



**Recreation and Park Commission
Davis Senior Center Valente Room, 646 A Street
Thursday, February 17, 2011
MINUTES**

Commission Members Present: Charlie Russell (Chair), Michael Bartolic (Vice Chair), Ira Bray, Robert Glassburner, Amul Purohit, Nicole Slaton and Travie Westlund

Commission Members Absent: None

Council Liaison Present: None

Staff Present: Elvia Garcia-Ayala, Anne Brunette, Jim Newman and Christine Helweg

Public Present: Lars Anderson, Laura and Adam Andrews, Madeline Brattesani, Walt Bunter, Jerri and Dennis Chamberlain, Ae-Gyung and Soo-Young Chang, Megan Contreras, Karolyn Gibson, Christine Granger, Jim Hickerson, Michael Hopper, Megan Hupe, John Johnston, Lou Ziskind

Chair C. Russell called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

1. **Approval of the Agenda**
Agenda was approved as presented by consensus.
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**
Minutes for January 20, 2010 were amended and approved by consensus with the word “new” being deleted from the first line in Item #6 in reference to the liaison to the Finance and Budget Commission.
3. **Public Comments**
None.
4. **Written Communications**
Staff distributed email correspondence dated February 17, 2011 from Jim Richards, regarding the DYSA Storage Container (Agenda Item #5).
5. **Review Recommendations on Davis Youth Softball Association’s Storage Container at Slide Hill Park**
Parks and General Services Superintendent, Jim Newman, gave an overview of the background and history leading up to the recommendations being presented this evening. Several neighboring residents of Slide Hill Park spoke in support of staff’s recommendation including Dennis Chamberlain, Chris Granger, Walt Bunter, John Johnston, and Michael

Hopper. DYSA Representative Adam Andrews also spoke in support of staff's recommendations.

M. Bartolic made a motion, seconded by A. Purohit, to approve staff's recommendation as presented. The motion passed unanimously. The Commission further requested that staff amend the existing agreement with DYSA to include the ongoing maintenance of the storage container and proposed fencing enclosure, and to carefully review any potential future uses in Slide Hill Park to avoid "creep" similar to what has occurred at Community Park.

Commissioner Westlund suggested that the City and DYSA possibly consider a mural in lieu of fencing. The Commission took no specific action on this suggestion.

6. 2010 Annual Report from Explorit Science Center

Property Management Coordinator, Anne Brunette, gave the Commission a brief history of City's relationship with the Explorit Science Center and explained the existing terms and conditions of the current lease agreement. Explorit representatives, Lars Anderson and Megan Contreras, presented the 2010 Annual Report.

Commission requested that staff include a copy of the Lease Agreement with future staff reports. No further action was taken by the Commission.

7. Project Update on Sports Complex

Property Management Coordinator, Anne Brunette, gave the Commission a status update on the Sports Complex project. The Draft EIR reports have been received by the City and will be available for public review in the coming month. The Draft EIR reports take into account the four proposed sites with multiple amenity options. Comments will be compiled and incorporated into the final EIR documents by the consultant. No action was required by the Commission – informational only.

8. Project Update on Central Park Master Plan

Property Management Coordinator, Anne Brunette, gave the Commission a status update on the Central Park Master Plan project, and reviewed the staff report and conceptual plans that were presented to the City Council on February 15, 2011. No action was required by the Commission – informational only.

Commissioner Westlund expressed concern that the Central Park Master Plan does not appear to be addressing any of the long term maintenance needs for this facility.

9. Commissioner Announcements/Comments

None.

10. Liaison Reports/Updates

- City Council Liaison (Stephen Souza): None
- Finance & Budget Commission Liaison: C. Russell reported that the Commission is continuing in prep for the upcoming budget proposal for FY11-12.

- Open Space & Habitat Commission Liaison: M. Bartolic reported the Commission is working to develop an online resources map, a community farms initiative, and received a preliminary presentation on Cannery Park.

10. Staff Reports/Updates

- Superintendent Helweg reported that the Aquatics, Facility, and Field fees were adopted by City Council on February 15, 2011.
- Superintendent Helweg also announced that Playfields Park has been awarded the *2010 Field of Excellence Award* by Pioneer® Athletics. Pioneer Athletics is a global leader, developer, researcher, and manufacturer of natural grass and synthetic turf field marking paints for any occasion or special event, and with this award has placed the City's fields among the best, both professional and amateur alike, in the nation. The Pioneer® Athletics' *Fields of Excellence Award* is given to a select number of outstanding athletic fields and crews in recognition of their care, dedication, and overall superior qualities that continue to exemplify excellence in athletic field maintenance. Field Maintenance staff submitted a nomination for the award, and the City will receive signage and press information later in late spring.
- Review of Long Range Planning Calendar: None
- Upcoming Commission Meetings – Thursday, March 17, 2011 Joint Meeting with Finance and Budget Commission

The meeting was adjourned by Chair C. Russell at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Helweg
Community Services Superintendent



**Joint Meeting of the Recreation and Park and
Finance and Budget Commissions
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Thursday, March 17, 2011
MINUTES**

Recreation and Park Commission: Charlie Russell (Chair), Nicole Slaton (Vice Chair), Michael
Members Present Bartolic, Ira Bray, Amul Purohit and Travie Westlund

Finance and Budget Commission: Johannes Troost (Chair), Jerry Beavers (Vice Chair), Mark
Members Present Siegler, Talyon Sorter, Robert Traverso and Paul Philley
(Liaison to the Planning Commission)

Commission Members Absent: Helena Chung, Robert Glassburner, Phillip King, Jeff Miller,
Jack Zhu

Council Liaison Present: Stephen Souza

Staff Present: Elvia Garcia-Ayala, Kelly Fletcher, Jim Newman, Samantha
Wallace and Christine Helweg

Public Present: Carrie Dyer, Valerie Greenough and Jason Taormino

Co-Chairs C. Russell and J. Troost called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. Introductions of Commission members in attendance were made.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Agenda was approved as presented by consensus.

2. Public Comments

Jason Taormino, representing the Aquatics Council and Davis Aquatic Masters, expressed his desire to work with the City in developing increased revenue models to assist the city in recovering more of its operational costs.

3. Written Communications

Staff distributed copies of the 2011 revisions as presented in "The Brown Act" by Best, Best & Krieger to members of the Recreation and Park Commission. Members of the Finance and Budget Commission will be receiving their copies at a later date.

Staff also distributed a recent article from Recreation Management magazine which describes the correlation of a community's investment in parks and recreation to the overall community's physical activity levels.

4. Accidentally Omitted from Agenda – agenda misnumbered.

5. Review and Discussion of Items of Common Interest and Purview Related to the Community Services Department's Cost Recovery and Fee Policies

The two Commissions discussed items of common interest and purview related to the Community Services Department Cost Recovery and Fee Policies, including, but not limited to:

- a. The purpose and intent of the existing Cost Recovery and Fee Policies
- b. The cost components included in the existing Cost Recovery and Fee Policies.
- c. Identifying areas for potential future changes to the policies, including cost components.

Elvia Garcia-Ayala, Community Services Director, reviewed the above stated goals for the joint meeting, and set the context for the discussion by reviewing the purviews of each respective Commission, and requesting that the discussion remain at the policy level.

Christine Helweg, Community Services Superintendent, reviewed each respective cost recovery policy through a power point presentation, which included a description of the cost components that are currently captured within each policy.

The following ideas/comments/suggestions were captured as part of the discussion between members of both Commissions:

Timeline/Process

- The fee development process must provide sufficient time for both commissions to review and have a dialogue prior to going to City Council.

Presentation of Information/Reporting

- The presentation of fees should provide an executive summary of costs, including what the fees should be recovering, and what they are actually recovering at each program level.
- The executive summary should easily identify for the Commissions and the City Council what the true General Fund subsidy is, and should reduce the complexity of the information for the public's review.

Policy Changes

- Develop consistent methodology in applying cost components and value benefits amongst all fees
- Need to incorporate Capital Facility Replacement Costs (Depreciation)
- Need to incorporate Capital Equipment Replacement related to field rentals
- Need to incorporate facility use costs into Recreation Activities
- Review/evaluate the actual hours of use vs. usable hours to calculate costs
- Review percentages and placement of programs/services for cost recovery

Policy Questions

- What are the core services that government is supposed to provide? Should we be trying to recover the cost per use or is it the cost per use and the cost of providing that facility as well?

- Recognizing the need for more fiscal sustainability, how do we also determine the appropriate value of our community's assets and amenities? How do you quantify something that isn't necessarily quantifiable?
- Why are other city programs/services/assets supported by the General Fund not held to the same standard?
- How should the City take into account the economic benefits of certain activities that contribute to the General Fund indirectly and/or beyond that which is directly generated through fees?

Other

- Expiration of Parks Tax – the general public does not appear to know what pays for the parks. If the city decides they want to increase the park tax – how to provide the funding to take care of the parks which draws the people to Davis.
- Community Needs Assessment – the City should consider conducting a citywide needs assessment to assist staff in identifying community priorities for programs/activities/services.

6. Commissioner Announcements/Comments

None.

The meeting was adjourned by Co-Chairs C. Russell and J. Troost at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Helweg
Community Services Superintendent