

Richmond Recreation & Parks Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, July 14, 2021 6:00 PM



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

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

- **ROLL CALL**

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

ABSENT: Remi Payne

Chair Smith provided a brief overview of the meeting procedures.

- **AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION**

There were no changes to the published agenda.

On motion by Commissioner Hurlbut; seconded by Commissioner Saini, the Commission voted to accept the agenda as published. The motion passed unanimously.

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS THROUGH THE CHAIR**

1. If you need an interpreter at this meeting, call 510-620-6793 at least seven calendar days before the meeting.
2. The Next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 4, 2021 via ZOOM
3. Currently \$413.80 in the Commission Trust Account and \$1,000 in the RTA Snow Ball 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.

- **OPEN FORUM**

Garry Hurlbut spoke regarding working with volunteers to support the Recreation Division in providing the tennis and football programs.

Cordell Hindler invited the Commission to attend the Casablanca Show at the Red Oak Victory Ship on Thursday, July 15th at 6:30pm. This show is to support the Red Oak Victory Ship; the event is free but a \$10 donation would be welcome.

- **CONSENT CALENDAR**

- APPROVE – June 2, 2021 minutes

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

▪ **STAFF REPORTS**

- Public Works Department – oral report provided by Jose Urquilla, Superintendent of Facilities. Oral 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. Budget report provided by Hope Lattell, Senior Accountant.

▪ **PRESENTATIONS**

- a. The Commission received a presentation on the status of the Harbour 8 project from Toody Maher, Founder, Pogo Park. Ms. Maher said they had completed the conceptual design phase of this project and wanted to provide a status update to the Commission.
- b. Jim Nantell, Project Manager assigned to the Recreation and Parks Commission, presented a report to the Commission regarding combining the Commission’s monthly Round Table meeting with the Commission’s regularly scheduled monthly meeting. This was a recommendation from the City Attorney’s Staff.

▪ **DISCUSSIONS, & ACTION ITEMS**

- i. Tetteh Kisseh, Recreation Supervisor, presented to the Commission a request received from Darlene Drapkin, a Richmond Pickleball Ambassador and a member of the East Bay Pickleball Association to superimpose six Pickleball court lines onto the Tennis Courts at Booker T. Anderson Tennis Courts to make this a multi-use facility. This action does not have any financial impact on the City’s general fund. The painting of the Pickleball court lines is funded through the ECIA Grant funding that was disbursed through the City Manager’s Office and was approved by City Council on May 4, 2021. Staff informed the Commission that playing Pickleball on these courts will not impact the tennis programs.

The following speakers made comments in support of this item:

- Ahmad Anderson, Richmond resident
- Don Lau, Executive Director for YMCA
- Gary Hurlbut, Richmond Tennis Association
- Darlene Drapkin, a Richmond Pickleball Ambassador and a member of the East Bay Pickleball Association
- Caller with phone extension 2404

Chair Smith called for a motion. Moved by Commissioner Hurlbut and seconded by Commissioner Brendan-Havenar, the Commission voted unanimously to accept staff recommendation to make Booker T. Anderson Tennis Courts a multi-use facility to allow the painting of Pickleball lines on the Tennis Courts and recommended that this item be presented to City Council for their approval.

At 8:20 pm, on a motion from Chair Smith, Commissioner Bana moved to extend the meeting for half an hour. Commissioner Kaser amended the motion to extend the meeting to finish the pickle ball item by allowing the public to speak on this item and carry over the rest of the items to the next meeting. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Bana; the motion carried.

- ii. **ACTION ITEM:** Discussion and prioritization of all pending items by Commission:
 - a) Request to City Council to name Baseball Diamond #2 at Nicholl Park the “Willie Mays Field” – requestor Charles Cavenes *Agendized as priority item #1 for an update*
 - 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) *Agendized as priority item #2 for an update*

- 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 – *This item was already addressed at the June 2, 2021 Commission meeting.*
- 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 *Agendized as a presentation item on July 14, 2021 Commission meeting.*
- i) Address presentations from staff and RTA on location and timing of placement of Pickle Ball lines on existing city tennis courts. *Agendized as a presentation item on July 14, 2021 Commission meeting.*
- j) Address Action Plan for UFAC combined Arbor Day project to include tree plantings for 2021 – requestor Brendan Havenar-Daughton. *Agendized as priority item #3 for an update*

- *Note: From the list above, c, a, and j were determined to be the top priority items at the June 2, 2021 meeting. The remainder of the items carried over to the August meeting.*

- **ACTION ITEMS RECAP**

All items not addressed at the July 14, 2021 meeting were moved to the August 4th meeting.

- **COMMISSIONER LIASON REPORTS**

Item tabled to the August meeting.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

- Meeting adjourned at 8:58 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ranjana Maharaj, Community Services Administrative Manager