

Richmond Recreation & Parks Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 6:00 PM



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https://richmond.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=37

- **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Meeting called to order by Chair Hurlbut at 6:03 p.m.

- **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Maryn Hurlbut, Joey Smith, Brendan Havenar-Daughton, Remi Payne, Soheila Bana, Allison Blakeley, Eleanor Thompson, Pardip Saini (arrived late)

- **AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION**

- There were no changes to the published agenda

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS THROUGH THE CHAIR**

1. The January Commission Roundtable work session will be held on January 19th, 2021 (ZOOM)
2. Next Commission meeting Wednesday, February 3rd, 2021 via ZOOM
3. Currently \$413.08 in the Commission Trust Account
4. Membership Changes: none
5. Anyone wishing to speak during this meeting must send an e-mail to rec.parkscommission@gmail.com by 6 pm the day of the meeting with subject line = "rec&parke commission speaker" and state your comments and "Open Forum" or "Staff Reports" as example of topic to be discussed. You will be given "call in" instructions in a return e-mail.
6. Good wishes to the Library and Community Services Director, Sal Vaca, for a safe and happy retirement. Awaiting announcement of his successor.
7. Ethics Training requirement essential for commissioners and all working in community services.
8. Please get the word out on Next Door and at the Neighborhood Council Meetings that everyone can contribute to the Virtual Snow Ball Scholarship Fund. Richmond Tennis Association has been the Fiscal agent for the last couple of years. This year's log was very minimal. No hits on PayPal button. Go to RTA-CA.ORG and click on "Snow Ball." Money received goes for scholarship to graduating seniors of High School.
9. A big thank you to Rosemary Viramontes and staff for delivering 206 food gift cards for \$100 each just before Christmas in 2020 to single parent homes.

- **OPEN FORUM**

- Darlene Drapkin, a Richmond resident representing the United States Pickle Ball Association, announced to the Commission that she is looking for a way to partner with the Richmond Tennis Association. The goal is to introduce a fun and healthy sport to serve the needs of Richmond residents. Ms. Drapkin said Pickle Ball is an inexpensive multigenerational game which allows for 10 to 90 year olds getting together and enjoying this sport. Pickle Ball can be described as the love child of ping pong and tennis getting together and is easy to learn. It is a good exercise, not too strenuous and is loved by the seniors.

According to Ms. Drapkin, she received the Love Your Block Grant and was able to offer the first workshop at Booker T. Anderson Park using this grant funding. The workshop attracted 25 participants. She said thirty people had signed up for the November workshop but it was cancelled due to COVID-19. She added that she would like to create more workshops. Ms. Drapkin is a native Spanish speaker and is interested in introducing this sport to the Spanish speaking community.

▪ **CONSENT CALENDAR**

- APPROVE – December 2, 2020 minutes

1. Chair Hurlbut called for a motion to accept the minutes. Moved by Commissioner Blakeley and seconded by Commissioner Havenar-Daughton, the minutes passed unanimously.

▪ **AD HOC REPORTS**

- Associate Commissioner Program – under legal review
- Online Recreation & Parks Commission operations guidelines created by commissioners – on hold
- Creation of “Walk of Honor” as collaboration – Concept Paper – in progress with Pogo Park
- Creation of tree planting locations for Spring 2021 – Commissioner Liaison Report – on hold
- Create new business cards for Joey, Remi, Brendan, Eleanor and Allison – cards ready for printer
- Create monitoring protocol for temperature & humidity at plunge – being addressed by Public Works Facilities

▪ **STAFF REPORTS**

- Public Works Department – oral & visual report provided by Jose Urquilla, Superintendent of Facilities and Greg Hardesty, Superintendent, Parks and Landscaping
- Library & Community Services Department – oral & visual report provided by Ranjana Maharaj, Community Services Administrative Manager.

▪ **PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSIONS, & ACTION ITEMS**

- Per the request of Chair Hurlbut, the following commissioners shared their 2020 accomplishments with the Commission: Commissioners Saini, Blakeley, Havenar-Daughton and Chair Hurlbut.

▪ **COMMISSIONER LIASON REPORTS**

▪ **Comm. Smith**

- Helped get a free water fountain for Veteran’s Park. Working on getting the broken button fixed with Chair Hurlbut’s assistance.
- Homeless presence at Nevin has gotten lighter.
- Helped support food distribution that Maryn and Greg organized.

▪ **Comm. Bana**

- Working on petition for new park in El Sobrante near the library.

▪ **Comm. Thompson**

- Attended two of the Food Giveaway programs.
 - 200+ meals at Nevin
 - 120 meals for City workers
 - Visited three parks - the Nevin Park is looking good.
- Took the Ethics Training and received her certificate.
- Her program gave away 600 toys to neighbors for Christmas

▪ **Chair Hurlbut**

- Working on Bylaws and would like to review at next roundtable.

▪ **ACTION ITEMS RECAP**

- Commissioner Smith called for a motion to table the discussion of the Bylaws. Moved by Commissioner Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Bana; the motion passed unanimously.

▪ **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM RECOMMENDATIONS**

- From previous commission meetings:
 - Presentations on any of the ad hoc committee completions
 - Commission Business Plan
 - Budgets
 - Pickleball presentation scheduled for next month's meeting.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

- Meeting adjourned at 8:13 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted
Angelica Howay, Administrative Aide