



MINUTES

WATERFRONT COMMITTEE REGULAR (RESCHEDULED) MEETING

City Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Avenue
Monday, January 24, 2011 – 7:30 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Diehl at 7:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present: Dann, Granholm, Papalia, Parsley

Members absent: Diehl

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3-1. Approve Minutes from November 8, 2010 meeting (attached)

Minutes approved unanimously – Parsley abstained.

Approve Minutes from December 13, 2010 meeting (attached)

Minutes approved unanimously – Parsley abstained.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Allan Maris – encouraged the Committee to engage with EBRPD.

5. DISCUSSIONS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS, WHICH COULD INCLUDE REPORTS AND/OR PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS IF ANY:

5-1. Cove Project (Measure WW) – concept design - Tony Wolcott, City Arborist

Chaney and Wolcott analyzed site and presented a concept design: reorient existing bench to bike rack location to improve view, additional trash receptacles and bag dispenser for dog waste, increase plants in the triangular area to include a Yucca tree and palms, retain bollards, include a walking path to the high point above the cove, and plant photina within the area.

Wolcott provided a handout on plant recommendations for the site – the recommended plants and trees are hardy and typically withstand intense conditions including salty air and soil, wind, drought.

Granholm suggested low plants to retain view.

Papalia would like some protection from wind, and expressed concern about leaving exposed concrete.

Public Comment

Allan Maris - suggested additional protection and signage for the cove as a piece of art. He will be conducting a cleanup at the waterfront this weekend.

Steve/Berkeley resident – suggested using the logs in the existing shade areas

Andrew – supports the idea of a sign at the cove.

Parsley supports the project and suggested if there is additional funds, a cleanup of the cove should be conducted.

5-2. Dog management at Albany Waterfront –review for February meeting (attached)

A joint meeting will be held on February 10th with the Park and Recreation Commission, and separate meetings will be held by the Committee, and the Park & Recreation Commission.

Chaney reported that EBRPD and the State will need to review the policy.

The Committee reviewed the policy and provided edits to Chaney.

Public Comment

Allan Maris noted the Eastshore State Park General Plan may conflict with the proposed off leash area for dogs on the Bulb

John Kindle provided edits to the policy.

Steve – the beach is a safe area for dogs, recommends restricting dogs from a stretch of beach to enable other uses.

Caryl O’Keefe encourages continuing to ensure the policies of the various agencies match.

5-3. Voices to Vision – review previous discussion; possible additional discussion (attached)

The Committee agreed to postpone this item to a future agenda.

Public Comment – Allan Maris would like to see action occur based on outcome of Voices to Vision.

Granholt suggested a more specific agenda item in the future.

5-4. Funding for Bulb & Neck improvements

Public Comment – Allan Maris suggested developing a strategy for obtaining funds for improvements. The Committee agreed that a priority needs to be placed on working with EBRPD regarding competitive Measure WW funds.

Granholt moved that the Committee invite Whitney Dotson from EBRPD to the next meeting to discuss the item. Seconded by Parsley. The item was not voted on.

Public Comment – Caryl O’Keefe supports seeking funding for property that is currently owned by the City.

Papalia moved the Committee write a letter to Whitney Dotson and invite him to an upcoming meeting to discuss items raised in letter. Seconded by Parsley. Granholt and Dann agreed to draft the letter.

5-5. Homeless encampments at the Bulb

Chaney reported that the second of two informational/outreach meetings was held last week with the homeless at the Bulb, which includes a number of assistance agency/nonprofit representatives. The main goal is to assist those that want to find housing. To date five people have been housed over the past year.

Public Comment

Allan Maris – asked about Alameda County assistance

Emile Raguso – Albany Patch will be developing an informational article

John Kindle – noted that some do not want assistance or services

Parsley commented that there are a number of unoccupied encampments and debris that have collected in the area. There is a potential liability in this area. Additional work needs to be done to comply with established park rules.

Papalia stated that there are a series of options – do nothing, provide basic services including restrooms, potable water and trash collection, or enforce the existing rules of no camping, fires, dumping and provide social service assistance.

Dann asked how the Committee should support action by City Council.

Chaney noted there are approximately 30 encampments.

5-6. Election of Chair & Vice Chair; and set regular meeting schedule

Parsley nominated Papalia as chair of the Committee, seconded by Papalia. Granholt nominated Dann. The Committee agreed to continue the item.

The Committee agreed to meet the first Wednesday of the month starting in March.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS – Information only

6-1. Beach Restoration Study – Jan. 27 EBRPD Exec Board (flyer attached); Workshop in February in City Council Chambers

EBRPD will return to the City for another meeting the week of February 14.

6-2. Commission/Committee Training – Jan. 31 at 6:30 in Council Chambers

6-3. Status of Bay Trail extension

EBRPD provided a status update to Albany Strollers and Rollers – the path would follow the shoreline. They are working with GGF to acquire the land.

6-4. Burrowing Owl 2010 monitoring report (attached)

No burrowing owls have been seen at the site as of yet. Ongoing maintenance continues.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(Commission/Committee/Board Member announcement of requests for future agenda items. No public comment will be taken on announcement of future agenda items)

7-1. Next Meeting: Thursday, February 10, 2011 – Joint meeting with Park & Recreation Commission on Draft Interim Dog Management policy at Albany Waterfront

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 pm.