



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA CONVENED
CONVENED THIS 12TH DAY OF JANUARY 2015, AT 6:30 P.M.
AMEDEE O. "DICK" RICHARDS, JR., COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1424 MISSION STREET**

1.ROLL CALL

Chair Ron Rosen convened the Regular Meeting of the South Pasadena City Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting at 6:32 p.m.

Staff R. Martin called the roll. Present were Commission Members Gin, Taylor, Zavala, Vice Chair Salinas, and Chair Rosen.

Absent: None.

Other Officials and Staff present: Community Services Director/ Staff Liaison Pautsch and Staff R. Martin.

**2.APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
DECEMBER 8, 2014.**

MOTION: Commission approved the minutes of the regular Dec 8th meeting. By unanimous voice vote, the motion passed. Abstain: Chair Rosen who was absent for that meeting.

(Gin, Salinas)

3.PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

NONE.

4.CONCEPTUAL DOG PARK PLANS

RHA Representative Doug Grove presents overview of the conception plans for the new South Pasadena Dog Park; location, park amenities, and layout.

Commissioner Zavala inquires about the maximum number of dogs that are allowed in that square footage. Grove will retrieve an estimate number and let the commission know at a later time. Chair Rosen asks about whether dogs prefer wood chips or granite. Commissioner Taylor asked about the cost difference between the two. Vice Chair Zavala asks about what happens to Turf when it turns into dirt. Grove explains that dogs don't really prefer either or, the owners have more of a preference. As far as cost, they are about the same price range. Also, once turf becomes dirt, it can get extremely muddy and have many maintenance problems. Chair Rosen wants to distinguish what dogs belong in the small dog area and which belong in the large dog area. Grove suggests a size chart to help owners decide. Zavala would like to know how to guard or regulate unsafe dogs from coming in. Grove explains that many dog parks are self-policing. Grove suggests a dog hotline display to be available for participants. Chair Rosen inquires about the square footage of granite that will be used, Grove will have those calculations at a later time. Commissioner Gin asks about the lighting situation. Grove points out the light plans in the conceptual plan map. (Refer to the RHA Concept plan Map).

Community Participation and Comments (3 minutes each)

Speaker #1-Bee Simpson: Resident. In favor of dog park, however, cost of \$500,000 is expensive considering the UUT that is coming up. She would like to see a less expensive product.

#2-Jean Kabealo: 52 years as a resident. She is thrilled about a new dog park. Expresses that the turf at Pasadena & Hermon Park is not pleasant, dust is terrible, wood chips are great. DG is hard on dog's feet. Is confident that South Pasadena will take care of this park. She handed a pamphlet that she had prepared to the commission.

#3-Angela Johnson-Meszaros: Resident. While she supports the dog park, she is concerned about not having a clear walkway on Arroyo. Pedestrian safety is important. That area is in need concrete walkway.

#4-Cornelia Balogh: Resident. She is concerned about the woodchips; treated with chemicals, and can cause intestinal problems. Also concern about the cost, asking for a more cost efficient plan.

#5- Kathy Green: Resident. Expresses that the design is beautiful, and is speaking in favor of the dog park. Cost is an issue for her, in favor of a walking path throughout the Arroyo. Would be nice to have a walking path in the Dog Park for people to walk-around. Urged commission to think about surfacing; wood chips are a dangerous alternative. DG works extremely well if maintained properly. Suggests creating a non-profit organization for community members to help fund for annual maintenance.

#6- Ite Laird: Resident. Extremely excited about the new dog park. Says that it will be easy to pick up after your dog with wood chips; a more hygienic choice.

#7 Shannon Roddy: Thrilled about having an off leash dog park, it is a huge benefit, he is a member of FRIENDS OF THE DOG PARK organization. Agrees that price tag is too high, but it can easily be brought down to start off. The is goal to raise money from the community. Has met with Hermon & Pasadena Friends of Dog Park and gained lots of info. We need eco-friendly turf; he will be soliciting feedback from community with an online survey. Wood chips are ok for large dogs, not for small dogs. Lighting for after

hours would be great for working adults. Simplicity is key. As for etiquette, they can provide a list top 3 rules for dogs and their owners.

#8 Phyllis Meacham: Resident. Upset with not having grass, asked about wood chips and if it will be playground quality. She asked about hours of operation, Sheila's response was 7am-10pm if we have lighting. She adds that the reason for not having grass is to conserve water.

#9 Autumn Anderson: Resident. Supports the dog park, predict will have a great sense of community. Having a place to meet with people and dogs is like therapy for her. Pasadena has no lights and Hermon has an issue with mud and dirt. Very much enjoys that it will be near to her. If we can't do grass, something that is dog friendly-wood chips is problematic.

#10 Teresa Molina: Resident. Wood chips are prettier, DG is practical, and grass can be a disaster. Cost is something to consider, cost can be recouped. Very in favor of lighting, it will triple the use of the park.

#11 Mauricia Wojcik: Resident. She is very much in favor of the dog park. Quite concerned about cost with UUT coming up. Inquires it can be a membership/fee based. Can eliminate intimidating factors with big dog. She is an animal trainer/behaviorist. People need to pay attention to animals at all times. Lean away from wood chips, DG worked well in other parks she has visited.

#12 Richard Pizante: Resident. Happy about Dog Park, social group is fantastic. He currently goes to Garfield Park with other residents. His dog has been attacked at Garfield. He is happy the city is providing a safe, socializing area for dogs and community members.

#13 Doreen Sidmak (Chair-Animal Commission): Delighted about dog park. Animal Commission is very enthusiastic. They are a little concerned that we are over-reaching on having too many amenities. Her commission is setting a priority list to scale down the cost. She wants to thank Sheila Pautsch and Shannon Roddy for their efforts. They will look into the new DG. Her Sheppard was attacked at the Pasadena dog park; she is excited for a safe location for her pet as well.

Commissioner Taylor makes a comment on commercial dog walkers. She feels that the commission needs to set a policy early on to avoid future issues.

Commissioner Zavala suggest looking into the following: speed bumps to control the speed of cars in that area, extending the sidewalk to the playground to the Arroyo South Park, the possibility of a walk way by using the Golf Course perimeter from Lohman Lane, Membership for use of the Dog Park.

Vice Chair Salinas asks about the pedestrian access. Maybe parking on the top, and a safe Walk way to the Arroyo.

Chair Rosen thanks the public for attending and giving their input for this concept, they will be considered for the upcoming revisions for the Dog Park Plan.

Once the revisions are complete, they will come back to the Commission for final approval and notifications will go out via email, social networks, and South Pasadena

Review. At this time the Girl Scout troop 11231 introduces the details to the Dog Park Name Challenge.

Sheila Pautsch will work on the following with RHA and the commission: Lowering Concept cost; looking in the cost of having DG; fundraising efforts for the future; TLC Pet Hospital and other local businesses as a sponsors; Currently there is \$100k for construction and \$30k for design. She encourages residents and community members to attend the February Strategic Planning Meeting to let their Council Members know how important the Dog Park is in order to provide more funding.

5.STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

Director Pautsch list the items she will be presenting to council as the Parks and Recreation strategic objective for the 2015-16 FY that was discussed in the last meeting. She is looking for commission to approve the three items listed.

MOTION: Approval of the three items listed in the Commission Review and Input for the upcoming Strategic Plan meeting. By unanimous voice vote, the motion passed.

(Salinas, Gin)

6.APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR 2015

MOTION: Vice Chair Salinas is nominated for Chair, Salinas Accepts. By unanimous voice vote, the motion passed. Art Salinas is the new Chair for the Parks and Recreation Commission.

(Rosen, Zavala)

MOTION: Commissioner Taylor is nominated for Vice Chair. Taylor respectfully declines the nomination. Commissioner Zavala is nominated for Vice Chair. Zavala accepts. By unanimous voice vote, the motion passed. Jose Zavala is the New Vice Chair for the Parks and Recreation Commission.

(Taylor, Gin)

7.CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Diana Mahmud is in attendance and would like to introduce herself as the new City Council Liaison for the Parks and Recreation Commission. On behalf of the Commission, Chair Salinas welcomes Mrs. Mahmud and looks forward to working with her on upcoming projects.

8.COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Rosen updates the Commission that City Council chose concept plan #1 Orange Grove location for the new Community Center. Chair Salinas does not have a report, but takes this time to thank Ron Rosen on his efforts, and is looking forward to upcoming events and projects.

9.STAFF LIAISON REPORTS

Director Pautsch gives an update on an incident Robert Jo had requested information on in the December meeting. A Pasadena City Mounted Unit that in Pasadena, they do not board in our stables, the Stables rep states no information from Pasadena has been released. Next Community Garden meeting in February TBA, consist of changes to conceptual plan updates and vendor bid updates. The City received a check for \$255k Abbott Lab. it will go towards our Park input fees. There is a chance more money will come in the near future. Director Pautsch will have more Dog Park updates on conceptual plan and budget changes for upcoming Commission meetings. the upcoming UUT is \$3.9 million a year and encourages commission to keep themselves as well as their neighbors involved and informed.

ADJOURMENT

By consensus, the Commission adjourned at 7:47 p.m. The next Commission meeting will be held on Monday February 9th, 2015.

Respectfully Submitted:



Sheila Pautsch
Community Services Director

Approved By:



Arturo Salinas
Vice Chair