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**MINUTES**  
**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**August 28, 2012**  
**CITY HALL**  
**250 Hamilton**

**Commissioners Present:** Stacey Ashlund, Deirdre Crommie, Jennifer Hetterly, Ed Lauing, Pat Markevitch, Daria Walsh

**Commissioners Absent:** Paul Losch

**Others Present:**

**Staff Present:** Rob de Geus, Catherine Bourquin, Daren Anderson

**I. ROLL CALL CONDUCTED BY:** Catherine Bourquin

**II. AGENDA CHANGES, REQUESTS, and DELETIONS:**

**III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**IV. BUSINESS:**

**1. Approval of Draft Minutes from the July 24, 2012 special meeting** – The Draft Minutes from the July 24, 2012 minutes were approved as amended. **Passed: 4:2 abstentions (Commissioner Walsh and Crommie)**

**2. Recommendation to place limits on amplified sound at Lytton Plaza** – Staff Anderson briefly spoke on the recommendation reminding the Commission what had taken place and what the new regulation entailed. The Commission then received public comment.

**Public Comment**

Herb Borock – Mr. Borock spoke on the item and added that there might be the need for mitigation if approved by Council, referencing the advanced reservation portion of the regulation and having limitations added to it.

Commissioners were given time for comment and questions.



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43 Commissioner Vice-chair Walsh commented that she did not feel comfortable voting  
44 yes to the recommendation on the grounds that after observing the plaza on numerous  
45 occasions during this trial period, that she felt the music was still too loud.

46 Commissioner Chair Lauing – He commented that he was pleased with the survey  
47 outlining 11 visits.

48 Commissioner Crommie – She was pleased with the distinction between day and night  
49 uses and found that you could still find a quiet time during the day at Lytton Plaza. Her  
50 concern was on acoustic music playing during the hours amplified was allowed. She  
51 asked how acoustic music would be accommodated and staff responded that there is no  
52 restricted times for acoustic music.

53 Commissioner Hetterly – She commented that she was very pleased with the huge  
54 improvement on the revised wording in the Rules and Regulations that now clarifies  
55 the permitting process and how amplified music will be accommodated in Lytton  
56 Plaza.

57  
58 Commissioner Markevitch made a motion to approve the recommendation to place  
59 limits on amplified sound at Lytton Plaza as defined in the staff report to the  
60 Commission, seconded by Commissioner Crommie.

61  
62 ***Motion: The Parks and Recreation Commission recommend to Council to approve***  
63 ***the Recommendation to place limits on amplified sound at Lytton Plaza.***  
64 ***Passed 5:1 (Commissioner Walsh)***  
65

- 66 **3. Review draft amendment to the Comprehensive Plan – Natural Environment**  
67 **Element** - Staff de Geus introduced Steve Turner, Advanced Planning Manager for the  
68 Planning and Transportation Department. Mr. Turner started the review off by  
69 acknowledging Ms. Chitrlekha Moitra a planner in the department who has worked  
70 extensively on this component of the comprehensive plan. He provided some history on  
71 the Plan and what the next steps are for the plan. He advised the Commission that any  
72 written comments that they would like to provide can be emailed to him via staff de  
73 Geus and will be incorporated into the Draft before review by the Planning and  
74 Transportation Commission on September 12<sup>th</sup>. After this review the hope would be  
75 that it will be ready to go forward to Council. And then it would go out for an  
76 environmental analysis to bring it to its final stage in Spring of 2013.

77  
78 Public Comment

79 Eileen McLaughlin, Citizens Committee To Complete the Refuge spoke on the portion  
80 of the comprehensive plan as it pertains to Natural Eco systems. She wanted to make  
81 sure the “invasive species” removal was included in the plan.

82  
83 The Ad hoc Committee consisting of Commissioner Crommie and Commissioner  
84 Hetterly provided a report on their review of the Comprehensive Plan – Natural

85 Environment Element. They went through their suggested changes/edits for the  
86 Commissions approval. (See attached).

87 After comments from the Commissioners a motion was made by Commissioner Hetterly  
88 to approve the recommended changes by the ad hoc committee and seconded by  
89 Commissioner Crommie.

90  
91 ***Motion: The Parks and Recreation Commission approve the recommended***  
92 ***changes by the ad hoc committee as presented. Passed: 6:0***  
93

94 **4. Review and comment on landscape renovation plans for Eleanor Pardee Park –**

95 Peter Jensen, Landscape Architect/Park Planner for the City of Palo Alto presented the  
96 plans for the renovation of Eleanor Pardee Park to the Commission. After his  
97 presentation the Commission was given time for questions and comments. Some  
98 questions and comments from the Commissioners included; will there be sand in the  
99 play area, why so many picnic tables without a restroom, why asphalt for pathways,  
100 what is the criteria for replacement of playground equipment, has a dog park been  
101 considered, revamping 9/11 memorial area, putting the two playgrounds together.

102  
103 Mr. Jensen commented that the next steps will be to further develop the plan by looking  
104 at some modifications that the commissioners have suggested. The plans will then be  
105 brought back to the Commission for further review.  
106

107 **5. Presentation and discussion on the Highway 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle overcrossing**  
108 **conceptual alignments at Adobe Creek and possible action recommending a letter**

109 **of support to apply for funding through the County of Santa Clara Alternative**  
110 **Recreation Mitigation Projects Grant program –** Holly Boyd, Project Engineer for  
111 the project provided a brief description of what the expectation is for this item tonight  
112 and introduced the consultant Casey Hildridge who presented a slide show on the  
113 project outlining the four conceptual alignments with various approach options under  
114 consideration. Commissioner Markevitch questioned the use of the private property for  
115 alignments A, B, and C. Discussion centered on the differences in the ramps for each  
116 of the alignments. Commissioner Hetterly emphasized the need to keep the tunnel  
117 available as well as the bridge. The Commission then discussed the letter of support  
118 from the Commission for the grant application to the Santa Clara County. Consultant  
119 Casey Hildridge explained the process for the grant. Commissioner Ashlund questioned  
120 why the inclusion of the other three projects for the grant funding. After some  
121 discussion a motion was agreed upon by the Commission. Motion made by  
122 Commissioner Crommie and seconded by Commissioner Hetterly.  
123

124 ***Motion: The Parks and Recreation agree to provide a letter of support for the City to***  
125 ***apply for funding through the County of Santa Clara Alternative***  
126 ***Recreation Mitigation Projects Grant program for approximately 6 million***

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127 *for four projects Adobe Creek Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge (\$4M), Matadero*  
128 *Creek trail (\$1.5M), Arastradero Road Trail Repaving and Upgrades*  
129 *(\$250K) and Park Bicycle Boulevard (\$250K) in order of this priority.*  
130 *Passed: 5:1 (Commissioner Ashlund)*  
131

132 **6. Preparation for September 10 Council Study Session** – Chair Lauing lead the  
133 discussion on preparing for the Joint meeting with City Council. A draft Agenda for  
134 the meeting was provided and discussed. The Commission explored ways to express  
135 the importance to the Council on PARC’s key goals for the present and future.  
136

137 **7. Parks and Recreation Commission Ad Hoc Committee and liaison updates** – Chair  
138 Lauing requested updates from the Commissioners ad hoc committees and liaison  
139 representatives.  
140

- 141 • IRBC – Commissioner Markevitch commented that they will be getting back  
142 together in early October to get an update on what Council has been doing.
- 143 • Julia Morgan building sub-committee – Commissioner Markevitch commented  
144 that they met with Steve Emslie, Deputy City Manager and put together a matrix  
145 on the possible location options they found.
- 146 • Cubberley committee – Commissioner Hetterly commented that the committee is  
147 meeting every other week and are in the data collection stage still. They have  
148 been told that the timeline has been moved up to February 2013 and the  
149 Committee is feeling that they might not have enough time to finish there report  
150 by then.
- 151 • Byxbee committee – Commissioners Crommie, Hetterly, and Walsh stated that  
152 they did a walk through with staff Anderson and reviewed the new trails which  
153 looked good. They had a follow up meeting with the stakeholders at the water  
154 treatment plant with Public Works.
- 155 • Field Use Policy committee – Staff de Geus reported that they will be meeting on  
156 Thursday and possibly have something to bring back to the Commissions next  
157 meeting.
- 158 • Golf Course – Staff de Geus spoke and informed the Commission that the design  
159 work is continuing and that the current Committee for this will be meeting again  
160 shortly.  
161

162 **V. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 163 1. Commissioner Walsh had a question on the Cogswell Plaza readings from the Important  
164 Dates sheet. The response was that there are always two readings that occur with  
165 Council on ordinance requests.



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- 166 2. Commissioner Markevitch commented that she would like to emphasize the importance  
167 of scheduling meetings that relate to the Commission on nights that they do not have their  
168 regular meetings.  
169 3. Commissioner Hetterly reported on the Public Arts Commission informing the  
170 Commission that they met on the Hoover Park art selection and has narrowed it down to  
171 5 proposals.  
172 4. Staff de Geus announced that the Enjoy catalog has been released.  
173

174 **VI. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

175 Chair Lauing reported that the September 25th meeting will have to be moved and  
176 discussed the options of a new date. September 10<sup>th</sup>, September 18<sup>th</sup> was suggested.  
177 Agenda items suggested included:

- 178 1. Magical Bridge  
179 2. Julia Morgan Building relocation  
180 3. Urban Forestry  
181 4. Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society  
182

183 **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

184 Meeting adjourned in honor of Russ Wright, Recreation instructor who passed away.  
185 11:20pm  
186