



Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

Zoom Webinar – Pleasanton, CA August 12, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Deckert.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Sadie Brown, Joanie Fields, Mary Hekl, Ramesh Immadi, Michael Vickers, and Chairperson Chuck Deckert.

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Steve Berberich

Staff Present: Heidi Murphy, Library & Recreation Director; Michele Crose, Assistant Library & Recreation Director; Giacomo Damonte, Parks Superintendent; Terry Snyder, Office Manager; and Edith Caponigro, Recording Secretary.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

None.

MINUTES

1. Approve regular meeting minutes of July 8, 2021.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fields, seconded by Commissioner Vickers, to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 8, 2021. **The motion was approved unanimously.** Chairperson Deckert abstained.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

2. Introductions/Awards/Recognitions/Presentations

None.

3. Public Comment from the audience regarding items not listed on the agenda.

None.

MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMISSION

4. Review the Ken Mercer Skatepark Conceptual Design Presentation and Provide Feedback

Ms. Crose provided commissioners background information on the need for an additional skatepark of at least 1/2-acre in size as was identified in the 2014 Parks and Recreation Master Plan together with a projection that an additional 1-acre skatepark being needed to meet community needs when the City's population reached 78,000 individuals. Additionally, Ms. Crose noted that at the February 14, 2019 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting a new skatepark was identified by the commission as being their number two priority for the City Council Two-Year Work Plan Prioritization Process and the City Council adopted the skatepark as a priority with \$400,000 in funding allocated for design services.

Commissioners were advised by Ms. Crose that the services of the RRM Design Group were secured by the City in March 2021 through an RFQ process. Community outreach processes are underway and have included three stakeholder meetings, a virtual community outreach meeting and a community-wide survey.

Ms. Chavez with RRM Design Group provided commissioners information about stakeholder meetings held and information collected which included skaters indicating they were looking for a hybrid of styles for the skate park. It was also noted that more than half of the meeting participants would like to retain the existing skate park, and the majority were in favor of some form of lighting, shade, parking, and other amenities such as drinking fountains, benches, restrooms, bike racks, etc.

Ms. Chavez reviewed with commissioners two conceptual designs for the Skatepark at the Ken Mercer Sports Park and commented on the similarity of both designs because their goal is to retain as many existing trees as possible. She commented on parking options that included parking stalls and drop-off areas, skatepark areas, picnic and hangout locations, shade structures, and removal and addition of trees.

Commissioners were also provided details about existing city-owned parking near the shopping center and the location of existing sport fields to the skatepark. Ms. Chavez advised that communications have been held with businesses in the shopping center and no issues have been raised about spaces being used by skatepark attendees. She also provided detailed information about use of the sport fields.

Ms. Crose informed the commission that much work has been done with skatepark users to determine their input for this new skatepark and staff is looking to collect additional information by participating at a BMX event to be held August 21st on Main Street, before providing a presentation of the conceptual designs to City Council at an upcoming meeting. She noted that details for this project will continue to be shared on the city's website so people can provide input.

Commissioners were advised by Ms. Crose that staff is looking for the commission to provide their comments and feedback on the two conceptual designs and make their preference recommendation.

Chairperson Deckert asked staff if the City of Pleasanton would be asking skaters to complete liability forms after more advanced structures are installed at the skatepark. Ms. Murphy indicated that she felt this was a question that would be better answered by the City Attorney. Chairperson Deckert agreed and felt much would depend on the kinds of structures that are built.

With reference to design Option 1, Chairperson Deckert asked about the number of trees that may need to be removed and whether trees could be saved if parking wasn't expanded. Ms. Crose apologized for the lack of information provided to commissioners in time for the meeting and advised that arborists reports will be sent out after the meeting. Ms. Chavez noted that several trees had been rated low suitability for various reasons and some Redwood trees had died back and Liquid Ambers were identified because of poor branching structure. In all, she felt that about ten trees were rated low suitability and would need to be removed and noted that some new trees were being proposed in some areas.

Commissioner Hekl indicated she liked the design plans and proposed features. With regard to parking space for dropping off people, she was concerned about areas becoming clogged and stated that in Concept #1 she would like to see a full loop to keep traffic moving. She commented on how difficult it is to really assess things when only seeing them on paper and wondered if it was possible to have something that would simulate traffic for the area. Ms. Chavez noted that parking is always a challenge and that RRM has been working closely with the city's traffic engineer and will continue working with him.

Commissioner Hekl questioned if businesses in the shopping center had any issues with people using their parking area that is close to the skatepark. Ms. Crose advised that RRM and staff have been working with tenants of the shopping center through the process and have been told they are happy to share the parking lot, also in further research staff has discovered that the parking lot is owned by the city.

Commissioner Immadi had discussed with Ms. Chavez aspects of the survey conducted and concepts of the design including hybrid and transitions. Ms. Chavez advised that RRM is working with skateboarders on design concepts and elements and more information on this will be provided at the next workshop. Commissioner Immadi questioned if design follows what 78% of survey respondents had requested and could different levels be incorporated. Mr. Wormhoudt advised that most survey participants are requesting hybrid and street style elements and they hope to use elements that will apply to both. He noted that as the project moves forward RRM will keep in mind what advanced skaters are requesting while also addressing the needs of the less experienced skaters.

Commissioner Immadi asked if any consideration was being given with design concept to the possibility of holding competitive events at this skatepark. Ms. Crose noted that during the survey process the question was asked if people would like to see tournaments held at this skatepark and positive feedback was received.

Commissioner Immadi then asked about the size of the current skatepark and the number of users and what the numbers will be with the two concepts. Ms. Crose advised that the city does not have any statistics on current users because this is a “drop-in” park. She noted that the 2014 Master Plan showed that the sport had grown in popularity and more people were using the park which is why the Plan indicated a larger park would be needed to meet the need.

Commissioner Immadi commented on the need for including restrooms. Ms. Murphy advised that existing restrooms near the softball complex are being identified for this project. Commissioner Immadi felt strong consideration should be given to adding more restrooms and based his recommendation on what he had viewed at the skatepark in Dublin. He suggested looking at skateparks in other areas.

Commissioner Vickers noted that the issue about restrooms was presented by skaters during the last workshop and it was noted that adding restrooms would add a very large expense. Commissioner Immadi suggested this be considered.

Commissioner Immadi discussed parking and the possibility of adding additional parking spaces. He indicated he was trying to understand the rationale of adding more parking and taking away some greenery in the park. Ms. Crose commented on the fact there was times when parking at the Ken Mercer Sports Park was insufficient, and parking near the skatepark is used heavily by both softball and skatepark users. She discussed peak times when parking will be difficult, especially when this new park opens.

Commissioner Immadi further commented on the designs proposed drop-off locations and his preference for what is proposed in Option 1. He then asked about the inclusion of bike racks. Ms. Crose advised that bike racks were something that was heard in the survey and Ms. Chavez noted that bike racks were included in the design options. She also advised that other recommendations included: 1) park Wi-Fi 2) spectator areas, 3) social gathering areas, and 4) picnic/BBQ areas. Ms. Crose also provided Commissioner Immadi information about seating areas and picnic benches.

Commissioner Immadi suggested water fountains also be provided in the skatepark area.

Commissioner Brown commented on the picnic areas in the two options and asked about what appears to be a lack of shade structures. Ms. Chavez noted that Option 2 does show a shade structure which is a fabric sail and other picnic areas do not need a shade structure because there are plenty of trees in the area.

Commissioner Brown indicated that her preference would be for the Option 2 design and the ability of it to benefit both beginner and advanced skaters.

Commissioner Fields indicated she had recently walked the skatepark site and was pleasantly surprised to see skaters out there. She indicated she had noted that some new Liquid Amber trees that had recently been planted and thought perhaps they could be easily removed. Commissioner Fields agreed with Commissioner Hekl's comments regarding parking and traffic concerns that could be problematic. She further discussed with Ms. Chavez the proposed lighting for areas of the skatepark. Ms. Chavez noted that lighting would be focused on the edge of the skatepark to allow safe night skating. Commissioner Fields questioned the possibility of having dual-type lighting with one side focused on the skatepark and the other side focused on the softball field.

Commissioner Fields commented on the bus shelter concept in Option 1, the pedestrian pathway in the parking lot, and the removal of trees. She liked the design concepts and the thought that had been put into the designs.

Chairperson Deckert opened the meeting for public comment at 7:55 p.m.

Bryce Petersen – indicated he was in favor of the Option 2 concept, the shade structures, extra parking, and lighting that will allow people to skate late or after work. He also noted that lighting would not be intrusive to homes in the area.

Tadashi Yamaoda – was also in favor of Option 2. He stated he wanted to show his support of the skatepark and is looking forward to seeing the project move forward and felt having lighting for night-time skating may help alleviate parking problems and make for having a safer park.

Kevin Reynolds – discussed the number of times he's canceled going to the skatepark because there would be no lighting and was pleased to know lighting was being proposed. He stated he was a hundred percent supportive of the skatepark project and excited there will be a good skatepark in Pleasanton to go to. Mr. Reynolds stated that either design worked for him and that it is the park elements that are important to him.

Sam Isola – echoed previous comments and felt it would be a huge oversight not to include lights for this skatepark since it will be a park used by skaters of all levels. Mr. Isola stated he would be in favor of naming the park after David Lambert because he did such awesome work to get this project moving.

Joseph – stated he loved the design concepts and having a skatepark that will be usable for all skill levels. He felt lights will make the park safer and he is happy to see this project moving on.

Frances Usedom – indicated she was joining the meeting with her husband Randall and stated they both walk their dogs almost every evening at the park and lights are a huge bonus for making safe walking in the evening. She stated they were excited to see new lighting proposed and having this park named for David Lambert.

Andrew Lambert – thanked the commission for listening to all the public comments and stated he wanted to emphasize how important the skate park is for countless Pleasanton children. He noted their voices may be small, but their support is outstanding. On behalf of other supporters, he stated that they wanted the commission to know they are excited for this park and don't want there to be any delays and felt the City of Pleasanton has an opportunity to put in place a skate park that will be fitting for the Pleasanton skating community.

Mr. Lambert noted that David Lambert, a former member of the Parks and Recreation Commission and his father, understood the need for an incredible new skatepark for Pleasanton and had worked with the commission on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Mr. Lambert emphasized the importance of including lights at the skatepark and noted that the Pleasanton Police Department has already endorsed this from a crime safety standpoint. He also noted that having a lighted skatepark will allow late evening skating for people who have returned from work, as well as the fact that the skatepark is near Hopyard Road and restaurants in the shopping center.

As noted in the Master Plan, Mr. Lambert cited that skateboarding is the fastest growing sport in the country among youth and a new skatepark in Pleasanton could be the place where the next Olympic gold medal skateboarder is created. He asked that this park be designed so skateboarding youth do not need to go to other areas to skate. Mr. Lambert urged the commission to advise City Council to choose the best design concept for Pleasanton that includes lights and name the park after the person who was behind the plan from the beginning.

Chairperson Deckert closed the meeting for public comments at 8:08 p.m.

Chairperson Deckert questioned Ms. Crose on whether she would like to receive a motion from the commission or was looking more for the individual comments of each commissioner. Ms. Crose advised that a unified motion was not required and staff and RRM had been looking for feedback from commissioners.

Commissioners Fields stated she had been lucky enough to work with David Lambert when he was a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission so having his son present at the meeting was special. In reviewing the Options, she felt the design should incorporate the parking from Option 1 and the walkway closest to the bus shelter and with those changes she preferred Option 2.

Ms. Murphy noted that staff was also looking for outreach/marketing recommendations from commissioners.

Commissioner Fields suggested asking the School District to assist with marketing by including information in announcements and emails sent to parents, etc.

Commissioner Brown stated that Option 2 was her design preference and was in favor of including lights. On the topic of marketing, she suggested doing some marketing of users at other skateparks, for example Val Vista.

Commissioners Vickers felt reaching out to Val Vista skatepark users would be helpful as well as also marketing to private schools. He preferred Option 2 and felt the topic of lights will be interesting conversations at future meetings.

Commissioner Immadi commented on lighting and comments made by the Police Department. Ms. Crose advised that discussion with the Police Department pertaining to lighting had been general and a great level of detail had not been discussed. She noted that in general lights in the park are helpful to the police.

Commissioner Immadi indicated his recommendations include drinking water fountains, and parking drop-off concept in Option 1. He suggested putting a drive-thru where kids can be dropped off.

Commissioner Hekl felt lights were a key factor for the skatepark, was in favor of parking that has been tested in other places to make sure traffic moves around and felt shade structures were important.

Chairperson Deckert stated he was in favor of Option 2 for several reasons, one being that skaters will prefer the larger size as opposed to one that is 4,000 feet less. He also liked the idea of a flowing walkway being incorporated around the entire skatepark, was unsure about drop-off concerns and what this might entail, liked the suggestion for including drinking fountains, and hoped the commission would be able to provide input on the possible removal of trees. Chairperson Deckert indicated that he was in favor of Option 2 with his suggested recommendations.

Chairperson Deckert thanked everybody for participating in this item and providing comments, especially the members of the public.

5. Review the All-Abilities Playground Conceptual Designs Presentation and Provide Feedback

Ms. Crose advised that staff and RRM would be reviewing with the commission two conceptual design presentations for the All-Abilities Playground at the Ken Mercer Sports Park and would then be asking the commission to provide comments regarding the conceptual designs as well as outreach/marketing suggestions.

Commissioners were informed by Ms. Crose that the All-Abilities playground will be placed on the opposite side of the softball field to that of the skatepark. A total of six stakeholder meetings were held between April and May, including one each with Sunflower Hill, Rotary North, PUSD Special Needs Committee, Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, and Pleasanton Friends of the Senior Center. Additionally, a public workshop meeting was held via Zoom and a community survey was conducted between April and May.

Ms. Crose advised that the community outreach process was the city's way of providing information about the project and steps being taken now are to move the project into the design alternatives process. Ms. Chavez noted that lots of people were heard from during the stakeholder group meetings, public workshop, and community wide survey and it was noted that many people showed favorite play features being swings, slides, and climber tree houses. She added that water play was also noted as being a favorite play feature, but with the drought, the design has been shifted to sensory items. Favorite non-play items were noted as being a walking loop, picnic/party areas, shade, and intergenerational game items.

Ms. Chavez reviewed with commissioners the existing playground area and the areas that are the proposed design areas for the All-Abilities playground within the two proposed design concepts. She noted that some amenities in the designs were common to both Options and that all items could be interchangeable between designs.

Commissioners were advised that the options provide variety of sensory experiences and activities were being offered that will challenge people and are meant to be opportunities where people can come together socially, as well as providing some quieter spaces.

Ms. Chavez outlined the drop-off areas and parking in both designs and advised that the current restroom in the area would be upgraded so it would be accessible for everyone. Commissioners were advised that important features in both designs include: the walking loop, entry plaza and gateway that draws people into the play space. Ms. Chavez noted that donor walls wrapping the Plaza may be included, as well as chalk art opportunities for children, a zip line, wheelchair accessibility, a fragrance garden, swing areas, spinner and bouncer opportunities, and seating and picnic areas.

At length, Ms. Chavez reviewed and provided information to commissioners about the custom design options and the different elements being proposed. She asked commissioners to consider both options and provide recommendations for the different elements, amenities, parking, picnic areas, etc. that they would like to be included in the design for this All-Abilities Playground.

Ms. Crose noted that as with the designs for the skatepark, staff would be taking the recommendation for this All-Abilities Playground to the City Council for their review at an upcoming meeting. Designs will also be shared with community members at the Farmers Market on September 18th, the Human Services Commission at their September meeting, and a public workshop in the Ken Mercer Sports Park in late September or early October if possible. Commissioners were advised by Ms. Crose that staff hopes to bring this project back to them for a final recommendation at the end of this year.

Commissioners were asked by Ms. Crose to consider the two options and provide their design recommendations and any other marketing ideas they may have.

Commissioner Hekl asked about quantitative information on places for people to eat, rest areas, number of swings, etc. Ms. Chavez advised that RRM has tried to provide a balance for all the different types of amenities in both options. She felt it would be helpful if the commission could provide comments on items they would like to have included, number of picnic areas, swings, etc. so RRM can then try incorporating everything into a final design.

Commissioner Immadi had questions about the picnic areas and shade structures. Ms. Chavez explained that it was not possible to indicate all shade trees on the designs and pointed out for Commissioner Immadi picnic tables that will be underneath existing shade trees.

Ms. Chavez reviewed with Commissioner Immadi the parking lot area and the entrance to the playground and the location of the existing playground. She noted that the skatepark would be to the far right of the All-Abilities Playground. Commissioner Immadi commented on the number of people using this playground and the skatepark and thought additional parking spaces should be considered. Ms. Crose advised that the skatepark designs reviewed by commissioners in the previous agenda item showed seven additional parking spaces and adding additional accessible parking spaces would require removing at least two spaces in this parking area.

Commissioner Immadi felt strongly that additional accessible parking spaces should be considered. Ms. Chavez noted that other all-abilities playgrounds that RRM visited have anywhere from five to nine handicap accessible parking spaces. Ms. Crose informed Commissioner Immadi that the purpose of this meeting was to hear from commissioners on items they believe are important to be included in the overall design for this all-abilities playground. Commissioner Immadi asked that a question pertaining to his parking concern be included in the survey staff is planning to send out.

Commissioner Immadi suggested a water element also be included in the park design. Ms. Crose advised that the difficulty in adding such an element is because of the drought conditions in California.

Commissioner Vickers asked about the proposed game tables and whether they would be standard sized tables. Ms. Chavez advised the design proposal is for durable concrete tables, but other durable type tables could be considered if that is a recommendation from the commission.

Commissioner Fields commented on barbecue areas already in the park. She felt the undulating land proposed for the all-abilities park lends itself to either of the design concepts. She suggested commissioners visit the area to get a clear idea of what is being proposed in the designs.

Commissioners Fields discussed with Ms. Crose the netting that is place for the softball fields and asked why there was no netting on the soccer field side. She felt something should be considered for this other side. Ms. Crose advised this is something staff has discussed, especially the likelihood that balls could reach the all-abilities playground but believe it will be difficult for balls to reach the playground because of the ground slope. Commissioner Fields felt it was important that fencing be given strong consideration. She again encouraged members of the commission to visit the site. Commissioners Vickers and Hekl indicated they know the site well since they visit the park often.

Mr. Damonte noted that the softball field on the opposite side of the playground was quite a small field and the softball team that plays on it is a young girls' team, also when he was there for a recent tournament this field was not being used because of its size.

Chairperson Deckert was advised by Ms. Chavez about the planned removal of some trees that have low suitability for preservation. She noted there are 194 trees in the playground and each design option is looking at the removal of between 14 and 16 trees.

Ms. Crose provided information about tree assessment reports for both this project and the skatepark project and apologized that the commissioners had not received them in time for this meeting. She advised that the reports would be resent to commissioners.

With no speakers from the public on this item Chairperson Deckert asked commissioners for their comments.

Commissioner Fields indicated she had noticed some Eucalyptus trees in the park area that looked a little suspect. She stated that she liked: 1) the donor wall concept in Option 1 and felt it could easily be incorporated into Option 2; 2) the idea of an event stage would provide the ability to provide youth programs during the summer; 3) having fitness areas with equipment; and 4) the walking area. Commissioner Fields advised that her choice was for Option 2 with her suggested changes. She commented on parking and agreed more spaces would be good, but she was unsure how that could be achieved.

Commissioner Vickers stated that his preference was for Option 1 but that he had an issue and concerns with the proposed bird feature. He expressed concerns with the durability and longevity of structures proposed in Option 2 and felt they may need to be replaced sooner than those in Option 1. Commissioner Vickers agreed with the comments made by others that there should be several drinking fountains included in the design and plenty of seating for seniors. He noted that he has heard from several neighbors that the existing picnic area be maintained. Commissioner Vickers indicated that his preference would be for twelve ADA parking spaces which would help send a strong message to people in the community that need assistance.

Commissioner Immadi agreed with previous comments about adding more ADA parking and stated he was comfortable with both design concepts.

Commissioner Hekl indicated that she too liked both design concepts and would be pleased with a mix of both. She liked the overall look and feel of Option 1 stating the plentiful colors made it feel magical, agreed with Commissioner Vickers comments on the Bird element, would like the musical element maintained in whichever Option is chosen, and thought existing picnic area should remain. Commissioner Hekl felt the overall look of Option 2 was too sedate but did like the large swing area shown in its design and her choice would be for Option 1 because it has more elements she preferred.

Chairperson Deckert stated that after being able to look at the Dublin All-Abilities Playground he felt Pleasanton has an opportunity to improve and put in place a better all-abilities playground. He indicated that before the meeting he thought he preferred Option 2, but after listening to the presentation from Ms. Chavez he was excited about some of the sensory elements Option 1 contains. He commented on the Bird element and whether it could be some other animal element that would give the park an important iconic look, agreed that some elements could be used in either option, and liked the idea of having a whimsical look to the playground.

Chairperson Deckert discussed the importance of being able to mix and match elements from each of the design options and providing the community with a sizable and enjoyable project that they will appreciate.

Ms. Crose asked for comments from the commission regarding marketing and publicizing this project. Chairperson Deckert suggesting doing something at grocery stores since they seem to be visited by a vast majority of the community, also presentations at school lunch periods.

Ms. Crose informed commissioners that Terry Snyder has resent the arborist reports to everyone.

6. Review the Civic Park Landscape Renovation Plan and Provide a Recommendation for Replacement Trees

Mr. Damonte discussed the proposed landscape renovations at Civic Park that will be completed during the next phase of the Downtown Transportation Corridor Improvements. He noted that during these improvements four large trees and two medium trees are to be replaced due to the Elm Leaf Beetle and Dutch Elm Disease. The removal of the trees provides the city an opportunity to make some improvements to the park which include replacing the trees, adding a new picnic table, relocating the Civic Park sign, and including some groundcover and flowering shrubs.

Mr. Damonte reviewed with commissioners a PowerPoint presentation showing the diseased trees to be removed, the locations for the proposed new trees and shrub replacements, as well as design improvements for the park. He noted that the park irrigation system will also be upgraded to correct some of the inefficiencies. Mr. Damonte discussed with the commission several tree choices being recommended for replacement trees (Red Oak, Frontier Elm, and Urban Pinnacle) and asked commissioners to provide their choice preferences.

Chairperson Deckert indicated his choice preference was for the Red Oak and Frontier Elm. He also commented on the narrowness of the Urban Pinnacle tree.

Commissioner Vickers noted that in the past several weeks he has been able to visit several parks and is proud of the work that is done by city staff. He indicated his choice of trees was for the Red Oak and Frontier Elm.

Commissioner Fields stated that she loves the Red Oak tree choice to replace the trees being removed but felt the Urban Pinnacle tree would blend itself more with the linear look of the art pieces. She was also pleased with the ground cover and shrubbery recommendations but wondered if something could be done to help stop plantings from being trod down by people cutting through to cross the street near Vic's restaurant. Commissioner Fields agreed with Commissioner Vickers comment on how well Pleasanton parks are maintained.

Mr. Damonte confirmed that commissioners were recommending the Red Oak tree to replace the two large trees being removed and a majority was in favor of the Frontier Elm. He noted that removal of the diseased Dutch Elm trees will take place as soon as possible in order to limit spreading of the disease.

7. Review and Comment on the Library and Recreation Department Quarterly Report for April – June 2021

Ms. Murphy reviewed with commissioners the Library and Recreation Department Quarterly Report for April-June 2021. She commented on how well staff adapted and responded to new COVID-19 restrictions as they were put in place and noted that this report was a blend of both virtual and in-person programs. Commissioners were informed that staff worked incredibly smoothly to ensure they were meeting the needs and demands of the community.

Chairperson Deckert agreed that staff has done a fantastic job and stated he was impressed with the report that provided detailed information on items he would not have thought to ask about.

Chairperson Deckert discussed the need to identify and highlight corporate sponsors and nonprofits when showing program information on the report.

Commissioner Immadi questioned Ms. Murphy on whether information was being sent to the community to help people learn about services available and help them deal with their anxiousness in doing things in person again. Ms. Murphy advised that staff had conducted a survey early in the pandemic to determine how people wanted to attend programs and also conduct surveys of each program that takes place.

Commissioner Immadi indicated he was going to see how some outreach can be done by emailing players and perhaps an announcement in the newspaper. Ms. Murphy advised that the city did put out information on social media and the city's newsletter and there are waiting lists for almost all programs.

Ms. Murphy provided information about programs available at the Library, Firehouse Arts Center, Alviso Adobe and Gingerbread Preschool. She also discussed the shortage of temporary staff, the difficult recruiting for temporary staff and thus only having a limited number of staff members to run programs.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Chairperson Deckert thanked the consultants for the detailed information they had provided on the skatepark and all-abilities playground.

8. Committee Meetings

- A. Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee – no report.
- B. Community of Character – Commissioner Fields advised the committee was planning to hold a meeting sometime in September and asked Commissioner Immadi to contact her for details.
- C. City/East Bay Regional Park District Liaison Committee – no report.
- D. Heritage Tree Review Board – no report.
- E. Public Art Selection Sub-Committee – no report.
- F. Sports Council – Commissioner Vickers advised the group met on July 12th and discussed about twelve items, which included sponsorship for the Bernal Park and Stanford Health being interested in this, as well as there being a lack of interest for providing Wifi at the Sports Park. The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on October 4, 2021.

9. 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 the concern raised by commissioners at a previous meeting regarding the need for a shade structure for the Sports Park playground and advised she had been informed by Mr. Gruber that there was now going to be sufficient funds to include the shade structure.

Chairperson Deckert asked that when outreach community meetings are scheduled that members of the commission be informed by staff so they can have the opportunity of attending the meetings and learning what community members are saying about what is important to them.

Chairperson Deckert commented on the upcoming retirement of Terry Snyder stating she will be missed by everyone and thanked her for her years of service and providing help to everyone. Commissioner Vickers agreed and stated that as a newcomer to the commission he has never worked with anybody so efficient. Commissioner Fields encouraged Terry to consider working part-time after a long vacation and thanked her for all she has done in helping commissioners.

Terry thanked everyone for their kind comments and said she would likely see everyone at meetings she will attend.

Commissioner Immadi asked that he have an opportunity to speak with Ms. Murphy offline about the cricket pitch. Ms. Murphy asked that he contact her after the meeting so she could schedule something on her calendar.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Century House
- Lions Wayside
- Cricket Pitch
- Pickleball

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m.