



City of Sunnyvale

Meeting Minutes - Draft Parks and Recreation Commission

Wednesday, December 12, 2018

7:45 PM

Murphy Park, Recreation Building
194 N Sunnyvale Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Special Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. in the Murphy Park, Recreation Building.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Chair Kenton led the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: 4 - Chair Ralph Kenton
Commissioner Henry Alexander III
Commissioner Prakash Giri
Commissioner Craig Pasqua
Absent: 1 - Vice Chair Daniel McCune

Vice Chair Daniel McCune (unexcused)
Council Liaison Michael Goldman (present)

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1 [18-0025](#) Approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2018

Commissioner Pasqua moved, and Commissioner Alexander III seconded, the motion to approve the Parks and Recreation meeting minutes of October 10, 2018 as submitted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Chair Kenton
Commissioner Alexander III
Commissioner Pasqua

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Vice Chair McCune

Abstain: 1 - Commissioner Giri

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

Superintendent of Parks and Golf, Jim Stark, requested Chair Kenton take agenda item 3 out of order, to respect the presenter's time.

3 [18-0041](#) Animal Assisted Happiness Update

Vicki Amon-Higa from Animal Assisted Happiness (AAH) provided an overview of the AAH program. Their mission is to enrich the lives of youth with needs through barnyard animal interactions at their Smile Farm and mobile visits, creating moments of joy and happiness throughout the AAH community.

Commissioners inquired:

Could AAH expand the program to include small animals visiting individuals in hospitals/hospice?

Does the City of Sunnyvale promote the Animal Assisted Happiness program?

Does AAH have a website with volunteer opportunities listed?

Has AAH conducted any case studies on animal therapy for youth?

Vicki Amon-Higa responded:

AAH does have small animals that travel with a AAH representative to schools and hospitals.

The AAH program is promoted in the City's Activity Guide.

AAH volunteer opportunities are posted on the AAH website.

AAH conducts baseline surveys at the beginning of the school year and end of the school year that measures the impact of AAH from a teachers perspective. The surveys are administered by an AAH Boardmember who holds a PhD in Educational Psychology and currently has two years of data.

Chair Kenton opened the item for public comment, and there being no public

comments, he closed the item for public comment.

Chair Kenton returned to the regular agenda schedule.

- 2** [18-0033](#) Annual Review of Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials

Superintendent of Community Services, Damon Sparacino, provided the Commissioners with an overview of the 2018 Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials.

Chair Kenton asked for clarification with having Commissioners attend meetings and/or events at the same time and if that would constitute a quorum requiring Commissioners excusing themselves from the meeting/event.

Superintendent of Community Services, Damon Sparacino will request clarification from the City Clerk and will report back to the Commission.

Chair Kenton opened the item for public comment, and there being no public comment, he closed the item for public comment.

STANDING ITEM: CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL STUDY ISSUES

None.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS & COMMENTS

-Commissioner Comments

Chair Kenton gave an overview on the joint study session between Council and Board/Commission Chairs and Vice Chairs on November 13, 2018. He also spoke about the Council Subcommittee Board/Commission Bylaws meeting he attended on December 11, 2018. The Subcommittee reviewed the feedback received from the joint study session and will make recommendations for Council action.

-Staff Comments

Superintendent of Parks and Golf, Jim Stark, gave an update on the Fair Oaks Park project and Capital Improvements Projects.

Superintendent of Community Services, Damon Sparacino, reminded the Commissioners to submit a playground option for Murphy Park. The final concept

will be chosen in February.

INFORMATION ONLY REPORTS/ITEMS

[18-0424](#) 2019 Master Work Plan

A copy of the final 2019 Master Work Plan was provided to the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.