



CITY OF CUPERTINO
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Community Hall
10350 Torre Ave, Cupertino, CA
Thursday, December 7, 2017

7:00 PM
MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 7:01pm in the Community Hall, at 10350 Torre Ave, Cupertino, CA.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Commissioners present: Helene Davis, Meenakshi Biyani, Carol Stanek, Judy Wilson
Commissioners absent: Neesha Tambe
Staff present: Jeff Milkes, Kevin Khuu, Gail Seeds, Alex Acenas, Julie Chiu, Art Rosales

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting of November 2, 2017 – Commissioner Biyani asked to correct her name in the first page under Section 1, Approval of Minutes. Chair Davis asked to change, under Section 5. 2017-2018 Commission Work Plan, “come back and be presented during the special meeting” to “next year”. Commissioner Stanek motioned to approve the amended minutes of November 2, 2017. Commissioner Biyani seconded. Approved with 3 Yes, 1 abstain and 1 absent.
2. Special Meeting of November 9, 2017 – Commissioner Wilson motioned to approve the minutes of November 9, 2017. Commissioner Stanek seconded. Approved with 4 yes and 1 absent.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS AND PRESENTATIONS

3. Draft 2017 Cupertino Pedestrian Transportation Plan
David Stillman, the Transportation Manager for Cupertino, presented the overview of the Transportation Plan and introduced Julie Chiu, Associate Civil Engineer. Julie presented the updated Transportation Plan. The plan will be taken to City Council on December 19th. Also mentioned that it was David Stillman’s birthday and the Commission wished him a happy birthday. Discussion followed.

Geoff Paulsen, a Cupertino resident, requested to add some policies, such as creating walkways that use the same material as the Stevens Creek Trail, to mitigate storm water runoff and to make walking easier than driving, have signal timings improved to be more responsive to pedestrians and improve bike and pedestrian services overall. Asked for wider paths to match the increasing demand.

Janet Van Zoren, a Cupertino resident, commented on when road construction occurs, where they have an area set aside for bicyclists to avoid the construction, there should be consideration for pedestrians as well. Need to share the road with the bikers and walkers during construction.

POSTPONEMENTS

None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mike Sanchez, from the Fine Arts Commission, suggested a collaboration pilot program for Art in Unexpected Places. Submitted a picture of a wall at Blackberry Farm to start the program. Also, as a private resident, asked if there was a way to better position the benches in Blackberry Farm, to not face the foliage and reposition them.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Anne Ng, had written to the Commission about the Parking Lot at McClellan Ranch.

OLD BUSINESS

4. McClellan Ranch Parking Lot Improvement

Alex Acenas, a Project Manager of Cupertino, gave an update to the Commission on the design of the parking lot. Incorporated feedback taken from the recent stakeholder meetings held in September and on November 16th and 17th into the revised plans. New design accommodates 25 spots, 2 ADA spots and has a restoration planting area between the lot and the creek. Will have an occasional use area where the Simms House was located.

Discussion followed. Additional overflow parking would be used about 5 to 6 times a year and would be covered with gravel. Will be blocked off during daily use. Could possibly pave the main parking lot first and then place gravel on the overflow parking area later.

Janet Van Zoren, a Cupertino Resident, supported the new design and the amount of nature restoration in the current plan.

Shani Kleinhaus, with Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, supports the updated plan and the restoration component.

Paul Turner, a Cupertino resident, supports the work that has been done for the Simms Property. Recognizes the growing need for parking spaces, but suggested that the City consider other methods to alleviate the problem. Supports the design overall and emphasized a gradual, step by step construction process.

The Commission supported the revised plans, but suggested building the main lot first, while studying the need for the overflow parking area. If the need is established, then build the gravel area later.

Commissioner Wilson motioned to proceed with the revised design, but to take a slower, study first then possibly build, approach for overflow parking area. Commissioner Biyani seconded. Motion carried 4 yes with 1 absent.

5. Citywide Parks and Recreation System Master Plan Update – Update and Draft Project Scoping Matrix

Jeff Milkes, Director of Recreation and Community Services, introduced Cindy Mendoza, a Consultant from MIG, to provide an update on the Master Plan. Cindy asked for guidance on what the Commission feels is important for recreation facilities, consider what facilities can be combined, where they should be located and what partnerships can be considered to reach the master plan goals. Discussed aquatic facilities, performing and fine arts centers, incubator hubs (can combine with other facilities), gymnasiums, teen centers and senior centers. Shared feedback received from stakeholders, which emphasized that partnerships are vital, with schools, other cities and the county. Also to provide facilities that are flexible and can adapt to the change in demographics. Pools and water play are important and parking considerations as well.

Discussion followed. Commissioner Wilson suggested looking at the surrounding cities to model after their performing arts theatres and partnering with the local schools to program at their theatres during the summertime.

Geoff Paulsen, a Cupertino citizen, suggested that for the aquatic center, to move all of the pools to Memorial park and to use back in diagonal parking. Also stressed public private partnerships, such as working with KT URBAN in regards to the Oaks Shopping Center or Sand Hill Properties for the Vallco Mall space. For

the incubator space, to work with the Cupertino Economic Development Committee and consider Bubb Road.

The Commission supported partnering with local developers to building some of the facilities, specifically naming Sand Hill Properties to utilize the Valco property. Also to work with the local schools to utilize their spaces and look into repurposing currently owned City buildings. Possibly to expand them upwards instead of trying to find more land, citing the Quinlan Center, Creekside Building, and Monta Vista Recreation Center.

Cindy then covered new and expanded outdoor facilities opportunities and focused on large event space, inclusive play area, nature-based play area, community gardens, cricket field and dog park/dog areas. Also considered basketball courts, pickle ball courts and outdoor table tennis. Asked for feedback on what types of outdoor facilities are most needed, what can be combined, where to locate them and what partners should be considered.

Discussion followed. Cindy suggested distributing projects to places that have multi use opportunities, compared to single use. Commissioner Stanek brought up the idea of dispersing dog parks by setting limited off leash hours at all parks in Cupertino. Supported opening more gardens at other parks and locations. Commissioner Wilson mentioned the YMCA location might become an option to place some of these facilities. Supported centralizing 4 or 5 main facilities, including the inclusive play area, and dispersing everything else such as the dog parks and gardens. Commissioner Biyani suggested adding a nature based play element to Blackberry Farm and to build the inclusive play area at Portal Park. Chair Davis suggested adding nature play at Linda Vista Park, Blackberry Farm and Lawrence Mitty and to update the amphitheater at Memorial Park. Agreed with expanding the community gardens closer to the seniors or to the east side of the City and to create off leash dog hours for all parks. Supported building a national sized cricket field and have more bike parking and water stations at the parks.

MIG will come back to the Commission in March 1st. Commissioner Stanek suggested to keep City Council apprised of any schedule changes.

6. Accreditation of Recreation and Community Services Department – Fall 2017 Update

Jeff introduced Art Rosales to talk to the Commission about the Accreditation process. Art covered the goals, benefits, the current progress of the Cupertino Recreation Department and the next steps.

7. 2017-2018 Commission Work Plan
The Commission reviewed the work plan.

NEW BUSINESS

None

STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS

8. Director's Report

Jeff Milkes reported to the Commission on the following:

- Commended Rachelle Sander, Kelsey Hayes, and Jason Bisely on their recent work for the Tree Lighting event on December 1st.
- On December 8th, there will be a movie in the park at Creekside Park.
- From December 24th to January 2nd, all City facilities will be closed expect for the Cupertino Sports Center.

Commissioner Wilson attended the Tree Lighting event. Commissioner Stanek also attended the Tree Lighting event, walk shop at Regnart Creek Trail, and the bike workshop at Quinlan for the Junipero Serra Trail. Will attend the Mayor's meeting next Wednesday. Commissioner Biyani also attended the Tree Lighting event and appreciated the new additions and changes. Suggested adding more lights around the concession and customer service tables. Also attended the Regnart Creek Trail walk and supported the proposal. Chair Davis attended the Veterans Day ceremony, Tree Lighting event, and the Regnart Creek Trail tour and emphasized increasing connectivity within the City.

ADJOURNMENT – Chair Davis adjourned the meeting at 9:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Khuu, Administrative Assistant
Recreation and Community Services Department
Minutes approved at the ____ regular meeting