremony will take place on May 3rd, more details to come. Anna's Meadows going to Council on May 1st including the shade structure supported by this Commission. Whale mural was done by Spring Hills School kindergartners with a life-size blue whale in the City Hall parking lot. Opening chess match for chess tables on Water Street will take place on April 29th. Alchemia Inclusion Festival will take place on May 13th at the Community Center, its about creating inclusive play spaces for the community. We are engaged with the pickleball community and re-stripping is underway on additional tennis courts to satisfy the expanding needs.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 7:41pm.