

**CITY OF REDLANDS**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting of June 10, 2021**

Present:	Ryan Johnson, Chair Maryn Wells, Vice Chair Douglas Gonzales Edward Ferrari Brad Billings Adam Hebden Richa Jos	Absent: None
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FCS Staff: Tabitha Kevari, Senior Manager, Facilities & Community Services  
Joe Bierma, Administrative Analyst, Facilities & Community Services

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Chair Johnson went over the correct procedure to submit public comments as well as how to make arrangements to accommodate any ADA needs.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**A.** Julia Lenhardt submitted a comment regarding the age of City parks as well as the lack of shade and water. Bonnie Cook submitted a comment about homeless and drug use in City parks. Danielle De Los Santos submitted a comment about drug paraphernalia and homeless in City Parks. Ashley Phillips submitted a public comment about the lack of safe equipment and amenities in City parks. 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. Holly Highfield submitted a comment about the need for wood chips to be replaced in City parks as well as more trees and shade structures in parks. Meyti Porter submitted a comment about the need to take examples from parks in surrounding cities to inform decisions about amenities needed at parks in Redlands. Amber Rhodes submitted a comment about the need for updated equipment in City 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. Virginia Gautier submitted a comment about the need for more trees and parking at the dog park at Ford Park. J. Rager submitted a comment about the need for cleanup of drug paraphernalia and homeless in City parks. Kristin Speak submitted a comment about the need for updated park features and equipment. Commissioners Billings, Wells, and Ferrari expressed appreciation for the public

comments submitted. Commissioners Jos and Ferrari asked that the public comments be circulated to the entirety of the Commission.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- A.** May 13, 2021, regular meeting minutes were approved by Commissioner Ferrari with a correction to specify the basketball courts at Texonia Park and that item 7, bullet point 3 be amended to read “Discussion and possible action related to establishing more shaded areas in park picnic areas with solar panels as an option.” Seconded by Chair Johnson and carried, with Commissioner Hebden abstaining.

**4. STATUS REPORTS:**

- A. City Council Liaison Report** – Eddie Tejeda reported that Council approved the proposed budget at the last Council meeting and it would be on the consent calendar for the next meeting for its final approval. The Mayor Pro Tem also recommended the Parks and Recreation Commissioners read the proposed code of conduct which would apply to both City Council members and the members of the City boards, commissions, and committees.
- B. FCS staff report on Park and Recreation activities-** Shawn McIntosh reported that the focus of Parks staff has been on the Day of Service and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. Dave Jaffe gave a report on the camps available through the City’s Recreation Division. Mr. Jaffe also reported on the remodeling of the Community Center.
- C. Student Liaison Report** – Student Commissioner Jos gave a report on the RHS graduations and finals formats.
- D. RUSD Liaison Report-** RUSD Liaison Rendler was absent.

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Discussion and possible action regarding solar lighting at the Dog Park within Ford Park**
- a.* This item was moved before Status Reports. Erik Reeves gave a report noting that due to brightness and duration of illumination needed for City parks, current solar options are not adequate.
- B. Discussion and possible action regarding survey questions for public input**
- a.* Commissioner Hebden had no updates to report. Commissioner Billings recommended written survey forms be handed out to park users. Vice Chair Wells commented on the need to post the survey on multiple platforms. Commissioner Ferrari noted the Cultural Arts Commission has a dedicated Facebook page and that the Parks and Recreation Commission may want to discuss, at a future date, doing the same thing. Chairman Johnson asked for volunteers to join Commissioner Hebden on the Survey Subcommittee. Commissioners Jos and Wells volunteered to join.

- C. *Discussion and possible action regarding park signage at Israel Beal and Caroline Park*
  - a. Shawn McIntosh reported no updates. Chairman Johnson recommended tabling this item until the August meeting to allow staff to catch up.
- D. *Discussion and possible action regarding a BMX and Mountain Bike pump track*
  - a. Chairman Johnson commented a dirt track would likely require less up front cost. Vice Chair Wells commented on the possibility of a heat island being created by the installation of asphalt. The Vice Chair also commented on the number of cycling focused amenities which already exist around the City. She expressed the desire to have all priority projects given the same attention as the pump track. Commissioner Billings questioned the cost-benefit of installing a pump track. Chairman Johnson gave some history on this item in response to a question from Commissioner Ferrari. Commissioner Ferrari commented that the need for a splash pad has come up more consistently. Commissioner Gonzales commented on possible number of splash pads. Item was tabled until the September meeting on a motion from Chairman Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Billings.

## 6. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. *Discussion and possible action regarding the project list subcommittee*
  - a. Vice Chair Wells discussed the changes made to the project list. Commissioner Ferrari asked about the “Adds Revenue” column being only a yes or no option. Commissioner Ferrari also suggested adding a “Feasibility” column to the list. Vice Chair Wells asked about the ability of staff to look deeper into specific projects. Staff liaison Kevari responded that the pump track report was easy to produce because the Commission wanted to know specifically about the Temecula track, allowing staff to focus on that one city. Mayor Pro Tem commented that many of the new developments in town install amenities and recommended Commissioners attend the town hall meetings these developers usually hold, in order to express their desires for a particular amenity or amenities. No action taken.
- B. *Discussion and possible action regarding the Budget Subcommittee*
  - a. Commissioner Ferrari and Commissioner Gonzales were not able to meet to discuss this. Item was tabled until the July meeting.
- C. *Discussion and possible action related to establishing more shaded areas in park picnic areas with solar panels as an option*
  - a. Commissioner Ferrari asked staff about insurance for damaged shade structures. Mr. McIntosh responded that replacement of shade structures comes out of the Parks division budget. There were no updates on the raising of existing shade structures. No action taken.
- D. *Discussion and possible action regarding improvements to structures at Smiley Park*
  - a. Commissioner Ferrari commented that he had received input from residents in his district about the state of the structures at Smiley Park.

Commissioner Ferrari motioned to add an item to priority list for addition of a play structure as well as general improvements at Smiley Park. Second by Chairman Johnson. Motion carried.

- E. Discussion and possible action regarding improvements at Texonia Park*
  - a.* Eddie Tejada reported that a private donor has proposed building a football stadium at Texonia Park. The Mayor Pro Tem further commented that parking would need to be looked at due to the possible increased use. Commissioner Ferrari commented that an amphitheater would be a welcome addition to the park. Mayor Pro Tem related his experience living across from a park which was used for its sports fields. A motion to add both general and specific items at Texonia Park to the priority list was made by Commissioner Ferrari. Seconded by Chairman Johnson. Motion carried.
- F. Discussion and possible action regarding Wi-Fi availability in City Parks*
  - a.* Chairman Johnson commented that adding Wi-Fi in the parks may draw the homeless population to those locations. Commissioner Billings commented that Wi-Fi is not needed in the parks. Commissioner Ferrari motioned to look into having City Wi-Fi in Ed Hales Park, the Redlands Bowl, and all three sections of Smiley Park and adding these items to the project list and requesting staff research cost. Second by Chairman Johnson. Commissioner Billings opposed. Motion carried.
- G. Discussion and possible action regarding the overall selection process for City Commissions in accordance with Chapter 2.32 of the Redlands Municipal Code*
  - a.* Commissioner Ferrari commented that he believes equal voting district representation should apply to all City commissions. Chairman Johnson commented that commissioners represent all of Redlands and not a single voting district. Mayor Pro Tem Tejada commented that appointment of commissioners takes place on a rotational basis amongst the City Council. Additionally, he stated he looks for proper qualifications when appointing, and not just where the appointee lives. Vice Chair Wells commented that she believes that no evidence exists showing bias on the part of the Commission when it comes to dealing with City parks. No action taken.
- H. Discussion and possible action regarding the roles, expectations and limitations of the Commission in accordance with Chapter 2.32 of the Redlands Municipal Code*
  - a.* Vice Chair Wells commented that a welcome pack or welcome committee would be nice to have for new commissioners. Commissioner Ferrari echoed the Vice Chair's feelings. Chairman Johnson motioned to request staff work with the Commission to construct a basic commissioner handbook and develop a better welcoming procedure. Second by Commissioner Ferrari. Motion carried.

## **7. POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- Discussion and possible action related to updating the list of commissioner park assignments – *Commissioner Billings stated he believes the Commission should focus*

*on identifying three or four items, get them done, and then move on to three or four only once the prior items are done. Chairman Johnson explained that due to COVID, meetings were not conducted for several months, thus the agenda items have become backlogged.*

- Discussion and possible action related to the creation of a permanent Parks and Recreation donation fund
- Discussion and possible action related to the wait times and enforcement within the various community gardens – *Ms. Kevari explained that due to the pandemic, the gardens had gone untended for a while.*
- Discussion and possible action regarding the role of the City Council Liaison

**8. ADJOURNED at 7:11 p.m. to a regular meeting of the CITY OF REDLANDS  
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION  
on Thursday, July 8, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.**