

County of San Mateo

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Thursday, December 6, 2018

4:00 p.m.

**Board of Supervisors' Chambers
400 County Center, Redwood City**

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 4:03 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Bonilla – Chair, Commissioner Manneh - Vice Chair, Commissioner Merrilees, Commissioner Enriquez, Commissioner Okelo, Youth Commissioner Eeshan Bhat

Staff Present: Peggy Jensen - Interim Parks Director, Scott Lombardi - Parks Superintendent, Matthew Sanders - Deputy County Counsel

3. Public Comment

Gloria Cahuich Gonzalez, East Palo Alto
Dr. Rachel Borovina, San Mateo Medical Center

4. Action Items

- 4.1 Review and approve the Minutes of the October 4, 2018 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

Motion to approve: Merrilees/Manneh 5:0
Minutes approved

- 4.2 Dog Ordinance Update – Interim Director Jensen

- 4.2.1 Board of Supervisors' Decision– On November 6, 2018, the Board adopted the Parks Department recommendation and the new ordinance became effective today, December 6, 2018. The Parks Department will report back to the Board on the impact this has on the Parks, six months from now, in July 2019. The Dog Workgroup will also work on Pilot projects specifically an off-leash area – report back by December 2019. The Department will report back to the Commission prior to that.

- 4.2.2 Dog Management Committee – Commission Vacancy

Commissioner Bonilla volunteered to represent the Parks Commission on the Dog Management Committee

Motion to approve: Manneh/Merrilees 5:0

Commissioner Bonilla approved to be part of the Dog Pilot Working Group.

5. Parks Foundation Executive Director's Report

Michele Beasley presented the Parks Foundation report.

6. Department Report

6.1 Scott Lombardi presented the Superintendent's Report.

7. Commissioner's Reports

7.1 Commissioner Merrilees said a constituent contacted him about the signs at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve. The person saw a sign that she thought may be offensive to some people because the wording of it could be associated with racially segregated neighborhoods ("There goes the neighborhood"). The same woman liked the new whale and seal signs at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, but said they blocked her view of the ocean. She hopes that the Parks Department will be more mindful of sign placement in the future, so as to not block anyone's view of the ocean.

7.2 Youth Commissioner Bhat – The youth environmental program would like to work with the Parks Department and the Parks Commission for the rest of the year. They have an idea for a junior ranger program to increase youth participation in county parks.

7.3 Commissioner Enriquez thanked everyone as this was his last Commission meeting. Interim Director Jensen, on behalf of Supervisor Groom, presented Commissioner Enriquez with a Resolution, thanking him for his years of service, and the Department gave the Commissioner a plaque on a piece of redwood from our Park with his name on it, as well as a lifetime pass to our parks.

8. Items for Future Agenda

Talk about the junior ranger program that Eeshan said. Neil, what demographic info we want from staff.

9. Adjournment

Commissioner Okelo called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Okelo/Merrilees 4-0

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

**After adjournment, there was a closed Study Session with Department staff, Commissioners, and guests.