

**CITY OF DUBLIN
JOINT MEETING**

**PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
AND
HERITAGE AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

Minutes

April 20, 2015

The April 20, 2015 Special Joint Meeting of the Parks and Community Services Commission and Heritage and Cultural Arts Commission was called to order at 7:03 PM at the Dublin Civic Center, Dublin, California, by Parks and Community Services Commission Chair Totaro.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Parks and Community Services Commission Chair Totaro led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners (Cm.) Present: Parks and Community Services Commissioners: Ballesteros, Giannini, Thalblum, Totaro, Tran, Tucker

Heritage and Cultural Arts Commissioners: Blackburn, Deets, He, Iharosi, Minniear, Szollos, Tutino

Commissioners Absent: None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

3.1 Administration of Oath of Office to newly appointed Commissioners by City Clerk

Ms. Caroline Soto, City Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Heritage and Cultural Arts Commissioner, Mr. Frank He.

3.2 Public Comments

Mr. Bhaskar Tetali, Dublin Resident, asked Staff about the plans for the Jordan Ranch Neighborhood Park (JRNP) and the expected completion date. Mr. McCreary, Parks and Community Services Director, stated City Council directed Staff to request bids for the Emerald Glen Recreation and Aquatic Complex, Fallon Sports Park Phase II, and JRNP, in that order; JRNP would not be starting construction for at least six to nine months out if funding is available after bidding the other two projects.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES None

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS None

PUBLIC HEARING None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Mr. Paul McCreary, Director of Parks and Community Services, presented the specifics of the item as outlined in the Staff Report.

Cm. Blackburn and Cm. Minniear asked about the funding and prioritization of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP). Mr. McCreary stated the City uses financial forecasting tools, project cost estimates and analysis of the cash flow in the Public Facilities Fee Program (PFFP) to determine which projects to include in the CIP. The City also accounts for future operational costs.

Vice Chair Tutino asked if there are any plans for a future Cultural Arts Facility. Mr. McCreary stated a facility location has not been identified at this time. Staff will consider use of the public property; acquiring the needed acreage for a cultural arts facility is currently not in the budget.

Vice Chair Tutino commented on the lack of space for a Cultural Arts Facility.

Vice Chair Tutino asked about the development across from the Heritage Park and Museums and the potential acquisition of the Green Store. Mr. McCreary stated the Church of Christ owns the property and that if available for purchase, the City would consider acquisition.

Vice Chair Tutino, asked if future elementary schools would have an adjacent park. Mr. McCreary stated the City's goal is to have an adjacent park with future elementary schools; Staff is currently working with the Dublin Unified School District (DUSD) on having all Dublin school parkland available for community use when school is not in session.

Cm. Minniear commented on not including the Dublin Hills Regional Park (DHRP) in the City's park standards. Mr. McCreary stated open space is generally not considered park space in the PRMP and Staff wants to ensure space is available in the community that the City can control the planning of and amenities that are included in the parks. Cm. Minniear commented on the City claiming a park land deficit when there are unaccounted areas that meet park standards.

Chair Totaro commented on the City's inability to build additional parks in Dublin if the City counted the Dublin Hills Regional Park.

Mr. McCreary asked if the Commissions favored different standards of dedication. Cm. Minniear stated it is not a matter of standards; it is a matter of excluding land that meets the standards.

Vice Chair Tutino asked for clarification on the Developers' fees. Mr. McCreary stated there are several funds within the Public Facility Fee program. There is park land dedication and park land improvements; Developers can dedicate the land and if the development's population exceeds the requirement, the Developer can receive credits and sell to other Developers that are under-dedicating. Vice Chair Tutino asked if the development across from the Heritage Park and Museum paid fees instead of dedicating land. Mr. McCreary stated the Developer paid fees which the City would use to acquire other land.

Cm. Giannini asked if the fees paid by a developer need to be spent on land in the same area. Mr. McCreary stated the only fees that need to be used in a specific area are current neighborhood park fees in eastern Dublin, otherwise community wide fees can be used anywhere in Dublin.

Cm. Tucker asked about developer fees contributing to maintenance costs. Mr. McCreary stated the Developer Fees are to be used for capital outlay only.

Cm. Blackburn commented on the City's responsibility to pay for the ongoing maintenance of the land given by developers.

Cm. Minniear asked if the PRMP pertains to the City's land and facility goals. Mr. McCreary stated the PRMP states what type of land and facilities are desired and the details of each would still be determined. Cm. Minniear stated there is no document stating the City's needs for Heritage and Cultural Arts (HCA). Mr. McCreary stated a Heritage and Cultural Arts Assessment was conducted in 2001 and in 2008 the Parks Strategic plan included the Cultural Arts needs. Vice Chair Tutino asked about updating the Cultural Arts Assessment. Mr. McCreary stated that is not currently on the work plan and would require additional staff time. Cm. Minniear asked about the Cultural Arts Assessment Study from 2001. Mr. McCreary stated he can provide a copy to the Commissions as an informational item.

Cm. Minniear asked how Staff determines if the City should build, buy or lease a facility. Mr. McCreary stated Staff looks at the needs of the facilities when considering leasing a space verse building a facility. Cm. Minniear stated a leased facility could be an alternative for a Cultural Arts Center. Mr. McCreary stated Public Facility Fees can only be used for construction of a facility.

Cm. Minniear commented on the number of residents under the age of 18 in comparison to the projected amount of recreational facilities dedicated for youth programs. Mr. McCreary gave an example of current baseball fields being at 100% usage during peak season; and that families are attracted to the community. Additionally parks and facilities are designed to be as multi-functional as possible.

Cm. Szollos asked if there has been any discussion of a second high school in Dublin. Mr. McCreary stated Dublin High School's current Master Plan shows 2,600 students growing to 3,100 at the current site.

Chair Iharosi commented on solar and wind energy in the parks. Mr. McCreary stated the City's public facilities have future plans for solar; many parks have had their lighting replaced with LED lights and Shannon Park and the Civic Center have solar panels.

Chair Iharosi requested a map showing the locations for the current and upcoming construction projects.

Chair Iharosi asked if there are plans for a new Senior Center. Mr. McCreary stated there are no current plans for an additional Senior Center.

Chair Totaro stated conducting an updated Cultural Arts Assessment would be beneficial.

Cm. Tran commented on the Dublin High Performing Arts Center. Mr. McCreary stated DUSD owns and operates the Performing Arts Center and Staff is working on a joint use agreement with DUSD for community use. Cm. Minniear asked if the City would have to pay for the use. Mr. McCreary stated Staff is seeking a set amount of facility use at no charge. Cm. Minniear asked if the City would create a fee structure. Mr. McCreary stated the school would determine the rental fees and the amount of use.

Cm. Thalblum stated she thinks the PRMP is a great plan with a good mix of park types and lots of shared opportunities; the City should do everything possible to acquire more parks and facilities.

Giannini complimented Staff on the PRMP.

Cm. Tucker complimented Staff on the PRMP stating it showed the City's vision for Dublin well and in detail. Cm. Tucker commented on accessible and inclusive play areas for children. Mr. McCreary stated the concept was discussed for the Fallon Sports Park play area and there would be an opportunity during the Dublin Sports Grounds renovation. Cm. Tucker suggested adding more shade in the parks.

Cm. Tucker commented on the Dublin Senior Center being used for cultural arts. Cm. Tucker asked if cities over 50,000 in population qualify for federal funding. Mr. McCreary stated federal CDBG funding helps augment the City's Community Grant Program.

Vice Chair Ballesteros stated she thought the PRMP was well thought out and very thorough; she likes the new natural trail park category and its low maintenance and low cost for all ages to enjoy. Vice Chair Ballesteros agreed that an updated Cultural Arts Assessment is needed.

Vice Chair Ballesteros commented on the increased population of the 45-64 age group. Mr. McCreary stated the 2008 study showed many young couples without kids moving to Dublin.

Chair Totaro asked about Neilsen school. Mr. McCreary stated Staff specifically considers parking, black top, turf area and multipurpose rooms as joint use facilities; Neilsen is approximately five acres of joint use.

Cm. Minniear suggested adding an executive summary at the beginning of the PRMP to make it easier to read. Cm. Szollos agreed.

Cm. He stated the PRMP is a good plan and asked about the projects' time schedule. Mr. McCreary stated the projects depends on the population, cash flow and the ability to maintain and operate the facility, which is updated in each Five Year CIP; The PRMP is a long-term build out plan.

On a motion by Cm. Deets, seconded by Vice Chair Tutino and by a vote of 7-0-0, the Heritage and Cultural arts Commission unanimously voted to recommend the City Council adopt the proposed Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

On a motion by Vice Chair Ballesteros, seconded by Cm. Tucker and by a vote of 6-0-0, the Parks and Community Service Commission voted to recommend the City council adopt the proposed Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 BRIEF INFORMATION ONLY REPORTS FROM PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSIONERS AND/OR STAFF

Cm. Tran reported on the Youth Benefit Concert and she attended the Special Meeting of City Council on March 21, 2015.

Cm. Thalblum reported she attended the Senior Center Advisory Committee Meeting on April 2, 2015.

Cm. Tucker reported he attended a meeting regarding bringing a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Program to Dublin High School; plans to attend the Tri-Valley Commissioner Dinner and the Senior Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon; and visited the Dougherty Hills Dog Park.

Vice Chair Ballesteros reported she attended the Dublin Youth Sports Liaison Committee meeting.

Chair Totaro asked if there has been any feedback from the youth sports groups regarding the Fallon Sports Park Phase II delay. Mr. McCreary stated no feedback has been received. Chair Totaro asked for the expected completion date. Mr. McCreary stated the new expected completion date would be spring 2017.

Chair Totaro recommended attending the Tri-Valley Commission Dinner to the Commissioners.

Cm. He asked about the progress of Sean Diamond Park (SDP). Mr. McCreary stated City Council approved funds for the design of the SDP to being on July 1, 2015, however no funds are available for the construction of the park in the current Five Year CIP. Cm. He commented on SDP being adjacent to Amador Elementary School opening in the fall. Mr. McCreary stated the City is working with DUSD for access to the playgrounds and turf area on weekends and after school as SPD would not be built at that time.

Cm. Blackburn reported she attended the Camp Parks, Military History Center Interpretive Plan Work Group field trip.

Cm. Deets reported he attended the St. Patrick’s Day Festival, and the Green and White Gala.

Cm. Minniear reported he also attended the Camp Parks, Military History Center Interpretive Plan Work Group field trip. Cm. Minniear commented on dogs in the Heritage Center Cemetery and the installation of the Fallon Sports Park Public Art Piece. Mr. McCreary stated the sculpture would be installed in conjunction with the Fallon Sports Park Phase II construction. Cm. Minniear asked if the SPD would have a Veterans Memorial feature. Mr. McCreary stated it was last discussed to have a Veteran Memorial feature at the Heritage Park as part of the Cemetery Project.

Ms. Cronin and Mr. McCreary provided program and project updates.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kransky
Senior Office Assistant

APPROVED:

Chairperson