

**REGULAR MEETING  
PARKS & OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 4:00 P.M.  
BELVEDERE CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
450 SAN RAFAEL AVENUE  
BELVEDERE, CALIFORNIA**

**AGENDA**

**OPEN FORUM**

*This is an opportunity for any citizen to briefly address the Parks and Open Space Committee on any matter that does not appear on this agenda. Upon being recognized by the Chair, please state your name, address, and limit your oral statement to no more than three minutes. Matters that appear to warrant a more lengthy presentation or Committee consideration may be agendized for further discussion at a later meeting.*

**SCHEDULED ITEMS**

1. Approve minutes of the November 8<sup>th</sup> 2018, regular meeting.
2. Comments from the Chair – Bryan Kemnitzer.
3. Staff Reports – Robert Zadnik, Public Works Manager.
  - a. Report on Golden Gate Lane, formerly named Eucalyptus Lane.
  - b. Report on 5 Corners Irrigation and Plantings.
4. Reports from subcommittees.
5. Old Business
  - a. Continued discussion of Lane development prioritizations.
  - b. Continued discussion on Community Park Playground update.
  - c. Continued discussion for consideration of private donation for a planting project at the Tom Price Parking Lot.
6. New Business
  - a. Preliminary 2019-20 Fiscal Year budget review.
7. Future Agenda items.
  - a. Continued discussion of trash management strategy for Community Park and review of trial trash containers.
  - b. Final 2019-20 Fiscal Year budget review

**ADJOURN**

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**REGULAR MEETING  
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2018, 4:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
450 SAN RAFAEL AVENUE, BELVEDERE, CA**

**MINUTES**

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**COMMITTEE PRESENT:** Jean Bordon, Kathy Pearson, Barbara Winter, and Chair Bryan Kemnitzer

**COMMITTEE ABSENT:** Alison Seaman, Anne-Marie Walker, Jeremy Fair

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Carolyn Lund, Council Liaison Claire McAuliffe, Senior Maintenance Worker Gerhard Laufer, Public Works Manager Robert Zadnik and Secretary Nancy Miller

*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](http://www.cityofbelvedere.org)*

**CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

**OPEN FORUM**

Chair Kemnitzer reported that he spoke with the owners of the property at 101 Golden Gate Avenue which is adjacent to the 5 Corners planted area. They have agreed to continue to provide water for the drip irrigation system for that area. If it is not working they are fine with the City to repair and restore the irrigation there.

Public Works Manager Robert Zadnik reported that there are 25 1-gallon plants of 3 varieties at the Corporation Yard ready for planting if a date is set and the irrigation is re-established and if a strategy is developed for protection from deer. We could also wait for Spring, if needed. Member Walker is absent tonight so details are not available as to possible dates for volunteers to do work.

Marsha Lasky, 12 Pelican Point, spoke in regards to the planted area at 5 Corners. She circulated a photo of the area to illustrate the poor situation. In her opinion, planting 2 varieties of grasses here might be the best choice, a smaller size with a higher one behind. Since only the grasses are surviving at this time that would be the type of plant to use. *Laveteria* is not considered a deer-resistant plant. As a resource, the City Deer-Resistant Plant Committee has done extensive research and prepared a binder of information relative to recommendations of plants that might be more successful. Many of the suggested plants in this report are doing well in Belvedere. Another

resource for the POSC would be to keep an eye on Planning Commission projects and related landscaping changes that are reviewed and approved. There are two members of the Planning Commission with experience in landscaping and we are happy to consult with the Committee.

Nena Hart, 26 Eucalyptus Road, stated that 5 Corners has suffered from road repair projects. Excess gravel and road materials have been dumped there. She participated in the replanting, and when it was cleared out and replanted there was no focus on improving the soil conditions. The natives which were planted like good soil and grow best in naturally composted conditions. Most of those have not succeeded. Addressing the ground first, and then reviewing the plant materials chosen, would improve the results. She does not believe that you can protect a plant from the deer if it's something they like to eat, other than by fencing. Using some of the suggested deer resistant plants in the City guidebook is a good source, but the best guide for choosing what to use is to go around Belvedere and see what is successful. She would be happy to work with the Committee on ideas.

Ms. Lasky stated that hardy plants or grasses would probably be the best choice for this area, even in this kind of soil.

Chair Kemnitzer thanked the speakers. He asked staff what they would suggest for the improvement of the soil?

Mr. Zadnik replied that for planting the new plants he would recommend the addition of a composted fertilizer to native soil. If we want to take an extra step we might look into having the soil tested. The plants we have currently on hand are meant to be planted to shield the *Lavateria* which will eventually get to be quite large.

Member Bordon said that the process we currently have involves plant choices made by the Subcommittee, but 2 of the members are not here tonight to comment.

Member Winter said she is on that Subcommittee and she welcomes the comments made tonight as to the additional resources we might consult.

Chair Kemnitzer suggested that this item be brought back to the January meeting. If there is irrigation work to be done, and then if there is a water supply available then there might be more opportunity to defer the replanting to later.

Vice-Chair Pearson stated that if the plant choices change we can probably find another location for the plants we have already purchased.

Chair Kemnitzer said that the Subcommittee might meet with Ms. Lasky and Ms. Hart to explore the options to bring back for discussion in January.

### **SCHEDULED ITEMS**

1. Approve minutes of the September 13, 2018, regular meeting.

Minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Comments from the Chair – Bryan Kemnitzer.

This item was deferred to later in the meeting.

3. Staff Reports – Robert Zadnik, Public Works Manager.

The New Zealand Christmas tree has been installed in Tom Price Park. Potential negative attributes would not be applicable in this location. Three Western Redbud trees have also been replaced in Tom Price Park on the berm, now installed with cages to protect from deer, and irrigation bags.

In regards to the higher priority recommendations of the Tree Subcommittee report, staff has commenced with some of these projects. There are about 40 trees on the list. Fireblight has been removed from the ornamental Pear tree and additional work has occurred on some of the Beach Road trees on the median near the seawall. We will continue to address the other trees with this issue.

The rock pile at Centennial Park has been reviewed. Those rocks from various sources appear to be helping hold up the hillside. If removed, we might need to install a formal retaining wall, and another mortared stacked rock wall would be best, possibly with some planting pockets included. One estimate was about \$6500. This is probably a CIP item for the next fiscal budget. Until replaced would be best to avoid walking in that area. The final planting plan can be discussed when the Subcommittee members are present at a future meeting to plan a planting day.

A request has been received for additional plantings to be installed just opposite the BLPOA clubhouse along Lagoon Road in the spillway area. Recommended was *Myrica*. The area is 50 feet in length but irrigation might need to be installed and sourced from a nearby well/pump station. Public works will try to squeeze this in from our current budget.

4. Reports from subcommittees.

a. “Lanes” Subcommittee:

Chair Kemnitzer reported that the name change to Golden Gate Lane for Eucalyptus Lane is on the next City Council Agenda. Fundraising for the project is almost complete.

Mr. Zadnik reported that there will be a preliminary phase of the project to clear up the site, remove the trees and weedy vegetation, move some stacked retaining walls, and place some erosion control for the winter. That portion of the project is out to bid which should be awarded in the next few weeks. The second phase for building the actual steps is in design and should go out to public bid by the end of November with Council approval of final bid. Hopefully the construction might start by the end of the summer.

Chair Kemnitzer stated that he hopes that the next Lane project might be Lower Woodwardia Lane next to 270 Beach Road.

Ms. Lund suggested a process for prioritization of future Lane projects. A Handout was distributed to the Committee to accompany her remarks.<sup>1</sup>

Chair Kemnitzer suggested that for the next meeting we can agendize a report from the Lanes Subcommittee making suggestions for priorities following some or all of these criteria in preparation for the POSC recommendations to be made regarding for the upcoming fiscal budget.

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<sup>1</sup> The handout is incorporated into the archived record of the meeting.

b. “Views” Subcommittee:

Vice-Chair Pearson asked the status of the Pittosporum still encroaching at the view easement at 81 West Shore Road?

Mr. Zadnik replied that is not a City tree and may require additional Code Enforcement outreach from staff.

Ms. Pearson reported that City staff and Mr. Clarke Winslow have been doing nice additional work to identify opportunities to open up public views including several dead tree removals.

c. “Playground Update” Subcommittee:

Chair Kemnitzer stated there is nothing to at this time. POSC members discussed an interest in looking at shade structures for the playground area. Vice-Chair Pearson has observed one in Corte Madera at their playground. Chair Kemnitzer will get interested parents together to talk about playground improvements.

Public Works Supervisor Gerhard Laufer pointed out that when choosing anything it should be kept in mind that the adjacent Elm trees will be getting larger over time and there should be consideration as to any maintenance issues such as falling leaves.

5. Old Business

a. Continued discussion of Eucalyptus Lane and Lane Priority List.

This was discussed during item 4 (a).

b. Continued discussion of trash management strategy for Community Park.

Mr. Zadnik reported that an increased pickup schedule from the current twice per week (Mondays and Fridays) to 3 times a week (adding Sunday) would add \$366 per month to the charges. He has discussed using different trash cans in the Park with the Planning Director, Irene Borba, and she requests that proposal should go before the Planning Commission for Design Review. The City might want to select more decorative permanent trash containers that could accommodate the larger pizza-box size trash.

Ms. Lund commented that other municipalities are using the regular brown cans from MVRS in the parks.

Mr. Zadnik stated that the POSC could come up with some suggestions for alternatives to present to the Planning Commission.

After some Committee discussion it was moved and seconded and unanimously approved that a trial addition of 2 additional MVRS brown cans to Community Park be implemented for about 45 days and the Committee can review the results at the next January meeting.

c. Continued discussion on Community Park Playground update.

This was reported earlier under 4(c) Reports from Subcommittees.

6. New Business

- a. Consider a private donation for planting project at Tom Price Parking Lot.

Mr. Zadnik reported that the two property owners on Lagoon Road directly across from the Tom Price parking lot would like to make a private donation of \$10,000 to fund the installation of a long line of plantings at the street frontage. The City already has irrigation available. The City would like to use a type of plants with a low profile to preserve traffic safety sightlines. Staff suggests that *Festuca Californica* might be appropriate. It is a slow-growing low-water use type of grass. Committee agreed any recommendation should be run by the donors for their acceptance. Committee consensus was to accept the offer of the donation for such a project.

7. Future Agenda Items

- a. Preliminary 2019-20 Fiscal Year budget review.  
b. Shade structure for Community Park.  
c. Lane development prioritizations.  
d. Plant choices for 5 Corners.  
e. Trial use of trash containers at Community Park.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.

**THE FOREGOING MINUTES** were approved at a regular meeting of the Parks and Open Space Committee on January 10, 2019 by the following vote:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_

Bryan Kemnitzer, Chairman

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

Robert Zadnik, Public Works Manager