

CITY OF REDLANDS

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

MINUTES

RYAN JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN

ADAM HEBDEN, COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS GONZALES, VICE-CHAIR

EDWARD FERRARI, COMMISSIONER JOANNE LESSARD, COMMISSIONER

JUSTIN WEEKLEY, COMMISSIONER MUSE CHOI, STUDENT COMMISSIONER

The following information comprises the minutes for a regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission to be held at **4:30 p.m.** on **Thursday, October 13, 2022**, in the City Council Chambers, 35 Cajon Street, Suite #2.

1. CALL TO ORDER – Attendance. Commissioner Choi was absent.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dennis Bell called in to let the Commission know there may be some audio issues for people listening in.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. The minutes of the September 8th, 2022, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Ferrari and seconded by Commissioner Weekley. Motion carried unanimously.

4. STATUS REPORTS

A. Individual Commissioner park reports

a. Commissioner Lessard reported that Jennie Davis Park is not being used and one option for it may be to sell it to ESRI. It was reported the homeless are also an issue in the park and it all needs be dealt with. Commissioner Lessard also gave comment on the Native American heritage of Heritage Park and the need for a community garden there. Commissioner Lessard noted Smiley Park could be improved with very little expenditure. Improvements needed are some swings, some picnic tables, and some cement. Oakmont Park is up to the Engineering department and Redlands Conservancy. Commissioner Lessard noted that Panorama Point needs to have the white barriers removed and replaced with something else. The presence of those barriers and the chain link fence surrounding the private residence there is awful. Commissioner Lessard noted that there is a place in Centennial Park for a community garden on the west end by the orange grove and the park in general needs major consideration. Commissioner Lessard noted that a full discussion of the park with opinions of employees of the Parks division should be had. Native plants for the park should not be bought until the Commission gives Parks employees a plant palette, those employees have training, and know where to buy the plants, how to plant them, how to maintain them, and have resources. She noted that Mayor Pro Tem Tejada has been trying to get Centennial Park going since 2006. Commissioner Ferrari reported that Jennie Davis and Smiley have been placed on the priority list. He noted that Smiley has facilities which are over 90 years old and that he had a conversation with two residents who asked for renovation of the defunct spaces and playground equipment for children. Another resident requested the brick wall at Smiley Park be preserved and extended between the two shuffleboard areas. He also agreed with Commissioner Lessard about Heritage Park. Commissioner Hebden had no comments. Chair Johnson reported that Jennie Davis has a good parking lot, a large flat area, and would benefit from more activities taking place there. He also reported that Smiley Park would benefit from a renovation of the shaded areas and the addition of playground equipment for disabled individuals. Commissioner Weekley reported that pathway paving and improvement should be done from the pond to the restrooms at Ford Park. Austin Wynn and Hunter Whitton gave public comments in support of the proposed pump track

B. FCS staff report on Recreation and Park activities

a. Dave Jaffe reported on the opening of the pickleball courts at the Community Center. He also reported the downtown trick or treat event on State Street will take place this year. Lastly, the traditional Halloween dinner and dance will take place this year at the Senior Center.

C. Student Commissioner report

a. *Student Commissioner Choi was absent.*

D. **RUSD Liaison report**

a. *Michele Rendler gave a report on a resource fair at RHS, a fentanyl awareness night at RHS, and the great American shakeout. The compact clubs at the local schools had their first mixer. All schools will be hosting fall festivals and trunk-or-treats.*

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion and possible action regarding a splash pad

a. *Dave Jaffe reported on possible costs of a proposed splash pad including maintenance and staffing. Mr. Jaffe advised that parking should be considered as well. Commissioner Ferrari read the minutes of the June 10, 2021 into the record: Julia Lenhardt submitted a comment regarding the age of City parks as well as the lack of shade and water. Tiffany Rose submitted a comment about the need for a splash pad in town as well as the homeless situation, the age of playground equipment, and the need for more shade structures in City parks. Monica Iqbal submitted a comment about the need for a splash pad and updated playground equipment. Cassie Engelsman submitted a comment about the need for a splash pad and change-out of wood chips in the parks. Haleh Bahrami submitted a comment about the need for a splash pad, more shaded areas, water fountains. Tatiana Yoon submitted a comment about the need for more tree coverage in parks and a splash pad. Kristin Speak submitted a comment about the need for updated park features and equipment. Commissioner Ferrari called the lack of action on the Commission's part embarrassing. He expressed frustration with the advancement of the pump track project in contrast to the splash pad product. Commissioner Ferrari resigned and expressed concern that the Commission was in violation of the Brown Act. No action was taken on this item.*

B. Discussion and possible action regarding the project priority list

a. *Joe Bierma spoke about the remaining trail sections. This item was considered settled.*

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and possible action regarding naming of new park in the Meritage Development

a. *Dave Jaffe spoke about completion of the plan this Fall to deal with erosion.*

B. Discussion and possible action regarding Prospect Park

a. *This item was considered settled after Mr. McIntosh's report.*

C. Discussion and possible action regarding the Parks Tour

a. *After discussion, October 8th at 9:00 am was settled as the date and time of the parks tour.*

7. POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- No items were added

8. ADJOURNMENT TO REGULAR MEETING on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 4:30 P.M.