

**REGULAR MEETING
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 2019, 4:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
450 SAN RAFAEL AVENUE, BELVEDERE, CA**

MINUTES

COMMITTEE PRESENT: Jean Bordon, Jeremy Fair, Kathy Pearson, Anne-Marie Walker, Barbara Winter, Alison Seaman, and Chair Bryan Kemnitzer

COMMITTEE ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Carolyn Lund, Council Liaisons Claire McAuliffe and James Campbell, Senior Maintenance Worker Gerhard Laufer, Public Works Manager Robert Zadnik and Secretary Nancy Miller, Marsha Lasky and Nena Hart.

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.

OPEN FORUM

No one wished to speak.

1. Approve minutes of the November 8th 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.

- a. Report on Golden Gate Lane, formerly named Eucalyptus Lane.

Mr. Zadnik reported that the project is being revisited to determine if there are any cost savings that could be achieved by engineering modifications before putting the project out to bid. If we get going on the project in March and go towards completion in April it may also benefit the momentum for fundraising for the next lane project. We opted to wait for the site preparation to start after the holidays. Tree removals will occur next week. After those are removed the site will be reevaluated for public bidding on the project with 2 alternative bids. Those should be in by 2-3 weeks from now.

Discussion re when the lane is finishing up 4/2019 or 4/2020? 10:45

b. Report on 5 Corners Irrigation and Plantings.

Mr. Zadnik reported that staff has investigated the existing irrigation system and determined that Public Works replace it. Mr. Laufer has suggested that it would take about 3 working days for installation, probably after the rainy season has lessened.

Committee discussed prior recommendations of the Subcommittee from September for plant choices for 5 Corners, and followup discussions by Barbara Winter with Marsha Lasky and Nena Hart after the November meeting. Committee agrees that something must be done there and that that the existing grasses that were previously planted should be retained.

Ms. Lasky suggested several plants that could be considered for this location.

After thorough discussion a motion was made and seconded and passed unanimously that the plants should be:

Pennisetum, Muhlenbergia dubia (which the City has already purchased), Stipa and Carex.

A choice for a ground cover was not yet made, and Subcommittee members will investigate and decide what kind of plant would be best that is not subject to fungal issues. A mulch should be a part of the installation. Chair Kemnitzer volunteered to work on getting volunteers to help plant the area.

4. Reports from subcommittees.
5. Old Business

b. Continued discussion on Community Park Playground update.

Chair Kemnitzer reported that he met with several local fathers who are interested in providing some recommendations for Community Park. These are mostly younger people whose families use the park a lot. They had suggested the following items initially but can provide more details later: A changing table in the restroom(s); a shade structure, replacement of the matting, possible new play structures, and addressing the trash issues.

a. Continued discussion of Lane development prioritizations.

Mr. Zadnik reported on the items submitted under his memo in the packet dated January 8, 2019. (Lane reference map, Artist View, Lane 24, Cliff Lane, and Lower Woodwardia Lane) One of the main issues in considering working on public lanes is the current condition and length as a factor of cost. This has been shown on the exhibits.

Ms. Lund stated that it is about a one year process to do one lane. Everyone has had all the information and previously discussed several lanes. We need to proceed with identifying the priorities.

Chair Kemnitzer stated the lanes Subcommittee discussed several lanes for recommendation including Albert's Alley, Artist View, Lower Woodwardia, and Lane 24 at the end of Golden Gate. However we do not have any cost analysis.

Member Bordon stated she would like a more detailed report on each lane. What are the objectives? Lanes 16 and 10 are close to each other.

Council Member Campbell suggested that a prioritized list should be provided, and with some backups added.

Council Member McAuliffe stated that having the rationale for the selections would be helpful to the City Council.

Committee discussed various lanes and agreed to identify 3 lanes for potential prioritization: Albert's Alley is beautiful in original condition but might lose some of its charm if it has to be renovated. Lower Woodwardia already has much of the infrastructure and new project for adjacent house may be helpful situation; it does not lead to the beach but might be extended. Lane #24 would be the least expensive to repair. The Harry B. Allen stairs would benefit from renewal. Old metal stairs deteriorating and it has beach access. Artist View is a beautiful location and also leads to the beach.

Mr. Zadnik stated that the next City Council meeting is March 11, just before the next Parks and Open Space Committee meeting on March 14. A geotechnical study might be possible to prepare in time for both meetings. At the April City Council meeting the next lane project in the budget can be considered.

Members were polled and determined the 3 lanes to be considered, in no particular order, are Artist View, Alberts Alley, and Lower Woodwardia.

Ms. Seaman asked whether the Committee is keeping in sight that the Lanes Initiative included some repair projects as discussed at the March 2018 meeting?

- c. Continued discussion for consideration of private donation for a planting project at the Tom Price Parking Lot.

Mr. Zadnik presented some slides of potential plant choices for the site that have the approval of the donors. Proposed are Stupa Californica and Douglas Iris, with low ground cover, related irrigation rehabilitation and mulch for the donation of \$10,000.

Council member Campbell asked whether the donor would be responsible for maintenance as the Committee had previously discussed not accepting donations without a maintenance responsibility?

Mr. Zadnik stated the donor did not want to have that responsibility. The costs may come from a different item in the budget.

Mr. Laufer stated that this area has been in decline, having been last planted in 1996. Staff could probably maintain the area for several hours a month for two employees.

Committee had some concerns with the Douglas Iris plant and suggested a flowering succulent as an alternative which are low water use and low maintenance. Another possibility is Provilia Scarlet Stripe.

Mr. Zadnik stated he will discuss alternatives with the donors and report back.

Chair Kemnitzer departed from the meeting. Vice-Chair Pearson presided.

6. New Business

- a. Preliminary 2019-20 Fiscal Year budget review.

Mr. Zadnik provided a summary sheet from the current City budget page 131 which summarizes the Lanes and Parks and Open Space five year capital expenditure plan.¹ Since much of the budget in the next fiscal year will be going back into lane projects the only item listed is for the landscape mulch replacement on the San Rafael Avenue Seawall landscape. He asked for Committee to advise on requests for the budget. Items discussed included:

- Replacement to the Community Park rubber mats. Mr. Zadnik stated that was in the current year budget but later eliminated pending recommendations from community on projects for Community Park.
- Repair of retaining wall at Centennial Park (\$7500)
- Budget for existing street trees is inadequate at \$40,000.
- Removal of invasive species reduced from \$5000 last year to \$500 in current budget. Increase? Mr. Zadnik, explained that staff has taken over that work instead of contracting it out.
- Land Company Park plum trees need to be replaced.

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.
- c. Committee requests a review of proposed planting plan at 5 Corners to be sent out in advance of next meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM.

THE FOREGOING MINUTES were approved at a regular meeting of the Parks and Open Space Committee on March 14, 2019 by the following vote:

AYES: Jean Bordon, Jeremy Fair, Kathy Pearson, Anne-Marie Walker, Barbara Winter, Alison Seaman, and Chair Bryan Kemnitzer

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

¹ The handout is archived with the record of the meeting.