

# City of Richmond - RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

Community Services Building, Council Chambers  
440 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA

## MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2012, 6:00 PM

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Portero called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance.

**2. WELCOME AND MEETING PROCEDURES**

Chair Portero read the meeting procedures.

**3. AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION**

Item 7. Commissioner Liaison Reports moved to follow Item. 8 Presentations, Discussions & Action Items. Comm. Saucer-Bilbo motioned to accept the Agenda with the changes. Comm. Martinez seconded. Passed unanimously.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS THROUGH THE CHAIR**

Chair commended Comm. Torres for the fundraiser he did through PAL and noticed that members of the Commission were partial recipients of the MLK Award given by the City of Richmond in regards to the dialogue between Black & Brown Women. Thanked Director Jabari for allowing the space for the program.

**5. OPEN FORUM**

- Cheryl Maier, Richmond resident – as a representative of Opportunity West, advised the agency has closed but the programming has been transferred to other agencies.
- Jerome Smith, Richmond resident – spoke in favor of reducing the contract fees for the Qi Gong classes held at BTA.
- Cordell Hindler, Richmond resident – spoke in favor of the Richmond Sol soccer program and wants more programming for youth and adults.
- Jose Chavez, Vallejo resident, and a victim – informed the commission of a shooting incident that occurred at the MLK field and asked for more police protection.
- Jackie Thompson, Richmond resident – asked about the park benches at JFK Park, informed the commission that residents have complained about people bringing dogs to the MLK track, and announced the approval of a Health Clinic by the Housing Authority.

**6. PRESENTATIONS & DISCUSSIONS**

- Recreation & Parks Commission Executive Committee Elections – Chair Portero received 6 votes and Comm. Martinez received 2 votes for the seat of Chair. Vice-Chair Garcia received 6 votes and Comm. Cooper received 2 votes for the seat of Vice-Chair.
- Tennis programming and court renovations – Garry Hurlbut spoke about the current tennis programming and offered suggestions for expansion and spoke about the needs for court renovations throughout the City. Lita Anderson and M(r)s. Samuel of the United States Tennis Association spoke about their ability to assist the community and the Recreation Department tennis program. Chris Chamberlain, Parks Superintendent, gave an update of the contract status for the renovation of Nicholl Park courts.
  1. Comm. Leedie suggested forming an ad-hoc committee to support tennis programming and the renovations. Comm. Torres advised he wouldn't mind being the head of the committee.
  2. Chair Portero motioned to extend the time for the item. Vice-Chair Garcia seconded. Passed unanimously.
  3. Cordell Hindler, Richmond resident – spoke in favor of renovating the Nicholl Park tennis courts and asked when the work begins and how much it will cost.
  4. John Sutinen, Richmond resident – spoke about wanting to start tennis programs in Richmond but could not due to poor court conditions and also spoke about being a volunteer tennis teacher through Saffron Strand.

5. Martyn Collins, Richmond resident - talked about Richmond having competitive players and the need to renovate the courts to provide space for tournaments.
  - Recreation Department Partnership Policy and Procedure – Ranjana Maharaj noted the title should reflect as Guidelines instead of Policy. Ranjana Maharaj and Kris Lofthus reviewed the first draft of the Recreation Department Partnership Guidelines and Procedures which will serve as reference when Non-Profit Organizations want to collaborate with the Recreation Department.
1. Chair Portero requested the formation of an ad-hoc committee to help work on the draft with the Recreation Department staff. Comm. Martinez, Chair Portero and Vice-Chair Portero all volunteered.
  - Lucas Park revitalization – Comm. Martinez and community members spoke about their desire to combine efforts with sponsors and City of Richmond staff to improve Lucas Park.
1. Comm. Leedie motioned to have the Commission support the collaborative community effort to rejuvenate Lucas Park. Comm. Martinez seconded. Passed unanimously.
2. Chair Portero suggested putting together committees for supporting the parks and recreation programs. Comm. Martinez suggested groups of two bring forth ideas to the main Commission meeting. Chair Portero advised she wanted committees to meet at least once prior to the next meeting and come back with suggestions for events to establish a calendar.
  - Re-address Liaison assignments – Chair Portero suggested carrying the item over to the next regular monthly meeting.
1. Jackie Thompson, Richmond resident expressed concern that the Commissioners aren't fulfilling their Liaison roles.

**7. COMMISSION & LIAISON REPORTS**

**8. STAFF REPORTS**

- Recreation Department –
  - a) Pointed out items from written report
  - b) Commissioner training workshop will be held on Saturday, February 11, 2012 in Oakland. The training will be given by the California Association of Parks and Recreation Commissioners and Board Members.
- Parks Division –
  - a) Gave status reports on several projects and asked for Commissions support at the corresponding Council meetings.
- ONS
  - a) Gave reports of recent activities

**9. CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. APPROVE – January 4, 2012 minutes  
Comm. Saucer motioned to approve. Comm. Martinez seconded. Passed unanimously.

**10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Commission Requests for Future Agenda Items
2. Current Future Agenda Items

**11. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Portero adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

**13. SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

Commission Meeting – Wednesday, March 7, 2012, 6:00 p.m., Community Services Building, Council Chambers, 440 Civic Center Plaza.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Johann Frazier, Executive Secretary