

**MINUTES
FREMONT RECREATION COMMISSION
VIRTUAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 2021**

1. PRELIMINARY

- A. Call to Order:** Commissioner Mora called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- B. Flag Salute:** Commissioner Thompson led the salute to the flag.
- C. Roll Call:** Present: Commissioners Jannet Benz, Robby Gill, Mia Mora, Larry Thompson, and Elissa Winters
Staff Present: Community Services Director Suzanne Wolf, Community Services Deputy Director Kim Beranek, Parks Planning & Design Manager Roger Ravenstad, Senior Landscape Architect Tara Bhuthimethee, Senior Landscape Architect Mark Mennucci, Park Superintendent Juan Barajas, Recreation Superintendent II Irene Jordahl, Recreation Superintendent I Michael Sa, and Executive Assistant Tracey Leung

2. CONSENT CALENDAR - None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Winters and seconded by Commissioner Thompson to approve the minutes of January 20, 2021.

Ayes: Commissioners Benz, Gill, Mora, Thompson, and Winters
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Commissioner Hughes

4. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Jannet Benz mentioned that she attended a Sierra Club meeting regarding the environmental impacts of the proposed Pacific Commons sports complex. She stated that she is continuously listening and getting more information, and she has not made a decision about the project. She indicated that she was open to all input regarding the Parks Master Plan project.

Item opened for public comment.

Kelly Abreu shared his opinion regarding existing parks, trails and wetlands in Fremont. He commented that since it is difficult to find suitable sites for parks, consider constructing parks in higher liability areas for flooding, such as Pacific Commons Linear Park.

Lawrence Edelson commented that good maintained and easily accessible sports fields are needed in Fremont.

Neha Bazaj shared her opinion to reallocate the budget from Palm Avenue Park towards other areas of Fremont that have less park facilities and open spaces.

Carin High commented that building a sports complex in the Pacific Common area will adversely impacted the wildlife and habitat in the area.

Item closed to public.

5. STAFF PRESENTATIONS/CEREMONIAL ITEMS

Director Wolf informed the Commission that the Council proclaimed the month of February as Mask Up Fremont Month. The Youth Advisory Commission encouraged everyone to wear masks and use #MaskUpFremont for posting pictures with masks on, to help reduce the spread of Covid-19.

5.1 Senior Landscape Architect Tara Bhuthimethee gave an update of the preliminary results of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan’s statistically valid Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment survey.

Item opened for public comment.

Carin High spoke to the Commission regarding the written comment that was submitted about incorporating passive trails, native plantings, and elements that will reduce the adverse impacts of climate change in the Master Plan.

Item closed to public.

6. ACTION ITEMS

6.1 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Election of Chair and Vice Chair of the Recreation Commission for calendar year 2021

On a motion by Commissioner Winters, seconded by Commissioner Mora, the Recreation Commission elected Commissioner Benz as the Chair of the Recreation Commission for calendar year 2021.

Vote on Motion:

Ayes: Commissioners Benz, Gill, Mora, Thompson, and Winters
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Commissioner Hughes

Motion approved and so ordered.

On a motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Benz, the Recreation Commission elected Commissioner Winters as the Vice Chair of the Recreation Commission for calendar year 2021.

Vote on Motion:

Ayes: Commissioners Benz, Gill, Mora, Thompson, and Winters
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Commissioner Hughes

Motion approved and so ordered.

6.2 RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING CALENDAR
Recreation Commission Meeting Calendar from January 2022 through December 2022

On a motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Winters, the Recreation Commission accepted the Recreation Commission Meeting Calendar for the year 2022.

Vote on Motion:

Ayes: Commissioners Benz, Gill, Mora, Thompson, and Winters
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Commissioner Hughes

Motion approved and so ordered.

6.3 EBRPD/CITY OF FREMONT LIAISON COMMITTEE MEMBER REPLACEMENT
East Bay Regional Park District / City of Fremont Liaison Committee Member (Primary and Alternate)

On a motion by Commissioner Gill, seconded by Commissioner Mora, the Recreation Commission elected Commissioner Thompson as the primary Liaison Committee Member.

Vote on Motion:

Ayes: Commissioners Benz, Gill, Mora, Thompson, and Winters
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Commissioner Hughes

Motion approved and so ordered.

On a motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Winters, the Recreation Commission elected Commissioner Gill as the alternate Liaison Committee Member.

Vote on Motion:

Ayes: Commissioners Benz, Gill, Mora, Thompson, and Winters
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Commissioner Hughes

Motion approved and so ordered.

**6.4 2021/22-2025/26 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
Consider recommending to the City Council Approval of the Fiscal Year 2021/22-2025/26 Capital Improvement Program for Park Projects Eligible for Funding with Park Facilities**

Parks Planning and Design Manager Roger Ravenstad provided an update on the Capital Improvement Program and explained the recommendation categories.
The Commission asked questions and provided feedback.

Item opened for public comment.

Carin High thanked staff for the comprehensive presentation and mentioned that the public will be benefitted to understand how various plans fit together. She also suggested to have better navigation to the CIP and master plan information on the City website.

John Weed suggested building a community center at the frontage of the lawn at Ohlone College.

Al Minard asked if there is any plan to develop a trail between Irvington and the south and east side of Lake Elizabeth.

Item closed to public.

On a motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Winters, the Recreation Commission:

1. Recommend the City Council defund and close the Central Park North Restroom Bldg (Always Dream Restroom), PWC 8718 and return monies to the appropriate Fund Balance for reallocation in the FY 2021/22 - FY2025/26 CIP.
2. Recommend the City Council defund and close the Measure WW Administrative Cost Project, PWC 8774 and return monies to the appropriate Fund Balance for re-allocation in the FY2021/22 - FY2025/26 CIP.

3. Recommend the City Council defund and close the Play Area Conversion to Synthetic Turf, PWC 8835 and return monies to the appropriate Fund Balance for re-allocation in the FY2021/22 - FY2025/26 CIP.
4. Recommend the City Council defund and close the Ballfield Backstop & Fencing Project, PWC 8878 and return monies to the appropriate Fund Balance for re-allocation in the FY 2021/22 - FY2025/26 CIP.
5. Recommend the City Council defund a portion of the Irrigation Upgrades Project, PWC 8886 in the amount of \$12,860 from Fund 533 and return monies to the appropriate Fund Balance for reallocation in the FY 2021/22 - FY2025/26 CIP.
6. Recommend the City Council defund a portion of the Park Signs Project, PWC 8948 in the amount of \$116,558 from Fund 540 and return monies to the appropriate Fund Balance for reallocation in the FY 2021/22 - FY2025/26 CIP.
7. Recommend the City Council defund and close the California Nursery Presidents House, PWC 8951 and return monies to the appropriate Fund Balance for re-allocation in the FY 2021/22 - FY2025/26 CIP.
8. Recommend the City Council move forward projects from last CIP under FY 2019/20 through 2021/22 to be included in the proposed FY 2021/22 - FY2025/26 CIP under the same fiscal years, as shown in Exhibit 2.
9. Recommend the City Council allocate funds to projects in Exhibit 3, Section B, as shown, in the FY 2021/22 - FY2025/26 CIP.
10. Recommend the City Council direct staff to make an application to the State of California Proposition 68 Per-capita Program for the Central Park Path: Senior Center to Lion's Picnic Area and FCC project; and to adopt a resolution authorizing the application.

Vote on Motion:

Ayes: Commissioners Benz, Gill, Mora, Thompson, and Winters
 Noes: None
 Abstain: None
 Absent: Commissioner Hughes

Motion approved and so ordered.

7. COMMISSION REFERRALS - None

8. COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Director Wolf informed the Commission that there would be an update of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and preliminary results of the statistically valid survey at the virtual City Council Special Meeting Work Session on Tuesday, February 16th at 6pm.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Suzanne Wolf, Secretary
Fremont Recreation Commission