



# Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

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**Zoom Webinar - Pleasanton, CA  
March 11, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Deckert called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

## **Roll Call**

Commissioners Present: Bryan Bowers, Sadie Brown, Joanie Fields, Brad Hottle, Deborah Wahl, and Chairperson Check Deckert.

Commissioners Absent: Mary Hekl.

Staff Present: Heidi Murphy, Library & Recreation Director; Megan Campbell, Planner; Giacomina Damonte, Parks Superintendent; Terry Snyder, Office Manager; and Edith Caponigro, Recording Secretary.

## **AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

None.

## **MINUTES**

### **1. Approve regular meeting minutes of February 11, 2021**

A motion was made by Commissioner Fields, seconded by Commissioner Wahl, to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2021 meeting. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

## **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

### **2. Introductions/Awards/Recognitions/Present**

None.

**3. Public Comment from the audience regarding it members of the community items not listed on the agenda**

None.

**4. Recommend City Council Approve the Permanent Painting of Court Ten at Tennis and Community Park for Pickleball**

Ms. Murphy advised that the popularity of pickleball is growing in the community and several requests to provide designated pickleball courts in the city have been received. She commented on the City's contract with Lifetime to operate and maintain the Tennis and Community Park facility and the conversations that have taken place between Lifetime and city staff pertaining to creating two dedicated pickleball courts at this park.

Commissioners were informed about temporary taping Lifetime placed on a tennis court to provide two pickleball courts. 171 individuals took pickleball lessons. This request is to approve painting of court ten at the Tennis and Community Park to provide two permanent pickleball courts.

Chairperson Deckert questioned whether any polling had been done of tennis players who use this Park and if so, had any issues been raised. Ms. Murphy advised that no issues or concerns had been raised during the time the court has been taped and used for pickleball. Mr. Gill from Lifetime noted that no problems had occurred during the time that taping of the court for pickleball has been used and that many tennis players have expressed interest in the game.

Commissioners Fields and Wahl agreed that this was a great way of being able to provide another sport option for people.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fields, seconded by Commissioner Wahl, recommending City Council approve the permanent painting of court ten at the Tennis and Community Park for two Pickleball courts.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

AYES: Commissioners Bowers, Brown, Fields, Hottle, Wahl, and Chairperson Deckert.

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**5. Recommend City Council approve the Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with Lifetime Activities providing a subsidy in the amount of \$19,320 to Lifetime Activities for Operations of Pleasanton Bocce Ball Programs from April 6, 2021 through March 31, 2022**

Ms. Murphy informed commissioners that the new bocce ball courts at Centennial Park opened for public use on February 1, 2021 with community members able to play using their own equipment, but no staff-led bocce leagues have resumed because of reduced staffing

levels and budget impacts from COVID-19. She advised that partnering with Lifetime Activities on a one-year pilot basis would allow for more use and access to the space at a lower cost. Ms. Murphy noted that bocce is a sport that appeals to all age groups.

Commissioner Wahl felt this was a great recommendation especially since the Livermore bocce courts were now closed. Chairperson Deckert agreed and thought the bocce groups would also like the recommendation.

Commissioner Fields asked about payment of the \$19,320 to be made to Lifetime and what these funds would be used for. Ms. Murphy advised that the courts would still be maintained by city staff and Lifetime would take over all the scheduling of play, collecting of fees, etc.

Lifetime representative Mr. Khadem commented on maintaining and working with the leagues that are already popular with the city and wanting to expand programs and availability for people to play bocce on the courts.

Commissioner Fields discussed the increased interest in bocce and liked the idea of Lifetime offering more new services. Mr. Gill commented on 1) the demand for a weekend activities being something that Lifetime would be able to expedite quickly, 2) the staff time and administration they would provide, 3) the increased volume of activity, and 4) extra classes they will make available.

Mr. Khadem provided Commissioner Fields details about the number of people in a bocce league and the fees they pay. Commissioner Fields indicated that she thought the Agreement with Lifetime was good and would provide gaps to be filled and allow more people able to play. Commissioners Bowers, Wahl and Hottle also agreed it was a good Agreement and Chairperson Deckert felt it was a win-win for everyone.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wahl, seconded by Commissioner Bowers, recommending City Council approve the Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with Lifetime Activities providing them a subsidy in the amount of \$19,320 for operations of Pleasanton Bocce Ball programs from April 6, 2021 through March 31, 2022.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

AYES: Commissioners Bowers, Brown, Fields, Hottle, Wahl, and Chairperson Deckert.

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**6. Review the Draft Strategies and Actions for the Climate Plan Update (CAP 2.0)**

Ms. Murphy introduced City Planner Megan Campbell and Management Analyst Zach Reda advising they would be reviewing with the commission the Draft Strategies and Actions for the Climate Plan Update.

Ms. Campbell advised that she would be reviewing with the commission the Climate Plan Update that is being referred to a CAP 2.0. and would briefly be reviewing the process to

date and then touching on some key actions that are relevant to the commission and ways they can get involved in coming months.

Commissioners reviewed with Ms. Campbell a PowerPoint presentation that covered:

- Process Overview
- Existing Conditions
- Regulatory Context
- 2017 Inventory Summary
- CAP 1.0 Target
- Emissions Forecast
- CAP 2.0 Policy Focus, Framework, Guiding Principles and Action Selection Criteria
- Action Development
- Multi-Criteria Analysis
- CAP 2.0 Focus Areas
- Strategies and Action
- Natural Systems
- Key Draft Actions – Summary
- Next Steps

Ms. Campbell advised that the Climate Plan Update began in early 2020 but was delayed because of the pandemic, staff is now doing a big outreach to commissions, committees and other stakeholders for input. She noted that the City of Dublin recently adopted their CAP and Livermore is working on their process all with targets set for aligning the Tri-Valley region. Commissioners were advised that the plan is to not only reduce Pleasanton greenhouse gas emission but to also improve quality of life and public health in the area.

Ms. Campbell advised that the plan is to prioritize high priority actions with a recommendation to remove low priority actions from consideration. At the current time, staff is looking for recommendations on which actions should be moved to quantitative analysis so a cost benefit analysis can be conducted to assist City Council in determining what actions to include on the final list with the actions being split into different sector areas.

Commissioners were provided details about a community workshop planned for March 25 at 5:30 p.m. Ms. Campbell encouraged commissioners to participate and share information about the workshop with members of the community.

Mr. Reda indicated he was available to take notes and answer any questions that commissioners may have.

Commissioner Wahl had a question about moving from natural gas to electricity and what the city's resiliency for doing that might be. She expressed concern for power grids becoming easily overpowered and whether any thought had been given to this.

Ms. Campbell commented on electrification being encouraged in a couple of different sectors, i.e., building and transportation, with a big push being made to move away from fossil fuel. She noted that the grid has limited power and it is going to require the city

working with PG&E and other providers to establish details about the power available and what would be needed to procure and manage a grid increase. Mr. Reda commented on solar panel battery capacities.

Commissioners Fields and Wahl discussed the use of induction cooktops, etc. noting that many people are opposed to such.

Commissioner Fields commented on water flow through the Arroyo that was cut-off several months ago and the affect this has had on the wildlife environment. Also, on recycling changes that have been made.

Mr. Reda noted that the recycling Buyback Center has been closed, however Pleasanton Garbage Services is still receiving recyclables if they are put in blue bin containers. He further commented on State Law SP1383 which is part of the waste emission sector that will be enforceable in 2022 and will require 75% of organic waste diverted away from the landfill.

Mr. Reda and Ms. Campbell advised Commissioner Fields that they did not know specifics relating to the Arroyo water being turned off but would make inquiries to determine if any action was required. Chairperson Deckert and Commissioner Fields commented on Zone 7 having some responsibility for the water flow.

Commissioner Fields felt it was important to try and resolve the water flow issue in the Arroyo because school biology classes were not being able to learn about the environment. She felt it was important to teach the younger generation about being “shepherds of their environment”.

Chairperson Deckert suggested moving action CR1143 Community Gardens as a higher priority action since it is one component of the draft actions that the community can be a part of. Commissioner Wahl agreed.

Commissioner Fields suggested NS1204 Community Conservation Programs also be elevated and could include the Alviso Adobe. She asked Mr. Damonte about the recycled water being used in park and extending to other areas. He advised there are no plans at this time to extend the use of recycled water to other parks,

Commissioner Hottle indicated that he thought the priority list presented was good and thought staff had done a great job putting it together.

Chairperson Deckert questioned whether Parks Maintenance staff had been consulted on the Draft Plan especially regarding the use of pesticides and herbicides, etc. Ms. Campbell advised that the Plan has just been sent out to everyone and they are hoping to receive feedback so they can make necessary adjustments. Mr. Damonte advised Parks and Maintenance was reviewing the list and noted that green waste is already staying local and other things on the list are already being done, He was concerned about the term “toxic” and noted no toxic products are being used and Pleasanton may need to consider using electric equipment in the future.

Chairperson Deckert commented on the commission feeling strongly about some items and having them moved up. Ms. Campbell advised she had made a note of the request to move up CR1143 and NS1204.

Ms. Murphy discussed programs at the Alviso Adobe.

Ms. Campbell thanked commissioners for their input and indicated she would provide Ms. Murphy the link needed for them to attend the workshop and asked that they share it with other members of the community.

**7. Approve Seventh Amendment to Contract with Monte Vista Memorial Investment Group for Grounds Maintenance and Burials at the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery.**

Chairperson Deckert discussed the possibility of having a conflict on this item and Ms. Murphy indicated she did not believe so because he would just be making a recommendation on the item to City Council.

Ms. Murphy discussed the contract that the City of Pleasanton has with the Monte Vista Memorial Investment Group for providing grounds maintenance and grave digging for burials at the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery. She commented on the completion of Phase 4 which included a commemoration area, pathways, hanging plants, landscaping and irrigation.

Commissioners were advised by Ms. Murphy that the amendment to the contract being reviewed will allow Monte Vista to be reimbursed for the additional expenses they will incur when they take over maintenance of the completed area for the remainder of the calendar year on their current contract.

Chairperson Deckert discussed with Ms. Murphy about this being the final amendment possible on the Monte Vista contract.

Commissioner Fields commented on her recent visit to the cemetery and how great the west side looks, but felt parking was a big issue. She also suggested commissioners consider buying their own plots now because burial fees are increasing.

Commissioner Fields confirmed with Ms. Murphy that the contract amendment would only be effective through December 2021. Ms. Murphy confirmed this and indicated that since the 5-year contract will end at that time and another RFQ will need to be conducted. She noted that the contract increase at this time was needed to offset fees charged by vendors and other maintenance expenses. Ms. Murphy provided details of all the services that Monte Vista provides as outlined in their current contract with the City and how this Seventh Amendment covers costs they will incur for the additional services they will now be providing that were not a part of the original contract.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Wahl, recommending City Council approve the Seventh Amendment to the Monte Vista Memorial

Investment Group contract for grounds maintenance and burials at the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

AYES: Commissioners Bowers, Brown, Fields, Hottle, Wahl, and Chairperson Deckert.  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**8. Recommend City Council Adopt a Resolution Amending the Master Fee Schedule for the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery**

Ms. Murphy informed commissioners that costs of burial services and grounds maintenance at the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery have been increasing because of added improvements in the Phase IV construction project, with the proposed Master Fee Schedule update being recommended to reflect these increases and a motion for the new fee schedule to be effective.

Chairperson Deckert felt this was an easy recommendation for the commission to consider. Commissioner Brown discussed her ability to now vote on motions and questioned if she was now also able to make motions. Chairperson Deckert confirmed for her that she could make motions.

Commissioner Brown made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Fields, recommending City Council adopt a resolution amending the Master Fee Schedule for the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

AYES: Commissioners Bowers, Brown, Fields, Hottle, Wahl, and Chairperson Deckert.  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

**9. Review and Comment on the Library and Recreation COVID Response Report for July-December 2020**

Ms. Murphy reviewed with commissioners a PowerPoint presentation on the Library and Recreation COVID Response Report for July-December 2020 commenting on services provided that included Virtual and In-House Programs, Library and Essential Services, Civic Arts, Aquatic programs, Paratransit, Senior Lunches, Contract Classes, Alviso Adobe, After School Outdoor Camps, and friendly phone calls to seniors made by staff members.

Chairperson Deckert commented on the Pleasanton Rides and Spectrum programs working well during COVID as well as the lunch program provided by Open Heart Kitchen.

Commissioner Fields discussed with Ms. Murphy adjustments staff had needed to make to programs because of the pandemic and questioned if this COVID Response Report was

going to be provided to the community. Ms. Murphy indicated that the report was going to be included online. The Summer Activities Guide will be online and a postcard is going to be sent out to the community informing them about this. She also commented on the number of seniors that are now picking up lunches at the senior center and food deliveries being made to senior housing complexes.

Ms. Murphy provided details about the new work area at the library for the recreation staff and how well it is working out having both the recreation and library staff working together discussing programs, etc. She provided Commissioner Fields information about the new work area, noting that items previously stored in an area of the library are now stored in a container stored outside the library.

Commissioner Fields questioned when people would be able to once again donate books to the library and Ms. Murphy stated that she thought the soonest this would be able to take place would be January 2022 because of the inability to have library volunteers in the library with the COVID occupancy limitations.

Commissioner Fields felt the City and staff was moving forward in a good way and hoped it would not be too long before seniors would be allowed back in the Senior Center.

Chairperson Deckert indicated he had made a post recently on his social media page pertaining to a library program and had indicated he did not think the library would be opening to full capacity soon. Ms. Murphy advised that programs were also limited because of reduced staffing capacities.

## **COMMISSION REPORTS**

### **10. Committee Meetings**

- A. Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee - None
- B. Community of Character - None
- C. City/East Bay Regional Park District Liaison Committee - None
- D. Heritage Tree Review Board - None
- E. Public Art Selection Sub-Committee - None
- F. Sports Council - None

### **11. Other brief reports on any meetings, conferences, and/or seminars attended by the Commission members.**

None.

## **MATTERS INITIATED BY THE COMMISSION**

Commissioner Fields commented on a recent article in the Independent newspaper on the Dublin All-Abilities Playground and suggested commissioners go as a group to look at this facility to see what they can learn from this for the All-Abilities Park planned for Pleasanton. She felt it would be beneficial to look at this park and make notes on its pros and cons.



Ms. Murphy commented on the Pleasanton All Abilities playground process getting underway, including stakeholder groups, of which the commission will be one. She noted for all the commissioners to visit the Dublin park together it would first need to be agendaized for discussion because of required meeting rules and regulations.

Chairperson Deckert indicated he planned to visit the Dublin park on his own and would be taking some photos.

Commissioner Fields commented on the \$5M cost for the Dublin All Abilities Park and a \$1.4M grant they received from the State. She stated that she felt commissioners should be pro-active and go visit this park, so they have information for when it becomes an agenda item for the commission to discuss.

Chairperson Deckert felt it would be best if commissioners visit the Dublin park on their own time so they will have information to discuss when the item comes back to them on an agenda.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Deckert at 8:35 p.m.