



**Recreation and Park Commission**  
**Davis Senior Center Valente Room, 646 A Street**  
**Thursday, February 16, 2017**  
**MINUTES**

Commission Members Present: Emily Griswold-Chair, Maurice Pitesky-Vice Chair (arrived at 7:20 pm), Ira Bray, Tyson Hubbard, Stephanie Koop, Travie Westlund and Vanessa Richter (Alternate)

Commission Members Absent: Cecilia Escamilla-Greenwald

Council Liaison Present: None

Public Present: Alan Pryor

Staff Present: Christine Helweg, Martin Jones and Dale Sumersille

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Griswold at 7:05 pm.

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

A motion was made by I. Bray to approve the agenda, seconded by T. Hubbard. The motion passed with a 6-0-2-0 vote.

AYES: Bray, Griswold, Hubbard, Koop, Westlund and Richter

NOES: None

Absent: Greenwald, Pitesky

Abstentions: None

**3. Brief Announcements from Commissioners, Liaisons and Staff**

Parks & Community Services Director, Dale Sumersille, announced the upcoming Memorial Bench Dedication to be held on Sunday, February 19 beginning at 10:00 a.m. The bench is being dedicated in memory of Bob Cordrey, former Parks Superintendent for the City of Davis, who passed away in April 2015.

**4. Public Comment**

None.

**5. Consent Calendar**

A motion was made by S. Koop to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by T. Hubbard. The motion passed with a 6-0-2-0 vote.

AYES: Bray, Griswold, Hubbard, Koop, Westlund and Richter

NOES: None

Absent: Greenwald, Pitesky

Abstentions: None

**6A. Continued Discussion on Davis Youth Softball Association (DYSA) Field and Safety Improvement Proposal**

Assistant Director Christine Helweg provided an update on the DYSA proposal and recommended that the Commission table the proposal for Slide Hill Park as a new location has been negotiated for additional field use and improvements.

A motion was made by S. Koop to approve staff's recommendation to table the proposal, seconded by V. Richter. The motion passed with a 7-0-1-0 vote.

AYES: Bray, Griswold, Hubbard, Koop, Pitesky, Westlund and Richter

NOES: None

Absent: Greenwald

Abstentions: None

**6B. Receive Initial Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Report**

The Commission provided some initial feedback and questions related to the recommendations listed in the IPM report, which included the following:

- Has the lack of precipitation the last few years skewed the charts/analysis showing the reduction is better than it really is? Is there a better model or application that could be used for showing better weather analysis and potential impacts on pesticide use?
- After the water treatment plant closes, PW will most likely not need as much IPM, and PCS will likely need more, so it kind of makes sense to keep the IPM Specialist in PCS.
- 
- Would like to request additional information on how the City is educating the public about IPM?
- Would like to request additional financial analysis or cost benefit analysis of how the various recommendations would affect the Department and/or overall City budget.
- The recommendations to upgrade the IPM Specialist to a working supervisor with an assigned abatement crew and to re-assign to the Public Works Department does not appear to have any basis or correlating data within the report to support these recommendations?
- Where is the funding coming from to support those personnel changes?
- Would like for the report to be more upfront with how the parks and greenbelt areas would appear if recommendations are implemented, and what would the tolerance level from the general population of the City?
- The scope of the problem is not identified on page 2 of the report and does not offer any alternatives to solve the challenge, nor does it address all of the other chemicals that the City uses (only targets 2 specific pesticides).
- How can the City educate the public through increased signage in parks, address appearances and solicit community engagement?
- The survey information is not really relevant as it is not a statistically valid survey and cannot be considered representative of the entire City.

- Would like to explore a smaller scale test areas for the recommendations before going citywide. Test areas could be used to simulate the types of affects and costs of the new recommendations.
- Would like to have more data on contractor use of pesticide as compared to the use by City staff.
- Would like the City to pursue having more information available to the public at other points of sale locations for private use of pesticides.
- Public noticing of the areas to be sprayed do not contain the name of the pesticide being applied – can use this as an education piece for the public as well.
- What are the cost and waste by-products from solarization versus mulching?
- Would like to have direct feedback from the staff that would be most affected by the implementation of these recommendations and how it would affect their daily maintenance routines.
- During the next forum discussion, would like to see much more time allocated for public comments since the initial forum ran over in time and was not able to accommodate everyone's comments.
- Volunteers are not reliable or available on a moment's notice; there are costs associated and staff time to implement and coordinate volunteer programs which is not efficient use of staff time. Would like to have a further discussion regarding the expanded use of volunteers and the possibility of re-consideration of the Community Projects Specialist position.

No further action was taken on this item, and the IPM report is anticipated to return to the Commission in April 2017 for further consideration.

#### **6C. Central Park Gardens Update**

Chairperson Emily Griswold gave the Commission a brief presentation on the history and accomplishments of the Central Park Master Gardener program. A preview of current projects, including the installation of a Rose Arbor was also presented.

#### **6D. Review and Discussion of new Cannery Park Facilities**

Commissioner Ira Bray presented a brief slide show of the new Cannery Parks and their amenities. Commissioner Bray also requested more information as to how the NextDoor system can be promoted more throughout the new Cannery Development. Staff will follow up on this request.

The Commission requested that Pioneer Park to be discussed in March (T. Hubbard to take photos), and Oxford Circle Park in April (I. Bray to take photos).

#### **7. Commission and Staff Communications**

- a. Commission Work Plan – PCS Director Dale Sumersille stated that she will be bringing forward a Major Projects Update at their upcoming March meeting.
- b. Upcoming Meeting Items/Events – The Commission requested to stay on their regular meeting date in May 2017 despite the conflict with the Celebrate Davis event.
- c. Subcommittee Reports/Inter-Commission Liaison Reports
  1. City Council Liaison – no report

2. Finance & Budget Commission – no report
3. Open Space & Habitat Commission – the Commission provided initial feedback related to the initial IPM report but no action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Helweg  
Parks & Community Services Assistant Director