



MEETING MINUTES
Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC)
Wednesday, March 8th, 2023, at 4:30 P.M.
Lakeside Park Garden Center

Meeting Recording Link:

<https://oakland.granicus.com/player/clip/5395?&redirect=true>

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL: 4:40 P.M.

ALLEN, BARACH, DUHE, HA, KOS-READ, D. SMITH, K. SMITH, TORRES, TRAN, WATKINS

Present (7): Chair Allen, Vice Chair Tran, Commissioners Barach, Ha, Kos-Read, Torres, Watkins
Excused (1): Commissioners Duhe, K. Smith
Absent (2): Commissioner D. Smith

1. MODIFICATION OF THE AGENDA:
None.

2. DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:
• February 8th, 2023 Draft Meeting Minutes

Motion: Chair Allen entertained a motion to approve the February Meeting Minutes. **Moved by:** Commissioner Torres. **Second by:** Commissioner Barach. **Vote:** Yes (6) Barach, Ha, Kos-Read, Torres, Tran, Watkins. **Abstain:** (1) Allen. **Motion:** Passed.

3. OPEN FORUM: There were 2 speakers and 0 public comments received via email.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

4A. **REQUEST FROM NATIVE AMERICAN HEALTH CENTER (NAHC) FOR APPROVAL TO COLLECT ON-SITE REGISTRATION FEES AT THE ANNUAL RUNNING IS MY HIGH 5K AND 10K FUN RUN/WALK AT LAKESIDE PARK (FAIRYLAND AREA) ON SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023, 6:00AM-3:00PM.**

Motion: Chair Allen entertained a motion to approve Item 4 – Consent Items. **Moved by:** Commissioner Kos-Read. **Second by:** Commissioner Barach. **Vote:** Yes (7) Allen, Barach, Ha, Kos-Read, Torres, Tran, Watkins. **Abstain:** (0). **Motion:** Passed.

5. MEASURE Q OVERSIGHT/AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE:

*Visit Measure Q [website](#) for more information, documents, and reports.

- Informational Report: OPW Monthly Measure Q Hiring Matrix and Performance Measures Update:

Sean Maher, OPW Public Information Officer, Assistant to the Director, provided a verbal update. This month the ability to report has been affected by a ransomware attack, thus, reporting will continue in the next meeting.

Commissioner Torres requested the list of parks where cleaning is happening and what parts of the park are being cleaned for commissioner review. She also inquired about position vacancies before the hack and what was to happen until the hack has been resolved. Sean recalled the 4 areas of focus for Measure Q (mowing of sports fields; litter pickup at all parks; dedicated staffing of major parks; and restrooms) and advised this will be included in the upcoming report. Sean was not able to advise on filling position vacancies during recovery from the hack as this is an HR function; however, he advised that historical data is being used as an alternative method to assist with tracking/filling work orders and service requests in lieu of the electronic database that has also been affected by the hack. For service requests like flooding, downed trees, or failing signal lights, 311 is up and running. If there are any issues with this line, as a backup, the public is advised to contact the fire department non-emergency dispatch at 510-444-3322. All other park maintenance will continue.

Chair Allen congratulated Brian Carthan of OPW on his retirement after 35 years of service.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- 6A. **REQUEST APPROVAL FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION TO ALLOW ASIAN PRISONER SUPPORT COMMITTEE (ASPC) PERMISSION TO COLLECT ONSITE DONATIONS, SALES OF MERCHANDISE AND HOST A SILENT AUCTION AT THEIR ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY BANQUET FUNDRAISER AT JACK LONDON AQUATIC CENTER ON THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2023, FROM 3:00PM TO 10:00PM.**

Alan Phan, OPRYD Central Reservations Unit, Public Service Representative presented the request and introduced speaker Michael Cheng, APSC Deputy Director. The proceeds will go toward in-prison ethnic studies, legal aid and advocacy for community members facing deportation, and re-entry services to residents of Alameda County. Last year they celebrated their 20th year anniversary. This is their first year since Covid for in-person events and first year at Jack London Aquatic Center.

Chair Allen clarified a question by Commissioner Kos-Read informing once non-profits collaborating with the City for the first time have successfully hosted the same event for 3 years, requests can then be moved to the Consent Calendar.

Motion: Chair Allen entertained a motion to approve the request. **Moved by:** Commissioner Kos-Read. **Second by:** Commissioner Barach. **Vote:** Yes (7) Allen, Barach, Ha, Kos-Read, Torres, Tran, Watkins. **Abstain:** (0). **Motion:** Passed.

7. PLANNING AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS:

7A. **REQUEST FOR RECOMMENDATION ON BELLEVUE PARKING LOT ENCLOSURE MINOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT.**

Keary Brink, OPW Park Supervisor, presented the request. An aerial photograph was provided for Commissioner review. Five (5) years ago a permeable parking lot (where grass grows on it) with 23 parking spaces was created to make up for parking spaces lost along Bellevue with the reassigning of the bike lane. Request for 8-foot fence to go around this lot with two gates that can be locked or left unlocked for both staff and public use. Keary noted staff safety concerns with parking along Bellevue due to break-ins, though this their only option at this time. The permeable lot gets frequent use, so the request would provide for a lot enclosure that could be locked and secured by the City during workdays when employees are onsite, and left unlocked for public use on days with special events or as needed.

Keary addressed Commissioner Watkins questions advising the fence will be black vinyl, matching the existing fencing. Keary addressed questions from Commissioner Ha informing that this request does not come with stipulations for parking lot use. At this time staff are using parking spaces on Bellevue so there is no loss of parking with this request. It is simply proposing a rededication of staff parking to that lot, opening up those parking spaces along Bellevue, and providing a way to secure it. Commissioner Ha requested clear communication with the public on any changes to lot use or parameters as a courtesy. Keary addressed Commissioner Barach's question about the type of fencing that would be used educating it would be 1-inch chain link with security bars along the interior and vinyl along the exterior for aesthetics and continuity with the existing fencing. Keary addressed Commissioner Torres's question regarding lot maintenance, oversight and towing informing that this lot would fall under the same oversight of existing parking on Bellevue but advised that it would be lower impact due to the ability to secure it with a lock. Commissioner Torres requested staff working on this project discuss whether OPD would patrol or cameras installed to define security for this location and those intending to use it. Keary addressed Commissioner Torres's question relating to staff and other authorized lot use advising that the gate would have a City lock so that staff with the key could open and close it upon arrival and departure, and that emergency vehicles/services would therefore also have access as needed. Keary addressed Commissioner Watkins advising that lot signage with rules/regulations could be

considered and the existing lot surface would remain permeable as it does not create extra water runoff. Zermaine Thomas, OPRYD Central Reservations Unit, added that since the parking lot will be a multi-use space and OPRYD manages the parking along Bellevue, there would not be signs for staff parking. This would allow for opening the space for events to the public such as Autumn Lights and Lakefest. Keary addressed Commissioner Kos-Read's questions informing the new fencing would connect to the existing fence helping to save on costs and chosen (existing) lot location due to onsite staff influx and existing parking shortage. Keary affirmed Chair Allen's clarification that fence installation and maintenance would come from OPW's operating budget. Chair Allen also requested clarification around estimated funds from Measure Q that would go towards this project. Keary educated funding is derived from 4 different sources and did not have figures on hand to review, but advised that significant salary savings from Measure Q has been invested in infrastructure such as vehicles, equipment, and overdue operational items.

Motion: Chair Allen entertained a motion to approve the request for a minor conditional use permit. **Moved by:** Commissioner Barach. **Second by:** Vice Chair Tran. **Vote:** Yes (7) Allen, Barach, Ha, Kos-Read, Torres, Tran, Watkins. **Abstain:** (0). **Motion:** Passed.

8. UPDATE FROM DIRECTOR, COMMITTEES, RECREATION ADVISORY COUNCILS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Director's Report:

- Provided by Interim Director Riley.
 - Staff acknowledgement of Zermaine, Jasmine, and Gail for putting a semi-hybrid meeting of this kind together for the first time. Gave feedback from Zoom audience perspective while echoing desire for hosting fully hybridized meetings in the future for increased community access and involvement.
 - Director's Recruitment has closed and the hiring agency is reviewing applications. Expected to have candidates by the end of the week for City Administrator to begin the interview process.

PRAC Committees:

- Measure Q:
 - Vice Chair Tran reported the committee has not met in the past month. She is working with staff to adjust the way the metrics are being reported to PRAC, so that they are easier to understand.
- Tree Advisory:
 - Commissioner Ha reported no updates but advised that she would like to request our federal contact for the Urban Forrest Master Plan effort to provide an update to PRAC in the next few months.
- Parks Rules & Regulations:
 - Commissioner Ha reported the committee met 2 weeks prior to jumpstart the process, refamiliarize and determine next-step items to move forward in the coming month. Commissioner Kos-Read reported committee's desire to bring forward items to discuss in the next PRAC meeting. Chair Allen clarified Council President Bas, a standing friend/supporter of parks, is now Chair of the Rules Committee.

- Lake Merritt Ad Hoc:
 - Commissioner Kos-Read reported the committee has not met but he has participated in meetings with the City and anticipates an update to the discussion at next PRAC meeting around plans for a revived community market this year and parking meters. Chair Allen advised that parking oversight has transitioned to OakDOT (Department of Transportation) and that she can request an information report to address community concerns. The last update received regarded the delayed installation of parking meters due to supply-chain demands. Sean Maher provided an update about parking meter installation on Lakeside reporting installation is anticipated to begin mid-March with outreach to the community advising of the change occurring over the past few weeks, and an upcoming press release to go out early next week. Commissioner Torres requested next committee meeting be used to refamiliarize members with goals and impacts, and for members to be informed if board members are being asked questions about the lake to prioritize those concerns for discussion.

Recreation Advisory Councils (RACs):

- Mosswood
 - Chair Allen reported the recreation center is looking for 100 volunteers for Earth Day to clean the park and Moss House on April 22nd. Councilmember Fife and Mayor Thao will also be bringing volunteers. Construction on the new recreation center will begin end of August, early September. Town Camp will not be hosted during construction.
- San Antonio
 - Commissioner Ha reported there was an event hosted a few weeks prior that engaged the community at large via safety coalition and community groups with Mayor Thao and a former City Administrator in attendance. They are still working toward building a RAC. There are 4 tennis courts that will be reprogrammed.

Announcements:

- Commissioner Kos-Read informed 3rd Fridays, March – October there will be a new event called Salsa Escapes at Liberation Park with live music, performances, a dance class, DJ, and vendors.

9. OPEN FORUM: There were 0 speakers and 1 public comment received via email.

10. ADJOURNMENT: 5:46 p.m.

*Visit [PRAC Website](#) for more information, documents, and reports.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, April 12th, 2023, at 4:30 pm

Lakeside Park Garden Center

666 Bellevue Avenue

Oakland, CA 94610

Via Zoom

(For observation purposes only.)

Respectfully Submitted,



Jasmine S. Bellow
Executive Assistant to the Director
Recording Secretary