



MINUTES*
SUNNYVALE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 9, 2011

The Sunnyvale Parks and Recreation Commission met in regular session in City Hall Council Chambers, 456 W. Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94086 at 7:02 p.m. with Chair Pochowski presiding.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Pochowski called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Chair Pochowski led the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Chair Robert Pochowski
Vice Chair Robert Kinder
Commissioner Howard Chuck (arrived at 7:08 p.m.)
Commissioner Robert Harms
Commissioner Craig Pasqua

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Superintendent of Community Services Nancy Bolgard Steward
Superintendent of Parks/Golf Scott Morton
Admin Aide Karen Smith

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Carolyn Lutticken, Program Coordinator, Community Services Division, shared a special honor that was recently given to one of Columbia Neighborhood Center's programs—Community Kidz Camp. As a result of this year's successful camp, the program was awarded the "*Outstanding Stormwater Quality News, Information, Outreach and Media Award*" from the California Stormwater Quality Association at the September statewide conference. It was presented to the City of Sunnyvale in recognition of the development and implementation of Sunnyvale's "Earth Care Kidz" youth program as part of Community Kidz Camp.

Superintendent Steward recognized Ms. Lutticken as playing an instrumental role in the development of the program curriculum and her accomplishment in bringing numerous partners together.

Commissioners asked questions about the number of students and how they were selected for the camp. Commissioners offered congratulations to Ms. Lutticken for a successful program.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1.A. Approval of Draft Minutes of September 14, 2011, Parks & Recreation Commission meeting

MOTION: Vice Chair Kinder moved and Commissioner Harms seconded to approve Consent Item 1.A. with the following correction:

Page 2, Item 3: Study Issues/Budget Issues for 2012

1) Add Afghanistan to following sentence. “Vice Chair Kinder proposed that a veterans’ memorial be designed and dedicated to honoring Sunnyvale residents who were members of the U.S. Armed Forces who gave their lives in the Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq Wars.”

2) Amend Vice Chair Kinder’s motion to include Afghanistan War.

VOTE: 4-0 motion passed. Commissioner Pochowski abstained due to his absence at the September 14, 2011, meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

2. Ranking of Study Issues for 2012

Superintendent Steward reviewed the process for ranking the two proposed study issues:

- LCS 12-01 Consideration of a Veteran’s Memorial Honoring Sunnyvale Veterans Who Gave Their Lives in Service to the County in the Afghanistan, Iraq and Vietnam Wars
- DPW 09-07 Sunnyvale Cyclovia Event

LCS 12-01 Consideration of a Veteran’s Memorial Honoring Sunnyvale Veterans Who Gave Their Lives in Service to the County in the Afghanistan, Iraq and Vietnam Wars

Superintendent Steward said this was the first time the Commissioners were reviewing this study issue and now was an opportunity to make changes before ranking.

Vice Chair Kinder requested that Iran War be removed from the study issue paper.

Vice Chair Kinder said in 2005 the City budgeted \$300,000 to erect a Veteran’s Memorial in Plaza del Sol, Phase II. He talked about the two existing Veteran’s Memorials in Sunnyvale located at Washington Park and the Community Center. He also discussed the memorials in the cities of Santa Clara and Cupertino. He believes this study issue is a worthwhile pursuit.

Commissioner Harms suggested considering the addition of the Korean War to the memorial.

Commissioners asked questions about the status of Plaza del Sol, Phase II. Superintendent Steward said Council made a policy decision in 2005 regarding the approval of a new and significant memorial, fountain, path, and landscaping plan to be installed in Plaza del Sol, Phase II, as described in the study issue paper. At this time, Plaza del Sol, Phase II, is an unfunded capital project.

Chair Pochowski asked what the proposed study issue would accomplish since a policy decision has already been made; funding is a different issue.

Superintendent Steward said recommending a Budget Issue to Council is an option that the Commission could consider.

Vice Chair Kinder said the proposed study issue is to move the location of the memorial from the non-existing Plaza del Sol, Phase II, to the Community Center.

Vice Chair Kinder addressed Commissioner Harms's suggestion to add the Korean War to the memorial. He said the Washington Park memorial was dedicated in 1947, but he believes that the Korean War veterans have been added. If not, then the Korean War veterans should certainly be included on the memorial. Commissioner Harms said that the memorial could include "All Foreign Wars."

Superintendent Steward said the text on the Washington Park memorial reads: "In memory of those who made the supreme sacrifice." It does not mention names of any wars.

Chair Pochowski clarified that the purpose of the proposed study issue is to change the plan of record from Plaza del Sol, Phase II, to the Community Center with a simpler, less costly scope of work. Vice Chair Kinder concurred and said the memorial would also include names of the veterans who gave their lives in service.

MOTION: Chair Pochowski moved and Commissioner Harms seconded to recommend that Study Issue LCS 12-01 (Consideration of a Veteran's Memorial Honoring Sunnyvale Veterans Who Gave Their Lives in Service to the County in the Afghanistan, Iraq and Vietnam Wars) be dropped because the Plaza del Sol, Phase II, Veteran's Memorial is a good solution.

Superintendent Morton provided an update of the Park Dedication Fund. He said that the Commission is tentatively scheduled for a joint Study Session with Council in February regarding park dedication policy guidelines and how to approach funding for future capital projects. Funding for Plaza del Sol, Phase II, will not be decided until FY 12/13 and the funding timeline is unknown.

Vice Chair Kinder elaborated on the scope of funding. He said he would like names of those who gave their lives in service to our country, and possibly date of birth and death, listed on a very simple memorial. He believes there are 28 veterans who sacrificed their lives (25 in Vietnam War and 3 in Afghanistan and Iraq Wars). He prefers that the memorial be located at the Community Center instead of Plaza del Sol because there are more visitors at the Community Center.

Superintendent Morton said that Council has already made a policy decision regarding approval of a Veteran's Memorial at Plaza del Sol, Phase II. He stated several options that the Commission could consider, if desired.

- Drop as a Study Issue and propose as a Budget Issue for FY 12/13.
- Consider funding the memorial through community-based resources and donations. Superintendent Morton cited an example of Las Madres neighborhood playgroup donating \$5,000 to improve the tot lot at Las Palmas Park. He suggested that the memorial could possibly be funded for approximately \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Superintendent Steward stated another option the Commission could consider, if desired.

- Defer Study Issue and recommend Budget Issue.

The Public Hearing was opened. There were no speakers. The Public Hearing was closed.

The motion on the floor was restated.

MOTION: Chair Pochowski moved and Commissioner Harms seconded to recommend that Study Issue LCS 12-01 (Consideration of a Veteran's Memorial Honoring Sunnyvale Veterans Who Gave Their Lives in Service to the County in the Afghanistan, Iraq and Vietnam Wars) be dropped because the Plaza del Sol, Phase II, Veteran's Memorial is a good solution.

VOTE: 2-3 motion failed. Commissioners Kinder, Pochowski and Pasqua dissented.

MOTION: Vice Chair Kinder moved and Commissioner Pasqua seconded to recommend to Council that Study Issue LCS 12-01 (Consideration of a Veteran's Memorial Honoring Sunnyvale Veterans Who Gave Their Lives in Service to the County in the Afghanistan, Iraq and Vietnam Wars) be deferred and presented as a Budget Issue and move the Veteran's Memorial location from Plaza del Sol, Phase II, to the Community Center.

Commissioner Chuck expressed concern if the Veteran's Memorial were to be moved from Plaza del Sol, Phase II, to the Community Center. He was involved in the 2005 decision regarding approval of the Veteran's Memorial at Plaza del Sol, Phase II, and still believes Plaza del Sol would be a good location once it is funded.

Commissioner Harms is in favor of deferring LCS 12-01. He said there are veteran's organizations within the City that would like to help fund a Veteran's Memorial. Vice Chair Kinder said it has been 38 years since the installation of the memorial plaque at the Community Center and no veteran's organizations have stepped forward.

MOTION: Vice Chair Kinder withdrew his motion.

MOTION: Vice Chair Kinder moved to recommend to Council that Study Issue LCS 12-01 (Consideration of a Veteran's Memorial Honoring Sunnyvale Veterans Who Gave Their Lives in Service to the County in the Afghanistan, Iraq and Vietnam Wars) be deferred and presented as a Budget Issue and keep the Veteran's Memorial at the future location of Plaza del Sol, Phase II.

Motion failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: Vice Chair Kinder moved and Commissioner Harms seconded to recommend to Council that Study Issue LCS 12-01 (Consideration of a Veteran's Memorial Honoring Sunnyvale Veterans Who Gave Their Lives in Service to the County in the Afghanistan, Iraq and Vietnam Wars) be deferred.

VOTE: 5-0 motion passed.

MOTION: Vice Chair Kinder moved to create a Budget Issue for the Veteran's Memorial as stated in deferred Study Issue LCS 12-01 (Consideration of a Veteran's Memorial Honoring Sunnyvale Veterans Who Gave Their Lives in Service to the County in the Afghanistan, Iraq and Vietnam Wars) that changes the plan of record from Plaza del Sol, Phase II, to the Community Center with a simpler, less costly scope of work.

Vice Chair Kinder withdrew his motion. He stated there is a plan to build Plaza del Sol, Phase II, but there is currently no funding.

Superintendent Steward said Vice Chair Kinder could appear before Council as an individual and state his recommendations.

Commissioner Chuck stated that the main focus is to obtain the memorial as soon as possible. He said that community-based donations and fundraising are good ideas. Commissioners Chuck and Pochowski stated they would be willing to help solicit donations for a Veteran's Memorial to be located at the Community Center.

Chair Pochowski stated that consideration should be given to dropping Study Issue LCS 12-01 and not going forward with it so that the Plaza del Sol, Phase II, Veteran's Memorial is not derailed. The Commission could consider community-based donations and fundraising for a Veteran's Memorial at the Community Center, as well as a Budget Issue to move forward with funding the Veteran's Memorial at Plaza del Sol, Phase II.

MOTION: Chair Pochowski moved and Commissioner Chuck seconded to recommend to Council a Budget Issue to move forward with funding the Veteran's Memorial at Plaza del Sol, Phase II, which is currently unfunded.

VOTE: 4-1 motion passed. Commissioner Harms dissented.

DPW 09-07 Sunnyvale Cyclovia Event

Superintendent Steward said she had nothing more to add to the information in the study issue.

The Public Hearing was opened. There were no speakers. The Public Hearing was closed.

MOTION: Vice Chair Kinder moved and Commissioner Harms seconded the motion to recommend that Council defer Study Issue DPW 09-07 Sunnyvale Cyclovia Event.

VOTE: 4-1 passed. Commissioner Harms dissented.

Commissioner Harms is in favor of encouraging cycling for the health of individuals who participate and the benefit of reduced traffic.

3. Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials

Superintendent Steward stated this was an opportunity for the Commissioners to review the Code of Ethics and Conduct, ask questions, and recommend changes in policy for Council to consider at a later date.

The Public Hearing was opened. There were no speakers. The Public Hearing was closed.

There was no discussion and no action.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

COMMISSIONER ORAL COMMENTS

Vice Chair Kinder said Dave Severens, a good friend involved with Fremont Pool, passed away. His memorial service will be held on November 12, 2011.

In response to Commissioner Harms, Superintendent Steward said CNC was Columbia Neighborhood Center. Up until April 2011, CNC work unit was in the Office of the City Manager; it is now in the Department of Library and Community Services.

STAFF ORAL COMMENTS

Superintendent Steward mentioned that the organizational chart at Commissioners' places showed where the Parks & Golf Division fit into the Department of Public Works.

Superintendent Morton provided an update on the revisions to the Orchard Heritage Park master plan. He said an amendment to the agreement with the Sunnyvale Historical Society and Museum Association would be coming before the Commission in December.

Superintendent Morton also provided an update on the Tennis Center Request for Proposals. The current Tennis Center operating agreement expires on December 31, 2011. The new license agreement will be coming before the Commission in February or March 2012 for review and recommendation. The City will operate the Tennis Center from approximately January through April 2012 until the new operator comes on board.

Superintendent Morton said there is a plan for removing the building and soil at the future Morse Avenue Park site. When remediation is complete, the City will request bids for the construction of the park. The anticipated completion and opening of the park is summer 2014. Superintendent Morton suggested that Cathy Merrill, Project Administration, DPW, may be available give an update to the Commission in January or February 2012.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

Organizational Charts

- Department of Library and Community Services (LCS)
- Department of Public Works (DPW)

ADJOURNMENT – 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by:

Karen Smith
Recording Secretary
Community Services Division
Department of Library and Community Services

Nancy Bolgard Steward
Superintendent of Community Services
Community Services Division
Department of Library and Community Services