



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

SYNOPSIS

GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday, May 6, 2009
5:00 P.M.**

**City Hall
Room W-120
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113**

MELANIE RICHARDSON, CHAIR
WINSTON CHEW
JAMES KIM

LESLEE HAMILTON

MIKE FLAUGHER, VICE CHAIR
ERIK KARSTAN SMITH
JULIE MATSUSHIMA

(a) CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Present: Chair Richardson, Vice-Chair Flaughner, Commissioners
Kim, Matsushima, Hamilton and Chew

Excused Absence: None

Absent: Commissioner Smith

(1) Attendance Report

(b) ORDERS OF THE DAY

Item (j)(1) was heard before item (h)(1).

(c) CEREMONIAL ITEMS

None

(d) ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

(e) CONSENT CALENDAR

(1) Approval of April 1, 2009 Synopsis

(2) Review of Planning Applications

It was moved by Vice-Chair Flaughter, seconded by Commissioner Hamilton, and voted unanimously that the Consent Calendar Items be Approved.

(f) COUNCIL AND COMMISSION REPORTS

(1) Council Liaison
None

(2) Senior Citizens Commission
None

(3) Youth Commission
None

(g) PUBLIC HEARING

(1) Naming of Facility located at 110 N. Jackson Street "Dr. James Akiyama Wellness Center"

Simeon Mercado, Parks Manager, submitted over 50 letters from the public supporting the suggested name.

Wesley Mukoyama and Vic Nakamoto, public, spoke in support of the suggested name.

The Commission expressed their concern over the removal of public art from Guadalupe River Park. This public art will be relocated to "Dr. James Akiyama Wellness Center".

It was moved by Commissioner Kim, seconded by Commissioner Chew, and voted unanimously to recommend to City Council that the facility located at 110 N. Jackson Street be named Dr. James Akiyama Wellness Center.

(h) ACTION ITEMS

(1) General Plan Amendments

It was moved by Commissioner Hamilton, seconded by Vice-Chair Flaughter, and voted unanimously to accept the report and instruct staff to incorporate additional language regarding GP09-06-01 into the General Plan Amendment letter and authorize the Chair or Vice-Chair to sign on behalf of the Commission.

(i) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

None

(j) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

(1) Draft Volunteer Policy

Fernando Cazares, Community Coordinator, and Mollie Tobias, Volunteer Coordinator for Parks, Recreation and Community Services, gave a presentation.

It was moved by Commissioner Matsushima, seconded by Commissioner Chew, and voted unanimously to accept the report.

(2) Happy Hollow Park & Zoo Update

Brian Hartsell, Parks Manager gave the presentation.

The Commissioners requested a report back on the parking lot bid results be presented at the June 3, 2009 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

(3) Budget Update: Review of Capital & Operating Budgets

Albert Balagso, Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, gave an overview.

Matt Cano, Division Manager, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, provided an update on the Capital Budget.

Julie Edmonds-Mares, Assistant Director, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, gave an update on the Operating Budget.

Heather Reiter, City of San Jose Park Ranger, spoke against the proposed elimination of the Park Ranger Program.

Helen Chapman, public, invited the Commissioners to attend an urban farm tour at Prusch Park on June 21, 2009. She also encouraged the Commission to be aware of budget proposals which decrease park land.

The Commission discussed concerns over eliminating the Park Ranger Program and alternatives in the Tier 2 budget proposal.

It was moved by Commissioner Matsushima, seconded by Commissioner Hamilton, and voted unanimously to draft a letter expressing concerns about potential elimination of the Park Ranger Program and to authorize the Chair or Vice-Chair to sign. Additionally, the Commission will send a representative(s) (Chair Richardson, Vice-Chair Flaugher, Commissioner Kim, Hamilton or Matsushima) to speak at a Public Hearing (to be held May 12 and June 15, 2009).

(4) Commissioner News Items

None

(5) Future Agenda Items

The Commission will convene a special meeting on May 20, 2009, 4:30 to 5:00 p.m., to develop a slate of Commission Officers for 2009-10 to be presented at the June 3, 2009 general meeting.

(6) Review Draft Agenda for April

The Commission added two items to the April Agenda:

- Election of Commission Officers for 2009-10
- Report back on the Happy Hollow parking lot bid results

(k) LIAISON REPORTS

(1) General Plan Task Force Report

Commissioner Hamilton stated that the Task Force is currently reviewing the EIR.

(2) Greenprint Ad-hoc Subcommittee

Commissioner Hamilton noted that she is primarily concerned with connective city trails and creating safe passages in this economic climate.

(3) Martial-Cottle Project Ad-hoc Committee

None

(l) CORRESPONDENCE

None

(m) ADJOURNMENT

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m. The next general Parks and Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for April 1, 2009.

Draft