

MINUTES
ALAMEDA COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

Thursday, January 5, 2006
East Bay Regional Park District,
2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA
(Approved February 2, 2006)

I. Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. by Commissioner Sadoff.

Commissioners Present:

Annalee Allen
Marie Cronin
James Loughran
David Sadoff
Julie Machado
Harry Francis
Ellen Wyrick-Parkinson
Annalee Allen
MaryAnn McMillan
Dennis Waespi

Commissioners Excused:

Cecilia Weed
Maryalice Faltings
Abe Friedman
Stephen Sanger
David Tam

Guests:

Lawrence Lepore, Park Superintendent, HARD

Staff Present:

Alex Amoroso
Cindy Horvath
Nilma Singh

INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE – A folder of newsletters and other mailings from various government agencies and private organizations will be circulated for the Commission’s review. Commissioners may bring up any information item of interest to the Commission. No action may be taken on these items.

II. APPROVAL of November 3rd MINUTES – Commissioner Francis made the motion to approve the above Minutes as submitted and Commissioner Loughran seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Horvath announced that Commissioner Faltings has submitted her resignation citing health reasons.

Commissioner Machado stated that a member of the public had alerted her to a discrepancy in the July 2005 Minutes regarding the Alcorn property, as follows: in addition to her comments regarding the scope of the EIR on the Alcorn property, the cumulative impact of development which is under the mandatory findings of significance on page 112 of the Initial Study, was not reflected and should be studied. She requested that the minutes be amended to include the above. Commissioner McMillan made the motion that the above be included and Commissioner Allen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

III. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY CHANGE OF ORDER IN PUBLISHED AGENDA –
None.

IV. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM/PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS – None.

V. CHAIR and STAFF REPORT(S):

A. The Chair said he was looking forward to a new year, both as a Chair and for several interesting issues.

B. Staff, in response to concerns raised by some Commissioners that they were not receiving their packages, distributed the Commission roster for confirmation and any up-dates. Commissioner Allen recommended a copy of the new up-dated list be included in the next Commission package.

Staff also announced that Lisa Asche had a baby boy. Any Commissioners interested can email staff for Ms. Asche's home address.

VI. OLD BUSINESS – All old business will include information, discussion and/or action by the Commission.

A. Historic Survey and Preservation Ordinance – Staff announced that the Subcommittee and staff met with Carey and Company yesterday, Wednesday, January 4th. Commissioner Allen provided an up-date. Due to staffing changes with the consultant, they are just starting the surveys. Carolyn D., also a member of the team, will be working on the draft ordinance language and the language that specifies the local criteria, which is one of the key components. She was urged not to wait for the survey. Although the Commission had voted on the motion to hold the public meeting/workshop in February, the Subcommittee has a substitute recommendation to hold the workshop in March instead, at the Winton building after the regular scheduled Commission meeting, to allow additional time for a better effort and extended outreach. The consultants have been requested to provide a visual presentation, perhaps a power-point presentation. Other discussion topics included the workshop time, structure, facilitator, and recordings to be done by both Planning staff and consultants. The workshop would begin at 6 pm following the scheduled March Commission meeting from 3:30-5:30 pm followed by a recess from 5:30 – 6:00 pm. Commissioner McMillan suggested that staff prepare and distribute a draft March agenda for discussion at the February meeting. The Chair said his only concern was how confident the Consultants are regarding the timeline. Mr. Amoroso, in response to the Chair, confirmed that the delay would have no impact on the budget. Commissioner Wyrick-Parkinson requested copies of paperwork submitted by the consultants. Commissioner McMillan made the motion that the public meeting/workshop be moved to March 2nd following the regular scheduled Commission meeting, to be held at the Winton building instead of the EBRPD building and Commissioner Wyrick-Parkinson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Proposition 12 Funding – Mr. Amoroso provided an update. Interest in the funding has been expressed by the Board of Supervisors and open space districts in the unincorporated Alameda County. There has also been on-going discussion on the land tenure requirement with State. The State Department of Parks and Recreation has finally agreed to put less significance on the land tenure issue. Language has been received from EBRPD and, in turn, has been submitted to County Counsel for review. Yesterday, he received a call from EBRPD that Prop 12 funds could be exchanged for Prop 40 funds and per Mr. Jeff Rasmussen, both funds hold the same value. This information has been forwarded to other agency directors for

their input. Prop 12 funds have to be spent by end of 2007 and Prop 40 is available until 2011. Commissioner Cronin requested copies.

Larry Lepore, Park Superintendent, HARD, distributed copies of a memo dated January 5th from HARD to this Commission on Proposition 12 Per Capita Funds and copies of a letter dated October 24th, 2005, to Ms. Asche from Supervisor Miley Prop 12 funds re-allocation letter of support of Meek Estate Project.

Mr. Amoroso added that he was awaiting responses and doing further independent research.

C. Highland Hospital Acute Tower Replacement Project – Ms. Horvath provided an up-date. Parties involved with the project initially had a good discussion regarding the Applicant's interest in preserving the historical aspects of the structure although details have not been worked out. Mr. Amoroso added that the Applicant is the County. One staff person is part of the committee involved with the environmental review work. Staff will continue to provide up-dates in future.

Mr. Amoroso announced that the Delco/Alcorn property EIR is in draft form with distribution to begin next week with a 45-day comment period. Staff is requesting a subcommittee to read the EIR. The Chair requested that the subcommittee receive the entire EIR and the other Commissioners receive the historical portion. He also requested the entire EIR. Commissioners Machado, Allen and McMillan opted to be part of the subcommittee and upon confirmation, perhaps Commissioner Waespi.

VII. NEW BUSINESS – None.

VIII. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS – All subcommittee reports will include information, discussion and/or action by the Commission.

Report from Preservation Ordinance Sub-committee discussed under Agenda Item VI.A, Old Business, above.

IX. COMMISSIONER REPORTS –

A. District 1 – No report.

B. District 2 – Commissioner Francis announced that the Castro Valley School District and HARD had a meeting on the skateboard park and the drawing is almost ready. The issue now is funds.

Commissioner McMillan stated that she had attended the BOS meeting regarding the Boundary Creek project which had been approved with vote of 3/2 for 28 homes along Crow Creek. Two concerns are access and the lack of additional mitigation for the Indian bedrocks. Mr. Amoroso replied that there will be emergency egress and ingress from Veronica Street and noted that the bedrocks were not on the subject property. Commissioner McMillan also announced that free stage-coach rides are available on First Street in Livermore as part of the streetscape project.

C. District 3 – No report.

D. District 4 – Commissioner Allen announced the following: the old Faviola building was demolished; the preservation of 9th Avenue terminal will be discussed again at the upcoming Oakland Landmarks meeting on Monday, January 9th and she expressed appreciation that this Commission had written a letter in support of the preservation; Martin Luther King celebrations has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 10, from noon to 1:30 at the City Hall with speakers and music; a tour program with history walk; February is the Black History month; and City of Emeryville is having preservation activities including Oaks Card Club on San Pablo who is proposing to demolish nine 19th century cottages to create a multi-unit development. She suggested that perhaps a City representative could provide a presentation at the next meeting. The Oakland Rose Garden has also expressed an interest in a presentation at this Commission's next meeting.

Commissioner Allen also discussed the removal of trees around Lake Merritt in conjunction with Measure B and thought that a letter requesting that this Commission be added to the mailing list would be appropriate. The Chair suggested that the matter be agendized for the next meeting when a motion could be passed.

E. District 5 – Commissioner Wyrick-Parkinson announced that work on the train station is in progress. Reymundo Park project is also in progress although there is a hold-up with the release of funds. There is concern that City of Oakland is also losing all historical buildings and, as such, has requested that all big developments be put on halt.

X. ADMINISTRATIVE

A. Agenda items for February 2, 2006 meeting – Commissioner McMillan requested that 278 Hampton Road be also agendized for the February 2nd meeting for an up-date.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, Commissioner Francis made the motion to adjourn and Commissioner Loughran seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.