

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Monday
June 6, 2011

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District Citizens Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:30pm by Betty Moose, Citizens Advisory Committee Chairperson, in the Conference Room of the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District Administrative Office.

This is a committee meeting due to lack of members present.

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dr. Marshall Mitzman.

Roll Call:

Present: CAC members Dr. Marshall Mitzman, Betty Moose, Zach Ebadi (6:33), Judith Radousky (6:35), Kathy Gil (6:40). HARD Board Members: District Directors Minane Jameson and Dennis Waespi. HARD Staff: Park Superintendent Larry Lepore, Recreation Superintendent Kerrilyn Ely, Business Manager John Gouveia, Golf Operations Manager Dan Giammona, Recording Secretary Gail Hansen. Absent (excused): Ruth Baratta and Deborah McHenry. Absent: Darryl Gray, Louis Haney and Arthur Wydler.

Ms. Moose informed members that public comment time (must be an item that is not on the agenda) was omitted on the agenda and it will be presented after the approval of minutes.

Approval of Minutes:

Approval is delayed due to lack of members in attendance.

Correspondence: All H.A.R.D. board members, Park Superintendent Lepore, Recreation Superintendent Ely, and General Manager Rita Shue received a letter with photos from San Lorenzo Community Forum regarding the San Lorenzo Community Park with suggestions of improvements at the park. Director Jameson wrote a letter in response to the SLZ Community Forum. Ms Moose stated the play area and grounds are in good shape but the bathrooms and duck pond need improvements. Director Jameson and Ms. Moose toured Del Rey Park and it was noted there are needed improvements. They also visited Arroyo Swim Center to view the progress.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget Update

Business Manager Gouveia reported on the district budget. A summary sheet of the preliminary budget adopted in May 2011 was distributed. The full preliminary budget is posted on the H.A.R.D. website. There is an expected downward trend. Property tax revenues are declining – recreation programs, golf and facility rentals are doing fairly well. The biggest expenditure is personnel. The board will approve the final budget the end of July. Dr. Mitzman inquired what the district is asking of the CAC member's when looking at the budget. Business Manager Gouveia explained that it is informational only. Director Jameson added that one of the goals of the CAC committee is to give the Board of Directors direction for improving district parks.

Dog Park

Ms Moose reminded guests present to sign the attendance sheet. Park Superintendent Lepore gave a brief history of off-leash dog areas. Earl Warren Park, San Lorenzo Park and Edendale Park are currently off-leash parks. The district is now looking for a park in Hayward with Eden Greenway #8, Eden Greenway #7, Centennial Park and Gansberger Park being reviewed. The board is asking for recommendation from the CAC committee of which site is best. Handouts were distributed showing locations; also reference material from the American Kennel Club website showing basic standards for an off-leash area. Director Jameson stated she receive an email from a citizen requesting that Centennial Park be considered.

Public comment was received by Sally Holt who read a letter (signed by many in attendance) requesting that Gansberger Park be considered. The letter was submitted to Park Superintendent Lepore. Caretaker Nick Alexander suggested that Gansberger Park be considered because of the ongoing maintenance the dog owners have provided over the years. Park Superintendent Lepore reiterated that Gansberger Park is on school district property and by state law dogs are not allowed on school property. Mr. Ebadi inquired about budget, design plan and parking issues for the dog park. There was discussion of why a dog park is needed and how the existing park sites be considered. A subcommittee was formed (Mr. Ebadi, Ms. Radousky, Ms. Moose) to determine which of the proposed sites would be best suited.

Via Toledo Property

Park Superintendent Lepore stated that the Alameda County Fire Dept. will be using the property for training. Community will be notified when the training will take place and fire signage will be placed in announcing the event.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Park Maintenance Standards, specifications and survey were sent to all CAC members. Park Superintendent Lepore briefly explained what each report means and asked that if any member had comments to please respond to him. Due to so much information presented, Dr. Mitzman suggested that the CAC focus on one area. Discussion will be tabled until the September meeting.

Partnership/Sponsorship – no report

Park Design Review – no report

Facility and Park Inspections – no report

Bylaws, Membership, Terms – Ms. Moose suggested the bylaws be reviewed (will be on September agenda)

STAFF UPDATES

Recreation Superintendent Ely mentioned that Ruth Baratta has been hospitalized. Ms. Gil stated she visited and Ruth is doing better. Delcea Wills submitted her resignation letter from the CAC. Recreation Superintendent Ely stated summer programs will be starting with over 7800 enrolled in courses as this time. The Shoreline Anniversary event on May 21st was a success. Concerts in the Park with the Municipal Band will be on Sundays Jun 19 – July 24 at Memorial Park. Also, the Oddfellows Music Series will take place at Memorial Park June 18 and August 7 – Oct. 2.

Golf Operations Manager Giammona mentioned that the golf courses are in excellent condition – the weather has not been great. There are new golf carts at both courses. A monthly pass for \$159 is being offered to play at either course.

Park Superintendent Lepore stated the Meek Estate West Terrace project is near completion. The Hayward Historical Society is providing some historical educational boards that will be on display. The Cherryland community Association will also have access to the carriage house upon completion. The stage at East Avenue Park has been demolished and a new permanent stage with removable panels is being built and will be completed in time for the first day of camps on June 20.

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Moose requested that the graffiti committee report at the September meeting. Ms. Radousky asked if programming will be reviewed by the CAC. Recreation Superintendent Ely suggested bringing summer enrollment figures to the September meeting for review of CAC.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08pm.
