

Richmond Recreation & Parks Commission Meeting

AGENDA

Wednesday, June 2, 2021 6:00 PM

This meeting is held on Zoom that is accessible to people with disabilities.

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/93771521625?pwd=ZE11Q0ZiOHV4b0lRRnZjeUYxak9RZz09>

Webinar ID: 937 7152 1625

Passcode: 156963

Or One tap mobile: +16699006833, or 93771521625# US (San Jose)

Or join by phone: US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/abTvlsoMuJ>



Board Members: Maryn Hurlbut, Chair Joey Smith, Vice Chair Brendan Havenar-Daughton, Secretary Remi Payne, Treasurer
Commissioners: Soheila Bana, Allison Blakeley, Pardip Saini, Eleanor Thompson

6:00 **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** (1 min.)

6:01 **Roll Call** (1 min.)

6:02 **Welcome and Meeting Procedures** (1 min.)

6:03 **Agenda Review and Adoption** (1 min.)

The order in which items will be heard may be adjusted by Commissioner vote at this time. In addition, items may be removed from or placed on the Consent Calendar at this time.

6:04 **Announcements through the Chair** (17 min.)

6:21 **Open Forum** (9 min.)

6:30 **Ad Hoc Committee Statements** (5 min.)

- List of Existing Committees

6:35 **Consent Calendar** (2 min.)

Items on the consent calendar are considered matters requiring little or no discussion and will be acted upon in one motion: APPROVE – May 5th minutes.

6:37 **Staff Reports** (16 min.)

- Community Services Division: CSD, Pools, Neighborhood & Volunteer Services. Introducing Interim Director of CSD/Library Services LaShonda White
- Public Works: Facilities and Parks & Landscaping Divisions

6:53 **Presentations** (15 min.)

Receive Presentation from Staff and James Atencio, Assistant City Attorney regarding combining the Commission's monthly Round Table meeting with the Commission's regularly scheduled first Tuesday of the month meetings

7:08 **Action Items:** *Following discussion of each item, the Commission will take action to make recommendations to commissioners, staff and/or to the City Council.*

1. **Election of Officers to the Recreation & Parks Commission (Officer Posts are Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer) – Joey Smith, Vice Chair**
2. **Presentation & action: Request to Rename "South Street" in honor and memory of Ethel Geraldine Dotson – Naomi Williams, Pullman Neighborhood Council**

3. **Discussion and prioritization of all pending items by Commission:**

Action Items to be Prioritized as of June 1st, 2021 Set priority and call for next action on each

- a) Request to City Council to name Baseball Diamond #2 at Nicholl Park the “Willie Mays Field” – requestor Charles Cavenes
- b) Request to City Council to declare a “Willie Mays Day” with fanfare at the Opening of the Field
- c) Request to City Council to accept a resolution to add one or two “Associate (youth) Commissioners” to a Junior College for credit program – requestor Recreation & Parks Commission with CSD (resolution letter was included)
- d) Request to create a Kiosk concept paper to go out to bid as part of a “Walk of Honor” to be installed as part of the Yellow Brick Road project – Requestors – Charles Cavenes, Michele Seville and Toody Maher
- e) Send updated Rules for Naming or Re-naming of Parks, Facilities or Streets or Park Tables and Benches with accompanying fill in the blanks application form with imbedded instructions – requestor by Rec. & Parks Commission, Parks & Landscaping and CSD
- f) Request to present to the Recreation & Parks Commission a renaming of part of South Street to Ethel Dotson South – requestor Naomi Williams
- g) Create new business cards for commissioners who do not have them – Remi Payne and Brendan Havenar-Daughton
- h) Address issues around the monthly Recreation & Parks Commission Round Table meeting
- i) Address presentations from staff and RTA on location and timing of placement of Pickle Ball lines on existing city tennis courts
- j) Address Action Plan for UFAC combined Arbor Day project to include tree plantings for 2021 – requestor Brendan Havenar-Daughton

8:00 **Commissioner Liaison Reports** [16 minutes, (2 min. per member)]

*At 8:00 PM, any items remaining on the agenda that require immediate attention may be moved to this time. All other items will be tabled to another or the following commission meeting in order to make fair and attentive decisions. **This meeting adjourns at 8:30 PM.** The meeting may be extended by a majority vote of the commissioners.*

8:16 **Commissioner Comments** [8 min. (1 min. per person)]

8:24 **Action Items Recap** (2 min)

8:26 **Future Agenda Item Recommendations** (4 min)

8:30 **Adjournment**

**ALL COMMISSION MEMBERS WILL PARTICIPATE VIA VIDEO OR TELECONFERENCE
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) ADVISORY**

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Contra Costa County and Governor Gavin Newsom have issued multiple orders requiring sheltering in place, social distancing, and reduction of person-to-person contact. (See, for example, March 31, 2020 County Order extending the shelter-in-place order until May 3, 2020 & March 19, 2020 statewide shelter-in-place order.) Accordingly, Governor Gavin Newsom has issued executive orders that allow cities to hold public meetings via teleconferencing (Executive Order N-29-20). Both <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/> and <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3914/> Richmond-Coronavirus-Info provide updated coronavirus information.

DUE TO THE SHELTER IN PLACE ORDERS, participation in the Recreation and Parks Commission will be by teleconference only. Public comment will be confined to items appearing on the agenda and will be limited to the method provided below. Consistent with Executive Order N-29-20, this meeting will utilize video/teleconferencing only. The following provides information on how the public can participate in this meeting.

How to observe and/or participate in the meeting from home:

The Recreation and Parks Commission meetings can be accessed using the below methods:

Zoom webinar link: <https://zoom.us/j/93771521625?pwd=ZEI1Q0ZiOHV4b0lRRnZjeUYxak9RZz09>

Webinar ID: 937 7152 1625

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International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/j/93771521625?pwd=ZEI1Q0ZiOHV4b0lRRnZjeUYxak9RZz09>

MEETING SCHEDULE

Regular Commission Meeting: First Wednesday of the month; Second Wednesday for the July meeting

Roundtable Commission Meeting: Second Tuesday of the month

Recreation and Parks Commission Members:

Maryn Hurlbut, Chair Joey Smith, Vice Chair Brendan Havenar-Daughton, Secretary Remi Payne, Treasurer
Commissioners: Soheila Bana, Allison Blakeley, Pardip Saini, Eleanor Thompson

Public comments may be submitted:

1. Via email to rec.parkscommission@gmail.com and state "Rec. Parks Commission Speaker." Your email must contain in the subject line **public comments – Item #**. All comments must be submitted on or before 12 pm of meeting date and must include the following:

- a) Your Name
- b) Your Phone Number
- c) The item for which you wish to make a Public Comment.

Requests for comments received via email during the meeting and up until the public comment period on the relevant agenda item if closed, will be accommodated as is reasonably possible and will be limited to a maximum of one to two minutes, depending on the number of commenters.

The City cannot guarantee that its network and/or the site will be uninterrupted.

Record of all public comments: All public comments will be considered a public record, put into the official meeting record, and considered before Commission action. All public comments will be available after the meeting as supplemental materials and will be posted as an attachment to the meeting minutes when the minutes are posted.

Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities: Upon request, the City will provide for written agenda materials in appropriate alternative formats, or disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services and sign language interpreters, to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in and provide comments at/related to public meetings. Please submit a request, including your name, phone number and/or email address, and a description of the modification, accommodation, auxiliary aid, service or alternative format requested at least two days before the meeting.

Requests should be emailed to cprc@ci.richmond.ca.us or submitted by phone at 510-620-6512, ext. 5458. Requests will be granted whenever possible and resolved in favor of accessibility. If an interpreter is required, that request must be submitted seven calendar days prior to the meeting in question by calling the CSD office at 510 620-6793, attention Ranjana Maharaj.

Effect of Advisory on In-person public participation: During the pendency of the Executive Order N-29-20, the language in this Advisory portion of the agenda supersedes any language below in the meeting procedures contemplating in-person public comment.

Richmond Recreation & Parks Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, May 5, 2021 6:00 PM



To view a video of this meeting click on this link:
https://richmond.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=37

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

Meeting called to order by Chair Hurlbut at 6:02 p.m.

■ **ROLL CALL**

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

Chair Hurlbut provided a brief overview of the meeting procedures and informed the attendees that due to the large number of speakers, they would be allowed one minute to speak on an item.

■ **AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION**

- There were no changes to the published agenda.
- Commissioner Bana made a motion to change the order of the agenda to hear the disc golf item after the Open Forum. This item was seconded by Commissioner Thompson. The motion passed unanimously.

■ **ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS THROUGH THE CHAIR**

1. The May 11th Commission Roundtable is cancelled.
2. The Next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 via ZOOM
3. Currently \$413.80 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 12 pm the day of the meeting with subject line -“rec&parks commission speaker” and state your comments and “Open Forum” or “Staff Reports” as example of topic to be discussed.
6. If you need an interpreter at this meeting, call 510-620-6793 at least seven calendar days before the meeting.
7. The Snowball award checks have been mailed out to the recipients. She thanked staff Sharolyn Babb and Mapuana Bal for facilitating this event. Snowball received a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 that will be used towards the 2021 Snowball recipient awards.
8. The Commission needs to revisit the priority list of action items that are still pending to re-prioritize the items.

■ **OPEN FORUM**

- Garry Hurlbut announced that he and Maryn Hurlbut are launching a new 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization called the Hurlbut Benevolent Fund to support their long term goals of giving back to the Richmond community. This means that both Garry and Maryn will be stepping down from their active roles in the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council and Recreation and Parks Commission respectively. They will continue to keep their current roles with the Richmond Tennis Association (RTA) and Hurlbut Tennis and Garden Park.
- Leisa Johnson made comments that Commissioners and Councilmembers should allow for representatives from both sides of a hotly debated agenda item to present and participate in the question and answer sessions. She encouraged the Commission and new officers who will be serving on the

Commission to draft and adopt a policy to guide future processes on controversial agenda items. She asked that city staff provide more improved guidance to the boards and commissions so that they can carry out their duties to the best of their abilities.

- Councilmember Nat Bates made comments that the way the agenda is written creates a violation of the Brown Act. He said the agenda states that if someone wishes to speak during open forum is required to send an email requesting to speak. This means that people who don't have access to computers are not being accommodated. He suggested that individuals who wished to participate in the meeting should be allowed to do so by allowing them to call in the day of the meeting. He suggested that the city attorney should advise the Commission on the proper process on this issue.

- **ACTION ITEMS:**

Hilltop Lake Park Proposal to construct disc golf course with vote – East Bay Golf Club. Receive Staff Presentation and take action to recommend to the City Council: deny, approve the proposal, or appoint an Ad Hoc Committee to prepare for further review at a future Commission meeting.

Commissioner Bana opened this item by stating that the Commission had already heard from people who represented opinions for and against this issue and requested an opportunity to vote on this item. Assistant City Attorney, James Atencio, reminded the Commission that since this item was listed under the action item where a staff is supposed to present a report, he said the Commission should allow for the staff report, discussion and public participation prior to voting.

Library and Community Services Director, Jim Nantell, said the Commission was provided with a staff report relative to this item which provided a timeline of actions leading to the work in preparation for the construction of the disc golf. This was in response to questions from the Commission and the public as to how did we go so far down the road with creating a disc golf course. He said all the documents are made available on the website for anyone to access.

Mr. Nantell said there were some questions raised regarding the revising of the agenda and he wanted to clarify the reasons behind it. He said that the Chair had indicated that she had appointed an ad hoc committee at the last meeting in preparation for the discussion of this item. He explained that if that was the Chair's intention, under the Brown Act Law, the appointment of the ad hoc committee would need to happen at a public meeting where the agenda calls for this action. He added that if that is still the intent, then the appointment could be made at this meeting. Given that this action had not been stated on the posted agenda, in order to move this item into an actionable item, the City Attorney's Office advised staff to make the change. Therefore, it was necessary to revise the agenda.

Mr. Nantell added that it is clear that there is a need to establish a clear policy on how to process the types of requests such as the construction of the disc golf. He said staff will develop policy documents for the Commission and Council review and approval.

The Commission opened comments from the public on this item.

The following speakers spoke in favor of the Disc Golf Course:

- Jonathan Braidman said that at the last meeting, they were told a specific process would be provided to them to address this project, but they had not received any information on that. Regardless of that, the East Bay Disc Golf Club has decided that at this point they do not have a desire to push forward with this project or devote their volunteers, donors, the donor's time and funds on a project if most people surrounding the park oppose it even if the Commission approved this item. He stated that residents from this area have been misled about the information on disc golf. He invited the Commission and people who are interested about this sport to join them at a park where they are playing to witness the sport activity.
- Scott Riley gave comments in support of the Disc Golf Course at Hilltop Lake Park.

The following speakers spoke in opposition of the Disc Golf Course:

- Lauren Lober gave comments in opposition to the construction of the Disc Golf Course.
- Elsa Stevens gave comments in opposition of the Disc Golf Course construction.
- Janice Wickland gave comments in opposition of the Disc Golf Course construction.
- David Sharpels gave comments in opposition to construction of the Disc golf Course.
- Rosie Sorenson gave comments against the construction of Disc Golf Course.
- Kurt Jensen gave comments against the construction of the Disc Golf Course.
- Anita Carswell gave comments in opposition of the construction of the Disc Golf Course.
- Robin **5174 gave comments against the building of a Disc Gold Course at Hilltop Lake Park.
- James **2352 gave comments in opposition to the construction of the Disc Golf Course.
- Elaine Dockens gave comments in opposition to the construction of the Disc Golf Course.
- Patricia Aguilar gave comments in opposition of the construction of the Disc Golf Course.
- Janet Vanwork gave comments in opposition of the construction of the Disc Golf Course.

The following speaker gave a general comment on the item:

- Leisa Johnson gave comments that the documents prepared by the Committee to preserve the Hilltop Lake Park and presentations should be uploaded on the city's website for access by the public.

After Commissioner comments on this matter, the Chair called for a motion. Commissioner Bana made a motion to recommend to City Council to deny this item if it is presented to them for their review. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson. The motion carried with all Commissioners voting yes on this item.

Work on and set priorities for meeting on May 11

Commissioner Smith motioned to table this item to the June meeting. Commissioner Havenar-Daughton seconded the item. The motion passed.

■ **APPROVE – April 7, 2021 minutes**

Chair Hurlbut called for a motion to accept the minutes. Moved by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Payne, the motion passed with Commissioner Havenar-Daughton abstaining.

■ **AD HOC REPORTS**

- Associate Commissioner Program – With CSD & Legal since resolution to council 2019
- Walk of Honor – Awaiting draft of kiosk concept to Pogo Park et al – Maryn Hurlbut
- UFAC/Commission - new tree planting 7 event share – Brendan Havenar-Daughton
- Disc Golf Data Collection Committee – Brendan Havenar-Daughton

■ **STAFF REPORTS**

- The Commission welcomed Joe Leach, the new Public Works Director. Mr. Leach introduced himself and provided some background information about him.
- Public Works Department – oral & visual report provided by Jose Urquilla, Superintendent of Facilities and Visual Report provided by Greg Hardesty, Superintendent, Parks and Landscaping
- Library & Community Services Department – oral & visual report provided by Ranjana Maharaj, Community Services Administrative Manager and Stephanie Ny, Associate Administrative Analyst.

■ **PRESENTATIONS**

Procedure for Nominating Officers to the Recreation & Parks Commission During the month of May, 2021 (Officer Posts are Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer) – Joey Smith, Vice Chair

Vice Chair Smith provided an overview of the procedure for the nomination of officers. She said the nominations are open to be received until 5:00pm on Thursday, May 13th. The elections will be held at the June 2, 2021 Commission meeting and the new officers will be in office starting on the July 14th meeting.

■ **COMMISSIONER LIASON REPORTS**

■ **Comm. Hurlbut**

- Spent a lot of time responding to emails regarding disc golf.
- Said the Plunge garden looks gorgeous and invited the commissioners to check it out.

■ **Comm. Smith**

- Spent a lot of time reading the materials on disc golf.
- Participated on the Hilltop Lake Park tour to check out the concerns on the construction of the disc golf course.
- Bike lanes could benefit with street sweeping because rocks from the asphalt are coming onto the bike lanes.
- Visited Nevin Park which seemed to be used peacefully by park users with minimal trash issue.
- Visited Veterans Memorial Park where she noticed some large palm fronds on the ground. She noticed the water fountain was working really well. She noticed the lids to the ground boxes needing replacement.
- Visited Boyd Park and witnessed a family practicing batting. She noticed the grass area is not wet anymore.
- Visited Civic Center Park which is looking good.
- The big belly in front of the post office was vandalized.

■ **Comm. Havenar-Daughton**

- Would like to thank Stephanie Ny and team for the LYB grants. He served on the panel to review grant proposals.
- Thanked Greg Hardesty for sharing information regarding FAC and the ad hoc committee to coordinate Arbor Day.
- Created a tree planting form using Google Forms. This seems to be a better version of the tool. Looking forward to receiving feedback to see how it works out.
- Requested the business card template from Ranjana Maharaj.

■ **Comm. Blakeley**

- Researched disc golf. Spoke to her brother who is a professional golfer regarding disc golf and whether it would be appropriate to offer disc golf at venues such as the Richmond County Club.
- Need signage regarding dogs on leashes at parks. It might be helpful to have the Animal Control number on the signs.

■ **Comm. Saini**

- Visited BTA Park and noticed people enjoying basketball and other activities at the park.
- Spoke to Scott Riley regarding disc golf.

■ **Comm. Thompson**

- Spent some time reading and responding to emails regarding disc golf.
- She thanked the Commission for voting on a decision regarding disc golf.

■ **ACTION ITEMS RECAP**

- Letter from Community Services to City Council regarding the decision and recommendation from the Commission.

■ **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Management of the Roundtable meeting-Jim Nantell and City Attorney's Office

■ **ADJOURNMENT**

- Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Ranjana Maharaj,
Community Services Administrative Manager



COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT/RECREATION
Jim Nantell, Recreation and Parks Commission Staff Liaison

TO: Chair Hurlbut and Commission Members

FROM: Jim Nantell, Recreation and Parks Commission Staff Liaison

SUBJECT: Recommendation on Commission Bylaws

DATE: May 25, 2021

Recommendation

Review of the City Attorney's Request and staff's decision to discontinue the second monthly (Round Table) meeting.

Background

In assuming the role as the Interim Library and Community Services Director I was apprised of difference of opinion among Commissioners relative to attendance at the monthly Commission's Round Table Meeting. The questions relative to the processing of the proposed Disc Golf Course resulted in further review of recent Commission meetings. At the conclusion of that review for the reasons discussed below, the City Attorney's Office has requested that R & P Commission discontinue the monthly Round Table Meeting and return to the long standing practice of one regular monthly meeting.

1. Based on discussion with staff and Commissioners it became apparent that a widely held perspective was that the Round Table meeting was a "work session" which is where the real work was done and the regular monthly meeting was where the Commission formalized the decisions reached during the Round Table Meeting.
2. The practice of separating the deliberation of conversations among the formal voting action step was contrary to the intent of the Brown Act to ensure that the public has the opportunity to hear the deliberation phase of the process at the same meeting where action is taken.
3. Given the recollection of staff and commissioners that the public seldom, if ever, attended the Round Table meetings. The concern was that by billing them as "work sessions" may have led the public to conclude they were internal work meetings for Commission as compared to the Regular Monthly Meetings.

4. Since some of the Commissioners were inclined to not attend the Round Table Meetings they were not able to participate in the deliberation phase of the process.
5. Some Commissioners indicated they preferred the more typical practice of one monthly meeting for two to three hours as called for in the enabling ordinance rather than two monthly meetings.
6. The Round Table meeting has led to commissioners assuming the duties of tracking information on park maintenance and contact to city departments for follow up. This is more appropriately handled by the city staff assigned to support the commission.
7. Although the enabling ordinance allows for scheduling special commission meeting, the request to add a second regular monthly meeting should be approved by both the effected department and the City Council.
8. Reviewing and editing staff reports should only be done by the staff, usually the Division and or Department Head, not the Chairperson. Allowing one commissioner to edit staff reports could result in undue influence over what gets shared with the commission as a whole.
9. If the chairperson or any other Commissioner wants to make a presentation to the Commission as a whole, the requests to do so should be approved by the Commission and the presentation should be reviewed with staff in advance of the meeting where it will be presented.

To avoid the unintended consequences of separating the monthly business of the Commission into two meetings, the Community Service Department concurs with the request of the City Attorney to discontinue the more recent practice of holding the monthly Round Table meeting. Staff is confident that the good work undertaken by the Commission during the Round Table meetings can be integrated into the Commission's regular monthly meetings. Although it will likely increase the time of the regular monthly meetings, the total monthly meeting time required of the Commission should be no greater and probably less. Staff assumption of tracking commissioner reports of issues identified from their monthly park tours and following up with the appropriate city staff should reduce the time demands on the Commission Chairperson. In addition discontinuation of the Round Table meeting will eliminate the time required of the Secretary to record and publish the minutes for those meetings.

NOMINATION FORM FOR NAMING OR RE-NAMING PARKS, FACILITIES OR STREETS



1. Name of Nominee: Ethel Geraldine Dotson

Individual Group Organization

2. Nominated By: Name: Naomi Williams

Address: 3505 Ohio Ave.

City and Zip: Richmond, CA 1460

Telephone: 510 918-6955

Organization: Pullman Neighborhood Council

3. Proposed Facility Park Street Other

Current Name: South Street

Proposed Name: Ethel Dotson South

PLEASE INDICATE THE CATEGORY THAT APPLIES TO THE NOMINATION:

Service Recognition

Monetary, Capital or Material

Recognition of Heroes

Special Feature, Area, Locale

PLEASE FILL IN ONLY THE SECTION THAT APPLIES TO THE PROPOSED NOMINATION. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS CAN BE INCLUDED ON THE SECOND (2) PAGE AND/OR OTHER RELATED MATERIALS OR COMMENTS MAY BE ATTACHED TO THIS APPLICATION.

SERVICE RECOGNITION: (Individual, Group, or Organization)

1. Was service provided in a voluntary non-paid status or if a group or organization, was contribution provided outside the normal function of a profit making organization?

YES NO

2. Did the contribution exceed five (5) years in duration?

YES NO

3. Is the nominee an elected or appointed official?

YES NO

4. Did the contribution have a direct positive effect on the delivery of public services?

YES NO

5. If the nominee is DECEASED and provided service while they were in a pay status or they were an elected or appointed official, please indicate year of death.

Year of Death 2007

A. Did the service exceed ten (10) years in duration?

YES NO



MONETARY, CAPITAL OR MATERIAL CONTRIBUTION:

1. What is the amount or value of the contribution?
\$ _____
2. Date of contribution: _____
3. Does nominee have a good record of citizenship?
 YES NO

RECOGNITION OF HEROES:

1. Did the deed for which the nominee is being honored occur two (2) years prior to the date of consideration?
 YES NO
2. Is the deed for which the nominee is being honored common knowledge to the citizens of Richmond?
 YES NO
3. Does nominee have a good record of citizenship?
 YES NO
4. Is the nominee recognized as a national hero by an agency of the United States Government?
 YES NO

Name of Agency: _____

SPECIAL FEATURE, AREA OR LOCALE:

1. Is this name appropriate to the facility?
 YES NO

Please explain in comments section.

COMMENTS:

Ethel Geraldine Dotson Nov. 1941 – Nov. 2007 We, the Pullman Neighborhood Council, its president and neighbors are requesting that South Street be renamed in honor of the memory of Ethel Geraldine Dotson. Ms. Dotson was a community activist and one of the pioneers of what

Nominated by: Naomi Williams

Date: 2019

Received in Recreation Division By:
Stephanie Ny

Date: 10-20-20

REQUESTED ACTION:

- Prepare for Commissioner recommendation
 Deny (Explanation)

Ethel Geraldine Dotson
Nov. 1941 – Nov. 2007

We, the Pullman Neighborhood Council, its president and neighbors are requesting that South Street be renamed in honor of the memory of Ethel Geraldine Dotson. Ms. Dotson was a community activist and one of the pioneers of what is now called the social justice movement both locally and nationally. Her volunteer work included leadership roles in several social justice organizations, several civil rights organizations in the State of California, the Health and Human Services Board as well as the Community for a Better Environment Org. She was also the Chair of the Contra Costa Public Authority Advisory Committee. She was the manager and owner of the "International Hotel" built for the black pullman porters by A. Phillip Randolph because the only hotel located in the area of South Street and Carlson Boulevard did not allow blacks to live or stay there. So, A. Phillip Randolph and others build that hotel for the black porters when they came to Richmond. Ethel was a member of the Seaport Baptist Church.

It is only fitting that South Street be renamed for her since she contributed so much time in volunteer service to the street she lived on during her life. She told Naomi Williams that her family lived in the Seaport neighborhood across from the 580 freeway before moving to the Pullman neighborhood.

A survey was conducted along all of South Street. South Street runs between Carlson and Wall Streets. There are 11 buildings on one side of South Street (it runs about three blocks). On the other side of South Street is one large business building. Two of the 11 buildings are owned by the Dotson family.

Ms. Dotson's son, Kariti Eric Hartman, went personally to each house to get a verbal agreement from the residents. This due diligence has been completed.

South street is to be renamed "***Ethel Dotson South***".