

**MINUTES
ALAMEDA COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**Thursday, May 7, 2009
Oakland City Hall
One Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, CA
(Approved June 4, 2009)**

2:30 PM FIELD TRIP – Fox Theater Oakland, 1912 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland

I. Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m. by Commissioner Minard, Chair.

Commissioners Present:

Annalee Allen
MaryAnn McMillan
David Sadoff
Al Minard
Dennis Waespi
Ellen Wyrick-Parkinson
David Tam

Commissioners Excused:

Marie Cronin
Harry Francis
James Loughran

Absent

Stephen Sanger

Staff Present:

Angela Robinson-Pinõn
Nilma Singh

Guests:

Jim Everett

I. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The Chair and Commissioner Tam made minor spelling corrections. *Commissioner Waespi made the motion to approve the corrected April 2nd Minutes and Commissioner Sadoff seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

III. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM - Any member of the public may address the Commission on a matter not on the regular agenda. No discussion or action may be taken on these items.

Jim Everett said he lives at 22628 Valley View Drive, off Kelly Road, Hayward. He expressed concerns regarding the silt and algae deposits at Don Castro Lake and requested advice. Commissioner Waespi noted that the State, PW Flood Control and EBRPD all have some jurisdiction. Commission Allen felt that since this was a recreational item, the matter could be agendized for discussion and the Chair agreed. Commissioner Waespi recommended inviting all three involved agencies and Commissioner McMillan added San Lorenzo Creek Taskforce. Commissioner Sadoff recommended that staff contact Mr. Everett if the matter is agendized for the June meeting.

IV. CHAIR and STAFF REPORT(S): *These items include information and discussion by the Commission:*

A. CHAIR REPORT – *No report.*

B. STAFF REPORT – Ms. Robinson-Piñon introduced the new Commissioner, Kevin Liebig.

V. OLD BUSINESS – *All old business will include information, discussion and/or action by the Commission.*

Commissioner Allen requested an up-date on the Ordinance. Staff replied that work on the Ordinance will begin again late summer as she is currently working on the Housing Element Up-date which has a June deadline. In response to the Chair, she added that work on the Mills Act could either start after the Ordinance or could be worked on simultaneously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS – *All new business will include information, discussion and/or action by the Commission.*

A. 278 Hampton Road– The Commission will discuss a proposed demolition

Ms. Robinson-Piñon presented the staff report and introduced Marita Hawryluk, Redevelopment Agency.

Ms. Hawryluk provided background information: the project will either be a community center or a small infill affordable housing although a community center is a high priority to the Cherryland area; a copy of the Historical Architectural Resource Study material was included in the Commission package; currently there is only one outbuilding on the property; and although the property has historical significance, due to a fire to the main house structure, the historical significance has been lost. The Redevelopment Agency is pursuing a community center and will tie the center to Meek Estate with a recognition as the property had been initially owned by the Meek family and then a chicken ranch. Commissioner McMillan asked where the center would be located on the property and if there will be adequate parking. Ms. Hawryluk explained that the property will have to accommodate the facility and parking. The project details are not available but she will be working with the project architect and HARD. Currently, the Agency is working on street improvements on Hampton Road.

Commissioner Waespi made the motion to move and dedicate strongly for a community center. Commissioner Allen noted that this Commission has visited the site and the property owner had not maintained the site; she asked for the number of housing units. Ms. Hawryluk said they would be 8-10 affordable single family homes, details of which will be provided in future. Commissioner Tam seconded.

Commissioner Sadoff expressed concern with the absence of any repercussions to the owner. Commissioner McMillan agreed and proposed that the Meek history be incorporated. Commissioner Allen noted that since there is a proposal for the wedding pavilion (on the last agenda), a community center could be redundant and suggested perhaps a Master Plan for this area. The Chair also expressed concern for rewarding the owner for allowing the property to deteriorate. Ms. Hawryluk said that she will pass this concern to County Counsel.

Motion to accept the findings of the historical evaluation, recommend demolition of the structure, and strongly encourage the County to pursue a community center passed unanimously.

VII. COMMISSIONER REPORTS – *Commissioners will report on areas of concern and/or informational items concerning parks, recreation and historical preservation issues within the supervisory districts they serve.*

- A. District 1: Haggerty** - Commissioner Minard announced the upcoming Arts & Crafts Festival at Shin Park; working on raising funds from the Chinese community to portray the Chinese workers' cabins at Shin Park; Union City 50th anniversary parade downtown on May 16th and reported that the restoration of Higuera Building kiosk is in progress.
- B. District 2: Steele** - Commissioner McMillan, in reference to 278 Hampton Road, requested an archeological study and staff noted the absence of an EIR. Commissioner Sadoff recommended that the matter be agendaized for the next meeting. Commissioner Waespi thought that the Commission could still request an archeological study, perhaps by a student.
- C. District 3: Lai-Bitker** – *None*
- D. District 4: Miley** - Commissioner Waespi reported that he had attended the Art of History on May 3 at Meek Estate; announced the up-coming Castro Valley Rancho Rodeo on May 16-17; and indicated that, if interested, the Commission to hold meetings at the San Lorenzo Community Center, other community centers...etc.

Commissioner Sadoff announced the up-coming free class on San Lorenzo history by Doris Marciel, from 7-9 p.m. on May 13th & 20th with a field trip on May 23rd.

Commissioner Allen announced the following: the upcoming Walking Tours; the celebration of Trans Continental Railroads on May 10; Oakland Heritage Alliance Award night at 7pm on May 14th at Julian Morgan Chapel of the Chimes; and a new Arcadia book on Berkeley postcards. She also suggested a tour of the Dunsmuir Helman Historic Estate.

- E. District 5: Carson** - Commissioners Tam reported that on Tuesday night, Berkeley City Council adopted their Climate Action Plan and details are available on their website. He also stated that Howard Beckman had contacted him regarding the preservation of the Meek Pavilion.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Agenda Items for future meeting: Staff listed the following items: Pullman Car, Don Castro, and Meek Estate Wedding Pavilion Master Plan.

INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE – A folder of newsletters and other mailings from various government agencies and private organizations will be circulated for the Commission's review - no action may be taken on these items. Staff noted the following inclusions: copies of County's Counsel's presentation from the last Commission meeting for any interested Commissioners; letters from the State Department of Parks and Recreation; letter from City of Livermore regarding the rescheduled Historic Preservation Commission meeting from May 7th to the 14th at 7:30 pm; the Spring booklet from Adobe Trails and Howard Beckman's letter dated May 1, 2009.

- X. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no other business, Commissioner Allen made the motion to adjourn and Commissioner McMillan seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.