

The format of the Recreation and Parks Commission minutes has changed per the City Clerk's recommendation.



RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 17, 2009

Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street, Santa Monica CA 90401

A meeting of the Recreation & Parks Commission was called to order by Chairperson Cloke at 7:40pm on Thursday, September 17, 2009 at the Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street

1. **Roll Call Present** Chairperson Susan Cloke
Vice Chairperson Neil Carrey
Commissioner Phil Brock
Commissioner Deborah Cohen
Commissioner Kristina Deutsch
Commissioner Lori Nafshun
Commissioner Nancy Goslee Power (left at 8:30pm)

Also Present: Barbara Stinchfield, Director, Community & Cultural Services
Karen Ginsberg, Assistant Director, Community & Cultural Services
Anne Deasey, Staff, Community & Cultural Services

2. **Administration of Oath of Office for Recently Appointed Commissioner Nancy Goslee Power** – Chair Cloke administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Power.

3. A. **Minutes** - The minutes of the July 16, 2009 meeting were approved as submitted with Vice Chairperson Carrey and Commissioner Brock abstaining.

B. **Commendation to Michael Hill in recognition of his excellent service and contributions to the City of Santa Monica** - A certificate of appreciation was presented to Mr. Hill in honor of his long-standing dedication to Santa Monica.

4. **Director's Report** – Director Stinchfield and Assistant Director Ginsberg reported the following:

- At Council's direction, Community & Cultural Services will work with Planning and Community Development to review and assess the Park and Recreation Facilities Tax.
- Council approved the extension of the Jonathan Club lease, which will generate revenue for the City of \$200,000 per year for the next ten years. Funds will be accumulated as part of the CIP program.
- A community survey to name park locations for former Mayor Herb Katz and Heal the Bay Founding President Dorothy Green found that 80% of the respondents liked Joslyn Park for Mr. Katz and Beach Park 1 for Ms. Green.
- Assistant Director Ginsberg reported that attendance and revenue for summer 2009 at the Beach House exceeded projections. Ms. Ginsberg also reported that the City received an additional grant of \$125,000 from the Annenberg Foundation to enhance the facilities and programming, and that private events will begin in October.
- A community open house to present conceptual designs for the beach restroom replacement project will be held on September 27 from 1 to 3pm at Beach Green. All are encouraged to attend. The project will be presented to the Commission at the October meeting.

Item 7A was heard before item 5.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. **Overview and Status of Civic Center Planning** – Assistant Director Ginsberg provided an update on the progress of Civic Center planning, including Palisades Garden Walk and Town Square, the Civic Auditorium renovation and related projects, the Early Childhood Education Center, freeway capping, the Light Rail terminus, Santa Monica Place, shared parking possibilities, and the Santa Monica High School Joint Use efforts.

Item 6A was heard before Item 5.

6. ACTION ITEMS:

A. **Discussion and possible action on mid-year retreat in October -**
Chairperson Cloke moved to schedule a mid-year retreat on Monday, October 19 from 6 pm to 10 pm. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Items for discussion include a review of goals and current programs, the Commission budget, a report on bicycle programs, and strategizing new projects, with a focus on practical issues.

Item 7B was heard before item 5.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS continued:

B. **Pier Centennial Report, Vice Chairperson Carrey** - Vice Chairperson Carrey reported that the Pier Centennial celebration was a great success and crowd control worked exceptionally well. He also announced that The Sempra Energy Foundation donated \$50,000 to support a new school curriculum that will educate students on the environment in conjunction with the Pier.

5. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS:

A. **Community Gardens Advisory Committee** - Staff will ensure that meeting notices are being sent to the Commission's two liaisons.

E. **LUCE Liaison** – Chair Cloke reported that an update is due in October.

F. **Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District** – Vice Chairperson Carrey reported that he is chairing a committee to examine the feasibility of a parcel tax.

G. **Sports Advisory Committee** – Vice Chairperson Carrey reported that the Committee is evaluating its purpose and considering forming two groups: one to monitor swimming and tennis and the other to monitor playing fields. He also reported that staff is reviewing the user fees structure for spring 2010.

H. **Sustainable Task Force** – Staff will verify that meeting notices are being sent to Commissioner Brock.

J. **Virginia Avenue Park Advisory Board Liaison** – Commissioner Cohen reported that the Board recommended to remove one of its members due to significant absences and change its bylaws to reduce the number of members. The issue will be heard at the October Recreation & Parks Commission meeting.

K. **Programs & Events Committee** – Commissioner Cohen will report on the summer pilot program for musical events in the neighborhood parks at the mid-year retreat.

L. **Recreational Transportation Advocate** - Commissioner Brock is preparing a report on his meetings with a private entity to develop a city-wide bike rental program.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS continued:

C. **Review of Commission Long Range Agenda** – Items added to the long range agenda include a discussion on the memorial tributes for Herb Katz and Dorothy Green; an update on Joslyn Park improvements; appointing a liaison to the Community Forest Task Force; and reports on stormwater collection at the Beach House; and lawn bowling user fees.

8. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

9. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.