



City of Sunnyvale

Meeting Minutes - Draft Heritage Preservation Commission

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

7:00 PM

Online and Bay Conference Room, City
Hall, 456 W. Olive Ave., Sunnyvale, CA
94086

Public Participation

Accessibility/Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Notice

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Chair Johnson led the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

- Present:** 5 - Chair Sue-Ellen Johnson
Vice Chair Aaron Sofaer
Commissioner William Garrett
Commissioner Charles McManis
Commissioner Pamela Sharma
- Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Ashmita Rajkumar
Commissioner Parthiv Rawal

STUDY SESSION

1. [24-1197](#) Discussion and Consideration of Naming Ideas for the New City Park
Currently Referred to as Corn Palace Park

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Recreation Services Manager Tracey Gott presented a slide show to discuss considerations of names for a proposed City Park currently referred to as Corn Palace Park. She discussed the history of the site, noting it was agricultural land and a family farm in Sunnyvale that was owned and operated by the Francia family since the 1920's, where Corn Palace farm stand was constructed in 1965. She noted that naming City parks and recreation facilities is the responsibility of the City Council and any name considerations will first be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission who will make a recommendation to the City Council for naming or renaming any park and recreation facility. She further noted that a

majority of City parks presently have the name of the planning district in which they are located and that any new parks should follow the same criteria, and where the naming of the planning district is not possible, the following criteria will be given consideration in naming a park or facility within a park: 1) Greatest consideration should be given to a name that has historical significance to the City of Sunnyvale, 2) Open space that was formerly school property or adjoined to a school, 3) Naming a park for a specific individual will only be considered if that individual has made a significant contribution to the City of Sunnyvale, and 4) Other name considerations will only be considered if one of the three above criteria do not provide a suitable name.

Commissioner McManis suggested Acorn Park or Maize Park. He also asked Ms. Gott about a proposed plaque from the applicant to honor Corn Palace at the park and she responded that she would check with Parks and report back.

Commissioner Sharma noted she frequented Corn Palace and spoke to Mr. Francia in the past. She suggested Corn Palace Park, Maize Park, or "The Gathering Place".

Commissioner Garrett asked if there are other parks to honor Native American Heritage, besides Muwekma Park and Ms. Gott responded that it may in the future as smaller neighborhood parks get built. Comm. Garrett noted that Corn Palace Park is the most commonly known name and suggested to try to find opportunities to honor the Native American Heritage.

Chair Johnson noted that she wanted to keep the park known as Corn Palace as it is commonly known.

Director of Library and Recreation Services Michelle Perera noted that staff is looking to revise the park naming policy.

Councilmember Mehlinger noted that he is the newly appointed Council Liaison to the Heritage Preservation Commission. He noted that Moffett Park Specific Plan is adding new green space that the Commission will have opportunities to suggest names.

Vice Chair Sofaer suggested Corn Palace Park or Manzanita Park and naming parks the same as other parks in different cities can get confusing (referring to Tamien and Ohlone Park).

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION:

Commissioner McManis and Vice Chair Sofaer moved to approve the October 2,2024 Draft Minutes, as submitted.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Chair Johnson
Vice Chair Sofaer
Commissioner McManis

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Rajkumar
Commissioner Rawal

Abstain: 2 - Commissioner Garrett
Commissioner Sharma

- 2. [24-1201](#) Approve the Draft Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2024

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

- 3. [24-1194](#) Approve the Draft Heritage Preservation Commission 2025 Master Work Plan.

MOTION:

Commissioner McManis and Commissioner Garrett moved to approve the Draft 2025 Heritage Preservation Commission 2025 Master Work Plan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Chair Johnson
Vice Chair Sofaer
Commissioner Garrett
Commissioner McManis
Commissioner Sharma

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Rajkumar
Commissioner Rawal

- 4. **24-1195** Annual Review of Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and

Appointed Officials

MOTION:

Commissioner Garrett moved and Vice Chair Sofaer seconded the motion to accept the review of the Annual Review of Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Chair Johnson
Vice Chair Sofaer
Commissioner Garrett
Commissioner McManis
Commissioner Sharma

No: 0

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Rajkumar
Commissioner Rawal

STANDING ITEM: CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL STUDY ISSUES

None.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS & COMMENTS

Commissioner Sharma asked staff regarding the historical plaque, as she has not seen the plaque. Ms. Ishijima responded that there is a description on a structure related to the heritage Redwood trees. She noted that she will follow up with the developer regarding this.

Commissioner Sharma noted that she was onsite and she has not seen it and appreciated Ms. Ishijima for following up.

-Commissioner Comments

INFORMATION ONLY REPORTS/ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:50m PM.