



**MINUTES
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING ANNUAL RETREAT
May 19, 2017
Mitchell Park Community Center
3700 Middlefield Rd, Adobe Room, Palo Alto, CA**

Commissioners Present: Anne Cribbs, Jeff Greenfield, Jeff LaMere, Ryan McCauley, Don McDougall, David Moss, and Keith Reckdahl

Staff Present: Daren Anderson, Robert de Geus, Kristen O’Kane, and Tanya Schornack

BUSINESS:

1. Review 2016 Parks and Recreation Commission Accomplishments and Priorities

Vice Chair David Moss reviewed PRC Commissions 2016 accomplishments (see document below).

2016 PARC Accomplishments

- 1. Parks, Trails, Recreation, Natural Open Space Master Plan**
 - Six Goals
 - Policies and Programs
 - Draft Master Plan
 - Unanimous support for goals, policies and programs at December PRC meeting

- 2. Dog Park Ad Hoc**
 - Evaluated dog park needs and opportunities
 - Recommended dog park locations: Bowden, Pardee, and Peers Parks.

- 3. Provided input on:**
 - Restroom Policy
 - Golf Course Renovation
 - Buckeye Creek Hydrology Study
 - Junior Museum & Zoo
 - Future of Aquatics Program (contracting to a third party)
 - Lucy Evans Baylands Nature Interpretive Center
 - Baylands Boardwalk feasibility study
 - Quarry Road Improvements and Transit Center Access
 - Began Highway 101 Pedestrian/Bicycle Overpass Project Design
 - ITT Antennae Field Site in the Baylands
 - Potential sale of AT&T property and purchase for parkland
 - Gave input to CIP Budget in 2016: restrooms, park renovations, Foothills Park improvements, Arastradero improvements, bridge to Magical Bridge playground, and Baylands emergency levee.
 - Byxbee Hill project
 - Loma Verde/Midtown Connector Project/Matadero Creek bike/walk study and Sterling Canal
 - Parks Website redesign
 - Parks Synthetic Turf policy

Priorities for Upcoming Year:

- Council adoption of the Master Plan and CEQA document
- Master Plan implementation



- During this portion of the meeting, the Commissioners were specifically focused on:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Input on Master Plan • Bathrooms • Dog Parks • Buckeye Creek Dedication • JMZ • Baylands' Boardwalk • El Camino Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridge over 101 to the Baylands. • ITT Antennae • Magical Bridge • Byxbee Hill Project • Matadero Creek connection to Sterling Canal.
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- Commissioners and staff also discussed the different types of turf fields e.g. Stanford vs. Palo Alto. Discussed a type of TPE turf from Didly.

2. Consider Priorities for 2017

- Commissioners reviewed the [2016 PARC Retreat Project and Priorities](#) handout to determine 2017 priorities. The following was determined:

Major Projects (3)	Ready Projects (1)	Programs (2)	Funding (4)
Conservation Open Space (includes 10.5 acres)	Rest Rooms	Partnerships: -PAUSD -Nonprofits	Donor Groups
Cubberley	Dog Parks	Health & Wellness -Into Nature - Aquatics -Activities & Sports Opportunities -Intramurals	Ballot
Parkland and Connections	Field/Court Usage & Turf Mat		Stakeholder Organizations
Conservation Open Space (includes 10.5 acres)	Rest Rooms	Partnerships: -PAUSD -Nonprofits	Donor Groups

- During this portion of the meeting, the following was specifically discussed:
 - Commissioner Greenfield brought up the importance of communication between the City and PAUSD.
 - Commissioner Reckdahl gave an overview of the 10.5 Acres at the Baylands referencing the different empty fields, new parks, levee project and possible soccer fields. Group discussed potential development, restoration, improving access of empty and current land.
 - Commissioners and staff discussed the ITT property. City staff member Daren Anderson talked about Council discussion on June 5th in regards to the park dedication.



- Commissioners and staff talked about Arastradero Preserve enhancements. City staff member Daren Anderson recommended having an ad hoc committee.
- Commissioners talked about giving other cities access to Foothills Park. Kristen stated that it was discussed with Council last year. It was taken off as a priority.
- Commissioners and staff discussed Cubberley. Rob talked about drafting the Cubberley Master Plan in the next fiscal year. There will be a stakeholder group.
- Rob talked about the PAUSD contract being up this year.
- Commissioners and staff discussed the Adobe Creek Trail.
- Commissioners and staff talked about the Matadero Trail connections.
- Chairman Reckdahl asked about Byxbee Park.
- Commissioners and staff talked about Golf Course Clubhouse
- Commissioners and staff discussed renting out fields/facilities to corporations. **Action: Commissioners to look into the rental policies.**
- **Action: Commissioners talked about getting the youth perspective on PRC priorities.**

3. Focused discussion on May 22, 2017 Parks and Recreation Commission/City Council joint study session

- Commissioners decided to focus on PARC priorities and referenced the Palo Alto Parks, Trails, Open Space and Recreation Master Plan.

4. Review Commission Ad Hoc Committee and Liaison assignments

- Ad Hocs and liaisons assignment were discussed at this meeting and were finalized at the May 23rd PRC meeting.

2017 Ad Hocs	
Ad Hoc	Members
7.7 Acres/Buckeye Creek	Greenfield, McCauley, McDougall
10.5 Acres	LaMere, McCauley, Reckdahl
Baylands Comprehensive Conversation Plan	McDougall, Moss
CIP Input	Reckdahl
Community Gardens	Greenfield
Cubberley Master Plan	Cribbs, LaMere, Moss
Dedicated Parkland Policy	Greenfield, Moss
Dog Parks	Cribbs, McCauley
Field, Tennis Court, and Facility Use Policy	Cribbs, Greenfield, McDougall
Golf Course	Cribbs, McDougall and Reckdahl
Master Plan Funding: Palo Alto Parks, Trails, Open Space and Recreation Master Plan	Cribbs, LaMere, Moss



2017 Liaisons

Organization	Liaison
Palo Alto Aquatics Program	Cribbs
Friends of the Palo Alto Parks	Moss
Palo Alto Recreation Foundation	LaMere
Palo Alto Youth Council	tbd
PAUSD	Reckdahl
Project Safety Net	McDougall
Turf Management	Greenfield

