

MINUTES
ALAMEDA COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

Thursday, December 2, 2010
East Bay Regional Park District,
2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA
(Approved February 3, 2011)

I. Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m. by Commissioner Minard, Chair.

Commissioners Present:

Al Minard
Maryalice Faltings
James Loughran
David Sadoff
MaryAnn McMillan
Tony Koep
Ellen Wyrick-Parkinson
Audree Jones-Taylor

Commissioners Excused:

Harry Francis
Pilar Lorenzana-Campo
Stephen Sanger

Commissioners Absent:

Marie Cronin
David Tam
Samuel Kang

Staff Present:

Angela Robinson- Piñon
Nilma Singh

Guests:

Larry Lepore, HARD
Howard Lee, Planner

I. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *Commissioner McMillan made the motion to approve the November 4th Minutes and Commissioner Sadoff seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

III. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM - Any member of the public may address the Commission on a matter not on the regular agenda. No discussion or action may be taken on these items. *None*

IV. CHAIR and STAFF REPORT(S): *These items include information and discussion by the Commission:*

A. CHAIR REPORT – The Chair reported that he had contacted Supervisor Haggerty’s office to request help in securing a facilitator for meetings regarding the Historic Preservation Ordinance. Chris Gray, Supervisor Haggerty’s Chief of Staff, knows a facilitator and the Chair will call him again for a name.

B. STAFF REPORT – In response to the Chair regarding Commission attendance, Ms. Robinson- Piñon said that she had received feedback from Lee Perez from Supervisor Steele’s office--he was happy with their appointee.

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

A. Meek Estate- *The Commission will review proposed plans for the Meek Estate West Terrace project.*

Ms. Robinson-Piñon presented the staff report and in response to the Chair, confirmed that this project falls under the Secretary of the Interior's Rehabilitation Standards.

Larry Lepore, Hayward Area Recreation and Parks District (HARD), provided an up-date since August--plans have been submitted to the County for a building permit and the construction bids opened today [December 2, 2010] at 1:30pm; Planning Department has started a Site Development Review (SDR) process; and HARD has been working with Architectural Resources Group (ARG) to review the project's conformance with Secretary of the Interior's Standards and a proposed categorical exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In response to a question from the Chair, he explained the underground storage area--its purpose and access. Hayward Area Historical Society has retrieved some wood from this area and will replace an educational sign/display outside and the new design includes the existing man-hole located at the center of the storage area. In reference to the parking spaces next to the Carriage House, these spaces are in ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance and not accessible to the general public and will also be used by the caretaker. The main parking lot is on the opposite side of the estate. It was also noted that the impervious surface has been decreased greatly. A discussion followed regarding the previous tank house and reconstruction possibility; the grape arbor and the proposed changes. Commissioner Faltings congratulated HARD on their work at Meek Estate. In response to Commissioner Sadoff, Mr. Lepore listed the number of the public hearings held since August and the processes followed. Staff added that the matter will be re-heard by Cherryland Association on December 6th and clarified the County's role as lead agency for the purposes of CEQA.

Commissioner Sadoff made the motion that the project does comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Commissioner Faltings seconded. Motion carried 6/2 with Commissioners Jones-Taylor and Wyrick-Parkinson abstaining.

A discussion followed regarding alternative possible CEQA documentation, mitigation measures including signage and sign language. Mr. Lepore explained that sign installation is already part of the plans with an agreement with Hayward Area Historical Society to prepare appropriate language. Further discussion ensued regarding the number, location and size of signs. The Chair indicated his preference on specifying a number, perhaps 5 with one large sign. Staff explained that this could be added as a Condition of Approval and referenced in the Initial Study since HARD is in agreement. In reference to the categorical exemption, Commissioner Sadoff noted Section 15300.2(f) on page 5 of the Assessment report by ARG adding that he would like to see an Initial Study/Neg Dec. It was not appropriate for such a large project and a site on the National Register to not have a CEQA review. Commissioner McMillan agreed. *Commissioner Jones-Taylor made the motion for IB as provided in the Staff report-- Recommend the filing and preparation of an Initial Study/Negative Declaration based upon the finding of conformance with the Secretary's Standards. Commissioner Sadoff seconded and the motion carried 6/1/1 with Commissioner Wyrick-Parkinson abstained and Commissioner Faltings dissented.*

Staff announced that copies of the Secretary of the Interior Rehabilitation Standards are available upon request.

B. 22243 & 22247 N. Sixth Street- The Commission will review the Draft Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for this project.

Ms. Robinson-Piñon presented the staff report. Commissioner Sadoff expressed concern that the Commission's motion that a consulting archaeologist be present during all ground disturbing activities is not reflected in MM2.B. *As such, he made a motion that the matter be sent back to have MM2.B. rewritten to reflect as such and Commissioner Wyrick-Parkinson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

C. Historic Preservation Ordinance- *Staff will provide an update on efforts to convene the Historic Preservation Ordinance Subcommittee.*

Ms. Robinson-Piñon reported that she had contacted the County Conference Center with no response. The Chair urged all Commissioners to contact their Supervisors regarding the need of a facilitator.

D. San Lorenzo Pioneer Cemetery- Staff will update the Commission on items relating to the Cemetery.

Ms. Robinson-Piñon presented the staff report and Commissioner McMillan added that the next meeting is December 6th and that the County Counsel is currently looking at the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding).

VI. NEW BUSINESS – *All new business will include information, discussion and/or action by the Commission.*

A. Chair and Vice Chair Election- *The Commission will select a Chair and Vice Chair to serve for 2011.*

Commissioner McMillan announced that the Committee would like to re-nominate Commissioners Minard and Sadoff as Chair and Vice-Chair for the 2011 year. *Commissioner Faltings made the motion to approve the recommendation of the Nominating Committee. Motion carried unanimously.*

B. E. 14th Street/Mission Blvd. Master Plan Project- The Commission will discuss a proposed Master Plan for E.14th Street/Mission Blvd.

Ms. Robinson-Piñon presented the staff report noting that this item is only informational. In response to Commissioner Wyrick-Parkinson, staff clarified that this is a Redevelopment Agency project with some coordination with City of San Leandro for the joint project areas. The Chair asked if DPR forms have been completed for the 50+ year old buildings along E. 14th. Staff replied that she would check adding that this list was compiled from the surveys and the Draft Register.

VII. COMMISSIONER REPORTS – *Commissioners will report on areas of concern and/or informational items concerning parks, recreation and historical preservation issues within the supervisory districts they serve.*

A. District 1: Haggerty – Commissioner Faltings announced that the first meeting of the LAPRD Board is on December 8th; City of Livermore Christmas parade/tree lighting is this Saturday, December 4th; Ravenswood Historic Site Yuletide celebration for kids is

on December 12th; and December 13th, City Council will consider merging the Park District with City of Livermore.

The Chair announced that the Fremont historic houses will open for the holidays this weekend; and the up-coming Mission San Jose Las Posadas tour.

- B. District 2: Steele** - Commissioner McMillan stated that she has received an Indian mortar and curved pastel with a groove in the larger rock from the Livermore area and she would like to know which Indian tribe it belonged to. Commissioner Faltings replied that it could be the Ohlone tribe and suggested contacting Mike Nicholson, Head Ranger at LAPRD.

Commissioner Koep requested the status of the Fremont Catholic cemetery. The Chair said he was unaware of the current status and provided some background information.

- C. District 3: Lai-Bitker** - Commissioner Loughran reported that the San Leandro Historical Society will be responsible for the engineering study of the Peralta dwelling and that San Leandro has a new mayor.

- D. District 4: Miley** - Commissioner Jones-Taylor announced that City of Oakland has a new Mayor and reported that funds have been located for the roof repair work for the DeFemery Recreation Facility; several tree lighting events are planned in Oakland, one to occur at the Dunsmuir Hellman Historic Estate on December 3rd. The city is also in contention for Proposition 84 funding in support of its nature programs.

- E. District 5: Carson** - Commissioner Wyrick-Parkinson announced that there is an opening for an Administrator; in reference to the Army base, there was a meeting to discuss the use of the 'Community Funds'.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE

- A. Potential Topics for 2011-** Staff asked for feedback on the listing; there was none.
- B. Meeting Attendance-**No comments
- C. Agenda Items for Future Meetings-**No comments

- X. ADJOURNMENT:** *There being no other business, Commissioner Allen made the motion to adjourn and Commissioner McMillan seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm.*