

County of San Mateo

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Thursday, June 1, 2017

4:00 p.m.

Board of Supervisors' Chambers
400 County Center, Redwood City

MINUTES

Chairman Meda Okelo called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Swearing-in Ceremony

- 2.1 Parks and Recreation Commissioner Appointee Basem Manneh, 5th District.
A. Administered by Supervisor David J. Canepa, 5th District

3. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Barbara Bonilla (Vice Chair), Marico Enriquez, Neil Merrilees, Meda Okelo (Chair), Basem Manneh

Commissioners Absent: Kevin Huo and Eeshan Bhat, Youth Commissioners

Staff Present: Sarah Birkeland, Brenda Bennett, Lori Mrizek Scott Lombardi, Ramona Arechiga, Eduardo Castillo, Ed Hallett, Sam Herzberg, Carla Schoof, Nirit Eriksson (Deputy County Counsel)

4. Public Comment

There was none.

5. Parks Director's Report

Acting Director Birkeland said there were no additions to her written report. A brief discussion took place regarding the Parks Dedication Trust Fund, referenced therein.

Carla Schoof, the Community Programs Specialist presented a video entitled San Mateo County Parks - Connecting Parks and People.

6. Action Items

6.1 Review for Approval the Minutes of the April 6, 2017 of the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Action: M/S Bonilla/Enriquez to approve the minutes of April 6, 2017 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting. Passes 4-1 with Chairman Okelo abstaining.

6.2 Review for Approval Revised Parks and Recreation Commission Bylaws

Discussion regarding 13A – Officers – Nomination and election of chair and vice chair. Chairman Okelo voiced concerns about the dates listed in this section.

Action: M/S Merrilees/Enriquez to approve the revised bylaws as presented; Passes 4-1 with Okelo opposing.

6.3 Review for Approval Parks and Recreation Commission's Work Plan

Discussion regarding the work plan - Vice Chair Bonilla suggested that the language in work plan item 1.1 regarding meetings with supervisors could be struck from the work plan. Vice Chair Bonilla explained that items 1.2, 1.3, and 3 involved doing preliminary research and gathering examples of approaches from other park and land management agencies. With respect to item 1.4, Commissioner Merrilees reported that the Dog Management Committee is making progress and expects to have draft policies completed by late fall. Vice Chair Bonilla explained that for item 2, a Commission liaison is needed for the Parks Department work group who will be tasked with development of a comprehensive fee strategy. She noted that work plan item 4 has been completed. Vice Chair Bonilla explained that item 5.2 is aimed at setting minimum expectations related to participation in the Parks Foundation and item 5.3 would provide Commission assistance with future Parks Foundation membership drives.

Action: Chairman Okelo suggested removing items 5.2 and 5.3., because he believed there had been a selective adoption of some of his ideas and rejection of others.

Action: M/S BB/NM: motion to adopt work plan with 5.2 and 5.3. Work plan adopted 5-0.

6.4 Review for Approval Formation of a Parks Commission Subcommittee for Possible Collaboration with the County Arts Commission

Chairman Okelo stated he would like to withdraw this item from consideration and return to it at a later meeting.

6.5 Review for Approval Subcommittee Report Form

Chairman Okelo suggested that future reports that recommend an action item be presented in a format that contains the following: Recommendation, Background, Discussion, and Fiscal Impact.

Action: M/S Bonilla, motion to adopt format suggested. Passed 5-0.

7.0 Commission Subcommittees

7.1 Dog Management in County Parks

A. Report by Commissioner Merrilees and Community Programs Specialist Carla Schoof.

Commissioner Merrilees stated the Dog Management Committee will have a draft policy soon. He explained he expects to get some good public input after the rough draft. The timeline was adjusted slightly with community presentations in September, and there will be a final recommendation to Commission at the December meeting.

8.0 Parks Foundation Executive Director's Report

Ms. Michele Beasley announced that the Parks Foundation will be making a gift to the County in July. This will include new trail signs in all parks on the coast, funds for the volunteer program, summer crews program, bicycle Sunday, and the Park Shuttle. Funds will also be provided to repair damage to trails impacted by winter storms, especially the equestrian trails at Wunderlich Park. The Foundation has funded two field trips for schools going to Wunderlich. The schools are Bayshore Elementary in Daly City, and Belle Air Elementary in San Bruno. The Foundation is actively fundraising for Sanchez Adobe, as well as working with Genentech for a stewardship day at San Bruno Mountain in the middle of June.

Michele also made announcements which included the Coyote Nights Summer Series that will run June through August at the Captain's House at Coyote Point, Coyote Point Kite Day on July 8th, and a Thank You hike for donors on San Bruno Mountain on July 29th.

9.0 Commissioner Reports

Chairman Okelo, welcomed Commissioner Manneh, Representing District 5, and Lori Mrizek, the new Executive Secretary for Parks. Chairman Okelo also bid a very fond farewell to a friend who has served the commission for many years, Brenda Bennett, Parks Executive Secretary. Chairman Okelo stated that the Commission would like to present a Resolution recognizing Brenda Bennett for her tireless work and enduring friendship, and made such presentation.

10.0 Adjournment

Chairman Okelo adjourned the meeting at 5:32 p.m.