

# Richmond Recreation & Parks Commission

## MINUTES

Wednesday, September 1, 2021 6:00 PM



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

Meeting called to order by Chair Smith at 6:05 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

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

ABSENT: None

Chair Smith introduced the Land Acknowledgement opportunity during the Commission's meetings in recognition and respect for the Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land. Commissioner Havenar-Daughton provided additional information on this subject.

Chair Smith provided instructions on how to access the Commission's zoom meetings, and provided an overview of the Commission's mission and meeting procedures.

### **AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION**

There were no changes to the published agenda. Chair Smith announced that Michelle Milam had requested to present earlier in the meeting since she was attending another meeting during the time of the Recreation and Parks Commission meeting.

Commissioner Hurlbut made a motion to move Michelle Milam's presentation after Open Forum and accept the agenda as published; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Bana. The motion passed unanimously.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS THROUGH THE CHAIR**

1. September is Snow Ball kickoff month.
2. If an interpreter is needed at this meeting, call 510-620-6793 at least seven calendar days before the meeting.
3. The Next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 6, 2021 via ZOOM.
4. Currently there is \$413.08 in the Commission Trust Account and \$1,000 in the RTA Snow Ball Account.
5. Membership Changes: Remi Payne is not serving on the Commission at the moment. She has reapplied for her position.

6. Anyone wishing to speak during this meeting is encouraged to send an e-mail to [rec.parkscommission@gmail.com](mailto:rec.parkscommission@gmail.com) by 12 pm the day of the meeting with subject line - "rec&parks commission speaker." State your comments as "Open Forum" or "Staff Reports" as an example of topic to be discussed.

## **OPEN FORUM**

Cordell Hindler invited the Commission to the Council of Industries Forum on September 15 which will be held via zoom. He said Congressman DeSaunier will be the special guest at the event.

Mr. Hindler thanked Commissioner Havenar-Daughton for moving Open Forum to an earlier time.

Maryn Hurlbut spoke on the continued commitment of donation to the Snow Ball Scholarship.

## **AD HOC COMMITTEE STATEMENTS**

### **Urban Green Canopy Committee** (Brendan/Catalin/Maryn/Eleanor)

Commissioner Havenar-Daughton provided updates on the Urban Green Canopy Committee. He said the Committee is in support of Arbor Day. The Commission will have a table at the event and will plant trees. Refreshments will be provided. He said by the next meeting he should have a more specific scope of work and goals and objectives to share with the Commission.

### **Willie Mays Field Committee** (Maryn/Eleanor/Joey)

Commissioner Hurlbut provided an update on this item. She said this item is to rename Nicholl Field #2 after Willie Mays. She said the Committee has already completed a lot work on this item so they need to finish the last few steps before recommending to council for their approval. Ranjana Maharaj, Community Services Administrative Manager informed the Commission that based upon a conversation she had with City Council liaison staff, there are additional steps required before completion. She has asked the City Council liaison staff to provide that information to her which she will share with the Commission once received.

### **Willie May's Day** (Maryn/Eleanor/Joey)

Commissioner Hurlbut provided an update on this item. She said the Committee would like to have the opening day of the renamed Nicholl Field #2 to be declared Willie Mays Day and to coincide that on his birthday in May of 2022 once the renaming is approved.

### **Associate Commissioner Committee** (Maryn/Allison/Joey)

Commissioner Hurlbut informed the Commission that the Committee has not met regarding this item, however; according to Staff, this item is under review with the City Attorney's Office and the Mayor's Office. The Mayor's office appears to be excited about this program and to use this as a platform to be accepted by all boards and commissions for the city.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

APPROVE – August 4, 2021 minutes

Chair Smith called for a motion to accept the minutes. Moved by Commissioner Hurlbut and seconded by Vice Chair Havenar-Daughton, the minutes for the August 4, 2021 meeting was unanimously approved.

## **REPORTS FROM STAFF**

Public Works Department – visual report for Jose Urquilla, Superintendent of Facilities (who had to leave early) was presented by Ranjana Maharaj, Community Services Administrative Manager.

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.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Michelle Milam, Crime Prevention Manager with the City of Richmond’s Police Department provided an update on the work being done for the homeless and unhoused population. She said she is assigned to the City of Richmond’s Homeless Taskforce and provided an overview of the Core Team’s efforts in providing onsite case management for those who are unhoused in parks and public spaces. Their services include housing, health services and connections for other needed services. She said people in need of these services should call CORE or 211 or email Michelle directly.

Patrick Phelan from the City of Richmond’s Engineering Department and liaison for the Bicycle Advisory Committee provided an overview of the Richmond Bicycle Master Plan. He spoke about the three types of bikeways: class one bikeway which is fully separated from a roadway; class two is the standard bike lane and class three is the shared bike route. He said he works with the proposed Bicycle Network that directs them to the kinds of projects to work on and the type of funding to apply for. He added that the city does not have any funding for these projects so they rely completely on grants.

At 8:00pm Chair Smith called for a motion for an extension of the meeting. Commissioner Hurlbut moved to extend the meeting for 30 minutes to complete as much of the existing agenda as possible. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Saini. The motion carried.

Kate Spaulding spoke regarding The Magick Lantern. She said they started showing movies once a month at the Point Richmond Community Center since January 2018. She explained that her event is not suitable to be held at the Convention Center as suggested by staff. She further explained that The Magick Lantern had received a grant to install window shades at the Point Richmond Community Center and they had also installed a large movie screen at this site. She said the community is very invested in Magick Lantern. She was looking for concurrence use from the Commission to continue free usage at the community center.

## **DISCUSSIONS & ACTION ITEMS**

### **i. DISCUSSION ITEM UPDATES:**

Update Rules for Naming or Renaming Facilities

Commissioner Hurlbut reported that the Commission had worked on this item some time ago.

She said the procedures and the application process needs to be placed together and she anticipates getting this done in the next couple of weeks.

#### Kiosk Concept Paper

Commissioner Hurlbut reported that the then Arts & Culture Manager, Michelle Seville, Charles Kapniss, Toody Maher and Commissioner Hurlbut) had discussed placing kiosks on the walk of honor on the newly funded yellow brick road project. They need a concept paper on what this kiosk would contain and need a committee to get this sanctioned.

#### Business Cards

Commissioner Hurlbut reported that business cards have been printed for those who needed them. Payment is pending from some of the Commissioners.

#### ii. DISCUSSION ITEM UPDATES:

Park Signage: the Commission discussed forming a committee to work on creating a multilingual signage to display the Ordinance regarding dog leash and waste pick up by park user.

Commissioner Appointment term dates: Staff reported that the Mayor's Office will take this item to City Council for the correction of the dates.

Pickleball update: Staff reported that a memo was included in the Commission packet that explained that reduced rental rates were provided to Ms. Drapkin during the time she had enquired about renting the Tennis Courts. At this time Contra Costa County was in the red tier. This meant the number of attendees that could gather in a place were also reduced hence the reduced rental rates. Once Contra Costa County moved to the Orange Tier, the regular rates in the Fee Schedule went into effect. Ms. Drapkin claimed she was not notified about the change. However, staff indicated that she was and she actually acknowledged the rate in two of her emails. This issue is not resolved yet as we have not heard back from Ms. Drapkin.

Commissioners were requested to submit their written reports in advance for it to be official. Commissioner Hurlbut shared her written report with the Commission.

#### **AGENDA SETTING FOR NEXT MEETING**

Commissioner Kaser suggested requesting Patrick Phelan return to the Commission to make a presentation about the bicycle paths. Chair Smith said she will contact the speakers ahead of time to see when they can come.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Angelica Howay, Administrative Aide