

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Wednesday, August 24, 2011
7:00p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall
City Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA

1. Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Manish Doshi, Leslie Goldstein, Steve Lipson, Robin Mitchell,

Margo Takemiya

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Jawad was absent

2. Commission/Staff Communications/Announcements:

On Saturday, September 24, 2011, Commissioner Mitchell attended a meeting at City Hall about Community Gardens. Ideas were shared about local community vegetable gardening.

Chair Doshi stated that El Cerrito Futbol opening day was September 3, 2011 at Cerrito Vista Park.

- 3. Oral Communication from the Public: None
- 4. Council Liaison Report: None
- 5. Approval of Minutes: Approval of Minutes from April 26, 2011. Commissioner Takemiya moved that the minutes from April 26, 2011, be accepted. Commissioner Lipson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- 6. Overview of Recreation Department Programs: Christopher Jones, Acting Recreation Director

Jones gave a presentation of the department. Some of the highlights were the Senior Center Garden; Volunteer Appreciation Day (which honored 80 volunteers); the June band program area-wide festival; the addition of a band program at Fairmont Elementary School; and the Fourth of July, which featured over 70 non-food vendors, 60 volunteers, 25 food booths, trains, and a climbing wall. This summer over 900 children participated in our summer camps.

7. Request by El Cerrito Tennis Club to Paint Quick Start Lines:

Commissioner Takemiya announced that the El Cerrito Tennis Club will pay for Quick Start lines at one of our tennis courts. Quick Start lines delineate a smaller court for children learning to play tennis. She said that players do not notice the painted colored lines. The cost is \$650 per site. The courts under consideration are either Castro or Canyon Trail depending on what court will be re-surfaced next.

8. Discussion of Feasibility of Day Change of Regularly Scheduled Park and Recreation Commission meeting.

Commissioner Jawad requested this Commission consider changing its regular meeting date from Tuesday or Thursday. Chair Doshi stated that he is not available either of those days. Commissioners Goldstein and Kaplan stated a preference for Wednesdays. Commissioners Lipson and Mitchell were available open to other days. Given the availability of most of the Commissioners, the Commission did not feel that it was feasible to move the date.

9. Engineering Public Works Update:

Bill Driscoll, Maintenance Superintendent, reported the possibility of a grey water contamination of the creek at the Canyon Trail petroglyph. One theory is that the Mira Vista Golf Course construction and its use of chemical fertilizers is polluting the run-off. The City has sent water samples to be tested.

Commissioner Kaplan asked for an update on the work at Huber Park retaining wall. It was reported that Assistant City Engineer Gokoffski is working on it.

Chair Doshi announced that the permit for the batting cage at Cerrito Vista Park has been issued.

10. Staff Update:

Jones explained that El Cerrito have the option of contributing \$1.8 million to keep their redevelopment agencies. The El Cerrito City Council took action to opt into this plan. The League of California Cities, citing Proposition 22, has sued the State, stating that the State's action is illegal.

The City Council authorized the recreation Department's purchase of Rec Trac software through Vermont Systems Incorporated.

The West Contra Costa School District plans to demolish the Portola school and gym. It has been requested that the site be graded to be used as fields.

Jones announced: a) Safeway has donated a \$2500 for the Senior Center and the scholarship fund; b) we have hosted two Cinemas in the Park; c) there has been minor construction at Splash Park (a new gate); and d) the emergency shower at acid station has been replaced.

- 11. Items for next agenda:
- a) Chair Doshi reported that there have been issues about the joint field use at the Gilman Fields. He was concerned about the limited time El Cerrito has had.
- b) Cori Diaz, Youth Program Supervisor, will give an overview of the Recreation Department's Youth Programs.
- 12. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.