



**CITY OF CUPERTINO  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
Teleconference Meeting  
Thursday, October 1, 2020  
7:00 PM  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kumarappan called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. via remote teleconference.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners present: Gopal Kumarappan, Carol Stanek, Neesha Tambe,  
Xiangchen Xu, Sashikala Begur  
Commissioners absent: None  
Staff present: Joanne Magrini, Whitney Zeller, Daniel Mestizo,  
Molly James  
Guest speakers: Kevin Davis, Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District  
General Manager

**CEREMONIAL MATTERS AND PRESENTATIONS**

1. Subject: Teen Programming.

Recommended Action: Receive a presentation on teen programming.

Recreation Coordinator, Daniel Mestizo, provided a presentation on teen Programming.

Community Member Jennifer Griffin commented on the item and was happy to see the offerings available to Cupertino teens.

Commissioner Tambe suggested offering resources to register to vote at the Pizza and Politics event.

Commissioner Tambe and Chair Kumarappan congratulated Daniel on his efforts in continuing to innovate and create new programs for teens.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

2. Subject: Meeting of September 3, 2020.

Recommended Action: Review and approve the minutes for the September 3, 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Commissioner Begur motioned to approve the minutes for the September 3, 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. Commissioner Xu seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with five votes yes.

## **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Written communications were received for item 3 on the agenda, including emails to the Commission.

## **POSTPONEMENTS**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

3. Subject: Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District Update.

Recommended Action: Receive an update on the Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District and discuss next steps.

Recreation Coordinator, Molly James, provided an update on the Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District (RRRPD) outlined in the staff report. Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District General Manager, Kevin Davis, was available to answer questions.

Community member Jennifer Griffin spoke on the item, approved of the current operations of the Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District and shared that assets held by the special district need to be retained on site or given back to the special district residents if the special district is absorbed by the City.

Commissioner Xu shared information on a public pathway connecting the neighborhood and RRRPD that has been fenced in.

Commissioner Begur commented that access to the pathway is important in the evaluation process as well as its impacts to parking and access to the special district.

Commissioner Tambe expressed apprehension around postponing a recommendation to Council with the understanding that only ten percent of special district residents who pay towards it actually utilize it.

Vice Chair Stanek noted that LAFCO established that RRRPD has “zero sphere of influence”, indicating that the district should eventually not exist as an independent special district. Vice Chair Stanek commented that the survey completed by the Parks

and Recreation Department may have actually captured an accurate sample and that it will be a struggle to get a broader response since the majority of RRRPD users are not Cupertino residents. She added that the public pathway should be handled by the City and that the Commission should move forward and let the Council know what data has been collected regarding usage by residents, and base a decision on the information currently available.

Commissioner Begur expressed concern that the survey results are inconsistent with the data provided by RRRPD regarding usage.

Commissioner Xu commented that the public pathway is connected to the Commission's decision because residents in the survey had misinformation about the pool being public and not privately operated.

Commissioner Tambe noted that statistically, RRRPD does not serve a purpose for its residents and would be served better under the City's operation. Commissioner Tambe expressed that waiting for the visioning process would not change the status of what the Commission needs to do.

Chair Kumarappan agreed that the Commission should consider the data provided as well as discussions around the topic and provide a recommendation to the Council.

Commissioner Xu recommended receiving more information on the cost to improve the facility and potential revenue before providing a recommendation.

Commissioner Tambe motioned to recommend to the City Council Option 2: Merger of RRRPD with the City of Cupertino, as listed in the LAFCO report *Special Study: RRRPD Governance Options*.

Option 2: Merger of RRRPD with the City of Cupertino:  
RRRPD would be dissolved and its functions, services, assets, and liabilities transferred to the City of Cupertino. The City would integrate RRRPD programs and facilities into current City operations and recreation planning. This option assumes that RRRPD's current property tax allocation would be entirely transferred to the City, and that all RRRPD services would be maintained at current levels (or better).

Vice Chair Stanek seconded the motion.

Commissioners discussed the motion

Chair Kumarappan proposed a friendly amendment to add a statement that the recommendation is based on data collected, which will be attached, including the LAFCO report, survey data and usage information.

Commissioner Tambe accepted the friendly amendment.

The amended motion passed unanimously with five votes yes.

Chair Kumarappan added that the recommendation would not go to the Council immediately and the commission would like to review the final package which would include additional data from the city staff before presenting it to the Council.

4. Subject: Commissioner Park Amenity Evaluations and Next Steps.  
Recommended Action: Conduct a first review of the Commissioner's evaluations for park amenity improvements and discuss a timeline for next steps.

Administrative Assistant, Whitney Zeller, reviewed the evaluations submitted by the commissioners and provided recommended next steps.

Community member Jennifer Griffin commented on the item and expressed that the City needs to acquire additional parkland.

Vice Chair Stanek shared that her understanding was not to provide an average for the evaluations, but to have a discussion and come to a group decision before having the Commission's recommendations be considered by staff.

The commissioners clarified that in cases where multiple numbers are provided for a section, an average of the numbers is acceptable to use.

Chair Kumarappan agreed with Vice Chair Stanek's comment that the data should not be averaged and considered but should be discussed and agreed on before being considered by staff.

Vice Chair Stanek commented that information from all commissioners should be allowed for consideration.

Commissioner Tambe noted that she would like to include data from all commissioners and that a special meeting should be held to discuss the evaluations. She added that her evaluations took into consideration long term needs.

Chair Kumarappan reviewed the items for discussion including to clarify data points, submissions received after the deadline, and the timeline and process for providing combined data to the Commission.

Commissioner Begur commented against allowing information from the commissioners that missed the deadline, noting that an extended deadline was not approved at the last commission meeting.

Vice Chair Stanek shared that the Commission would be discussing and modifying the data and that it would not hurt the Commission and would improve the product by including the additional data.

Chair Kumarappan commented that whether or not the late submittals are included, the commissioners will have the opportunity to participate in the discussion regarding prioritization.

Commissioner Tambe noted that she had completed the work by the initial deadline and had believed that her evaluation information had been attached when she sent her email.

Chair Kumarappan asked for clarification on when the two late submissions were received.

Vice Chair Stanek motioned to accept all five commissioners' input on the issue to be included in the consolidation of the review for the priorities for the strategic planning.

Commissioner Tambe seconded the motion

Chair Kumarappan abstained from the vote, Vice Chair Stanek and Commissioner Tambe voted yes, Commissioners Xu and Begur voted no. Chair Kumarappan broke the tie, voting no. The motion did not carry.

Commissioner Tambe motioned that at a subsequent meeting, both Commissioner Xu and Commissioner Tambe's data be added to the discussion section.

Vice Chair Stanek seconded the motion.

Chair Kumarappan clarified that at a future meeting where the data is discussed and prioritized, there will be two separate points of data provided in the agenda packet. One including the combined data of the three evaluations submitted by the deadline,

and one including staff's data with an attachment including Commissioner Xu and Commissioner Tambe's data as a reference.

Commissioner Tambe confirmed that the motion is intended to include the additional data as an addendum.

The motion passed unanimously with five votes yes.

Commissioner Tambe summarized next steps stating that the Commission will have a special meeting dedicated to reviewing the evaluation data and will determine an accumulative Commission score. From there, utilizing what the staff has analyzed, the Commission will cross check their prioritizations with staff's prioritizations and will produce a list of the top items to address with the \$200,000 for park amenity improvements.

Director Joanne Magrini clarified staff's recommendation to have staff consolidate data from Parks and Recreation staff, Public Works staff and the commission and allow staff to provide a prioritization for the Commission to consider in their discussion to provide their recommendation.

Chair Kumarappan confirmed that staff's evaluations and prioritizations will be one data point and the commissioner's evaluations will be a separate data point, all to be discussed and considered at a special meeting where the Commission will determine their recommendation for prioritization.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

5. Subject: Project Evaluation Criteria and Process

Recommended Action: Discuss and establish a process and criteria for project evaluations.

Chair Kumarappan motioned to postpone the item to the next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. Commissioner Begur seconded the motion. Motion passed with four votes yes and one vote no from Commissioner Tambe.

## **STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS**

6. Subject: Monthly Update Reports

Recommended Action: Receive monthly update reports from the Director of Parks and Recreation and commissioners.

Director Joanne Magrini provided a presentation and updated the Commission on department projects, COVID impacts to parks and recreation, and upcoming events.

Vice Chair Stanek attended the September Mayor's meeting and provided updates from the other commissions.

Commissioner Tambe recommended a status update on department projects to be able to respond to public inquiries.

Commissioner Begur agreed with Commissioner Tambe's request and added that an update should be provided at least on work program items with the current status of project budgets.

Chair Kumarappan participated in the virtual Hack Cupertino event as a judge.

### **COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE AT UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

The City Council has a special meeting scheduled the same day and time as the December 3<sup>rd</sup> Parks and Recreation Commission regular meeting. The Commissioners agreed to review scheduling options via email and post a cancellation notice once a new date is selected.

Commissioners discussed the attendance for the Mayor's meeting as follows:

October – Chair Kumarappan

November – Commissioner Tambe

December – Commissioner Begur

**ADJOURNMENT** – Chair Kumarappan adjourned the meeting at 11:09 p.m. to the November 5, 2020 meeting at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Whitney Zeller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Whitney" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Zeller".

Whitney Zeller, Administrative Assistant  
Parks & Recreation Department

*Minutes approved at the November 5, 2020 regular meeting*