

MINUTES
City of Fremont/EBRPD Liaison Committee Meeting
Ardenwood Historic Farm – Granary
34600 Fremont Blvd.
Fremont, CA 94555
Thursday, June 23, 2016

Committee Members Present

City of Fremont: Vinnie Bacon, Council Member; Jeff Couthren, Recreation Commissioner

East Bay Regional Park District: Ayn Wieskamp, Committee Member; Dennis Waespi, Committee Member

Staff Present

East Bay Regional Park District: Jim O'Connor, Assistant General Manager Operations; Alicia Gonzales, Management Analyst Operations; Michelle Julene, Senior Park Planner; Kim Fisher, Landscape Architect; Larry Tong, Chief of Planning; Nancy Krebs, Supervising Naturalist; Ira Bletz, Southeast Regional Services Manager; Terry Noonan, Interpretive Parklands Unit Manager; Denise Valentine, Executive Secretary

City of Fremont: Kim Beranek, Community Services Deputy Director; Roger Ravenstad, Parks Planning and Design Manager; Damon Sparacino, Recreation Superintendent I; Geneva Bosques, Community Engagement Manager; Michael Tegner, Police Lieutenant; and Tracey Leung, Executive Assistant

Guests

Bob McCarrick – Dumbarton Quarry Associates
Adam Carvalho - Dumbarton Quarry Associates

A light meal for committee members and staff was provided at 5:30 p.m.

City of Fremont Council Member Vinnie Bacon called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

1) Introduction

The meeting commenced with the introduction of those present.

2) Approval of Minutes

Kelly Abreu: Mr. Abreu made a few comments from the minutes of the May 7, 2015 meeting:

- Trail maps were posted to entrance to the park within 4 months after request.
- Ban on smoking is in place after request within the past year.
- Request to lift ban on sunrise viewing, which now is an interim ban. Mr. Abreu hopes ban will soon be lifted.
- This meeting, originally scheduled for Sept 2015, is approximately 9 months late.

- Staff crafted detailed parking restrictions on city streets and opened a 1200 acre regional park directly to city council and to the district board without public input. This committee should be abolished.
- When will the next liaison meeting be held?

By motion of Committee Member Wieskamp and seconded by Committee Member Waespi, the minutes of May 7, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

Vote on Motion:

Ayes: Committee Members Wieskamp, Waespi, and Bacon
 Noes: None
 Abstain: Committee Member Couthren
 Recuse: None
 Absent: None

Motion approved and so ordered.

3) Dumbarton Quarry Park

Kim Fisher, Landscape Architect, Bob McCarrick and Adam Carvalho from Dumbarton Quarry Associates provided an update of the general campground design, civil plan layout, and construction schedule of the Dumbarton Quarry Park project. They responded to questions from Committee Members.

Item opened for public comment.

Kelly Abreu, Fremont Resident: Mr. Abreu asked a series of questions regarding the Dumbarton Quarry Park project.

Item closed to public.

Assistant General Manager Operations Jim O’Connor suggested Mr. Abreu to submit his questions in writing to EBRPD, so staff can address the questions properly.

4) Mission Peak Update

Senior Park Planner Michelle Julene and Chief of Planning Larry Tong provided an EIR update and responded to questions from Committee Members.

Item opened for public comment.

Kelly Abreu, Fremont Resident: Mr. Abreu was confused about the project status. He commented on the EIR completion date, which was a six month delay.

Ben Yee, Fremont Resident: Mr. Yee commented that the causes of the problems are the park users and not the park agencies. Staff should educate the park users and surrounding community in terms of common sense, consideration and courtesy.

William Yragui, Fremont Resident: Mr. Yragui asked for better park access. He commented that Park District needs to change and fix park issues, such as not enough water and erosion problem. He also commented on the maintenance problems with the trail at Mission Peak and Vargas.

Jannet Benz, Fremont Resident: Ms. Benz stated that the park should be managed to sustainable visitor levels to preserve and protect natural resources and to avoid irreparable damage at Mission Peak. She suggested the park district to consider a hiker permit system or surge pricing. There are excess numbers of visitors using one single entrance. There are also issues with disrespectful park users.

Item closed to public.

Community Services Deputy Director Kim Beranek provided an update on parking program and responded to questions from Committee Members.

5) Vargas Plateau Update

Terry Noonan provided an update on Vargas Plateau after the park opening May 5.

Item opened for public comment.

Kelly Abreu, Fremont Resident: Mr. Abreu commented there is no drinking water for park users at Vargas Plateau and asked if it is possible to supply water in the park for the park users. He mentioned there are parcels located at the brickyard inside Niles Canyon road where would be great location for a staging area for several nearby trails.

Item closed to public.

6) Ardenwood Historic Farm Updates

Nancy Krebs provided an update of the farm and upcoming events.

Ira Bletz provided an update of projects that the Park District and City of Fremont working together with PG&E, which were gas pipeline replacement and tree maintenance project.

7) Public Comments

Kelly Abreu, Fremont Resident: Mr. Abreu suggested install ADA restroom and drinking water at Ohlone College as a main entrance to Mission Peak. It can alleviate excess number of visitors using the Stanford entrance for Mission Peak. Mr. Abreu also asked how many parking spaces are being restricted for the permit project.

William Yragui, Fremont Resident: Mr. Yragui commented that there is lack of parking and no water in the Vargas Plateau. He mentioned park users and community need to be represented and involved in the city and park district meetings.

8) Staff Comments

Committee Member Dennis Waespi mentioned that California Assembly passed a 55-14 vote to push forward a statewide park bond measure to the senate. If the bond passes through the senate, it will move to the electorate in the November election. In addition, Measure AA passed with two thirds majority. The measure will bring approximately \$500 million for San Francisco Bay Restoration.

Committee Member Ayn Wieskamp thanked former Committee Member Frank Pirrone for his service on the committee.

Committee Member Ayn Wieskamp adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m.