

**REGULAR MEETING
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021, 4:00 PM
REMOTE WEBINAR VIA**

AMENDED MINUTES

COMMITTEE PRESENT: Chair Jean Bordon, Vice Chair Jena Watson, Anne-Marie Walker, Bryan Kemnitzer, Kathy Pearson, and Mario Valente

COMMITTEE ABSENT: Carolyn Lund

OTHERS PRESENT: Public Works Director Robert Zadnik, Committee Liaison and Mayor James Campbell, and Office Coordinator Christina Cook

These minutes are intended to reflect the general content of the regular meeting. An audio file of the meeting is available on the City website at www.Cityofbelvedere.org

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM. Chair Bordon read the COVID-19 disclaimer and special instructions for Zoom webinars.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by Public Works Director Zadnik. Committee Member Walker joined at 4:25 PM.

OPEN FORUM

Chair Bordon read the guidelines on open forum procedures called for public comment. Director Zadnik stated he did not receive any comments via email, and there were no hands raised in the Zoom platform.

Chair Bordon stated that she received an email from Sandy Donnell. She then read the email message into the record. The memo was in regards to the Bob Gordon memorial in Community Park.

SCHEDULED ITEMS

1. Approve minutes of July 8, 2021, Regular Meeting.

MOTION: Committee Member Kemnitzer made a motion to approve the minutes as drafted, Committee Member Walker seconded and Director Zadnik took roll call.

NOES: None

ABSENT: Watson, Lund

ABSTAIN: None

2. Comments from the Chair, Jean-Marie Bordon.

Chair Bordon announced a change to the agenda; item number 7 would be removed. She then commented on two upcoming events in the area: The Annual California Coastal Clean Up event this Saturday 9 AM to 11 AM, and the last chipper day at Blackies Pasture is this Saturday from 9 AM to 4 PM. She urged people to participate in both activities.

No public comments were received.

3. Report from Robert Zadnik, Public Works Director.

Director Zadnik provided updates on a few items. First, he mentioned the progress on Artist's View Lane and stated that the City has been working with Fletcher Design. The City's Public Works Department has been focusing a majority of effort on the playground upgrade project and getting it out to bid. Zadnik then referred to the biologic survey summary report on the Artist's View Property and stated that the report is available to the public upon request. He then touched on the fence that was installed at Artist's View and the steps that have been taken so far.

Committee Member Kemnitzer commented about the fence placement at Artist's View and the City's definition of Open Space.

No public comments were received.

OLD BUSINESS

4. Review and Action to Consider Approval of Planting Plan for Parking Lot at Tom Price Park.

Director Zadnik reviewed the planting plan submitted by Gary Rasmussen at Blasen Landscape Architecture Design Services, a landscape architectural firm retained by the City.

No public comments were received.

MOTION: Committee Member Kemnitzer made a motion to approve the planting plan as presented by Blasen Landscape Architecture Design Services at Tom Price Park. Committee Member Walker seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

AYES: Kemnitzer, Pearson, Bordon, Walker, and Watson, Valente

NOES: None

ABSENT: Lund

ABSTAIN: None

5. Report and Review of Memorandum, dated August 2021, to Irene Borba, Director of Planning, and Robert Zadnik, Director of Public Works, regarding Preservation of Views from Public Places, from Views Subcommittee of TVV, of the POSC.

The report was provided in the agenda packet for the committee members and the public. Committee Member Pearson reviewed the report. Committee Member Walker thanked Committee Member Pearson and Chair Bordon for the wonderful report. Committee Member Watson also gave her thanks and commented on ways new homeowners could be made aware of the view preservation requirements of Belvedere. Chair Bordon also brought up the topic of community education with regard to brush removal for fire prevention.

No further committee or public comment was received.

6. Report from Robert Zadnik, Public Works Director, on Costs, and Report from Bryan Kemnitzer on Fundraising for the Belvedere Community Park Renovation, and Possible Actions on Both.

Director Zadnik reported on the community park renovation costs and fundraising. He then shared his screen and gave a presentation of designs and costs, etc. from RHAA (a copy of this presentation is available upon request). The Committee discussed in detail the perimeter bench that had been removed from the plan due to cost. Director Zadnik stated that the bench will be included in the bid advertisement as an add-on to be awarded if additional funding is secured by the start of work. Zadnik continued to report on financials of \$291,000.00, the total amount collected and pledged. This is about a \$48,000.00 shortage from the total funding goal. There was discussion on the importance of the bench and the importance of starting the project.

Public comment was taken from Bill Rothman regarding carcinogens that he believes are in the proposed playground surface verses the absence of those materials in natural products.

NEW BUSINESS

7. Action to Establish a Citizens' Fundraising Group in Support of Playground Renovations.

This item was removed.

8. Action to Approve a Plaque or other Dedicatory Symbols Honoring Donors of \$1000 or more to the Renovation of the Playground, subject to Future Final Approval of Design and Placement by the Park and Open Space Committee.

Chair Bordon explained the purpose and scope of this motion.

Committee Member Kemnitzer commented on the number of donations over \$1000 and what type of recognition donors will receive. This led to a discussion regarding the dismantling of the Bob Gordon memorial Playhouse and plans for rededication. Member Walker explained that the Committee assigned the naming opportunity to the playground task force and that the task force did have discussions on this topic. She feels that if the boat is not named the SS Gordon, it is not honoring the City's heritage, much like re-naming Tom Price Park. Chair Bordon stated that the Mr. Gordon topic seems to be a different issue than fund raising and that it should be addressed at the next meeting. She then called for further questions from the Committee and there were none. She then called for public comment.

No public comment was received.

9. Discussion and Action Directing Staff to prepare a Plan for Centennial Park, including replacement of stairs, removal and/or limbing of trees, and planting, and appointment of a sub-committee.

Chair Bordon asked Director Zadnik to give a briefing. Director Zadnik stated that Centennial Park is also known as Hawthorne Lane and that the wood stairs need to be replaced in the uppermost segment of the park. Zadnik stated that \$25,000.00 has been approved from City Council for that project and that Blasen Landscape Architecture Design has been contracted to do the work. Chair Bordon stated that she feels that Blasen should look at the other opportunities for improvement in

that park, such as tree pruning. Committee Member Kemnitzer asked for more information about the budget. Director Zadnik commented about the budget relating to Capital Improvements.

MOTION: Committee Member Kemnitzer made a motion to direct Staff to prepare a plan for Centennial Park, including replacement of stairs, removal and/or limbing of trees, and planting, and appointment of a sub-committee existing of Vice Chair Watson for Chair and Committee Members Lund and Walker for members. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Pearson

AYES: Kemnitzer, Pearson, Bordon, Walker, Watson and Valente

NOES: None

ABSENT: Lund

ABSTAIN: None

10. Discussion and Action Directing Staff to prepare a Plan for Park Lane, including replacement of stairs, removal and/or limbing of vegetation, planting, and installation of a viewing and seating area, with a built-in bench or a free-standing bench, and appointment of a subcommittee.

Chair Bordon asked Director Zadnik to give a briefing on this item. Zadnik stated that Park Lane connects Belvedere Avenue with Golden Gate Circle. He reported that the wooden stairs near Belvedere Ave. need replacement with something more durable, along with installation of a pad and bench. He concluded by commenting that City's Budget for his work is \$20,000.00.

From the public, Klaus Johannsmeier commented that the Park Plan project is an ill-conceived plan for several reasons. Mr. Johannsmeier reviewed his reasons. There was no further public comment received.

MOTION: Committee Member Kemnitzer made a motion directing Staff to prepare a Plan for Park Lane, including replacement of wooden stairs, removal and/or limbing of vegetation, planting, and installation of a viewing and seating area, with a bench, and appointment of a subcommittee existing of Vice Chair Watson for Chair and Committee Members Kemnitzer and Valente for consisting. Committee Member Pearson seconded the motion.

AYES: Kemnitzer, Pearson, Bordon, Walker, and Watson, Valente

NOES: None

ABSENT: Lund

ABSTAIN: None

11. Review and Action to Consider Approval of an offer from the family of the late James Walsh to donate two 36-inch box Tilia Cordata (Green Spire Linden) Trees to Tom Price Park, and appointment of sub-committee.

Chair Bordon asked attendee Roger Felton to speak on the item. Mr. Felton stated that he had met with the Walsh Family and City Staff at the proposed planting location at the north end of Tom Price Park. Committee Members commented about this lovely gesture. Discussion continued regarding the species of tree and its growth characteristics. Council Liaison Campbell cautioned the committee to make sure they are considering all aspects of the decision to allow these trees to be planted.

MOTION: Member Kemnitzer made a motion to approve Review and Action to Consider Approval of an offer from the family of the late James Walsh to donate two 36-inch box Tilia

Cordata (Green Spire Linden) Trees to Tom Price Park, and appointment of sub-committee existing of Committee Member Walker for Chair and Committee Members Pearson and Bordon for members. The subcommittee should review past actions of the Parks and Open Space Committee in regard to previous tree donations to be planted in City parks. Committee Member Pearson seconded the motion.

AYES: Kemnitzer, Pearson, Bordon, Walker, and Watson

NOES: None

ABSENT: Lund, Valente

ABSTAIN: None

12. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Continuing to hold meetings on Zoom, as permissible under State modifications of the Brown Act.

Director Zadnik stated that AB361 is up for adoption tomorrow and feels that Zoom meetings will still being allowed. Vice Chair Watson said she prefers the Zoom platform if the meetings are to continue to be held at 4 PM.

MOTION: Committee Member Kemnitzer made the motion to continue with Zoom.

AYES: Kemnitzer, Pearson, Bordon, Walker, and Watson

NOES: None

ABSENT: Lund, Valente

ABSTAIN: None

Committee Member Valente left the meeting at 5:49 PM. Mayor Campbell left the meeting at 5:54. Meeting was ADJOURNED at 5:58 PM.

THE FOREGOING AMENDED MINUTES were approved at a special meeting of the Parks and Open Space Committee on November 10, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: Kemnitzer, Pearson, Bordon, Walker, Watson, Valente, and Lund

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None