

Parks and Recreation Commission
MINUTES
City Council Hearing Room, 990 Palm Street
Wednesday, September 7, 2005 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Peter Dunan called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Chair Pete Dunan, Commissioners: Gary Clay, Bill Pyper, Don Dollar, Jill Lemieux and John Knight.

ABSENT: Ty Griffin

STAFF: Director Paul LeSage and Ashley Blake.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the May 25, 2005 meetings were approved as submitted.

1. Parking for Mitchell Park Senior Activities

Director LeSage presented this staff report.

Public Comment:

Sergio Cabrales: 890 Buchon, concerned that two hour zoning will impact his street one block from park even more due to downtown employees parking farther out.

Jim Burcheri: 977 Buchon, expressed that his street is already heavily impacted by downtown parkers and concerned that new zoning around park will only make it worse.

Diana Phillips: 1035 Buchon, does not have a problem with seniors receiving permits, yet she wants consideration of residents since she and others live in the area whereas senior only visit. Expressed difficulty she already has with parking during week days and wants residents to have a pass.

Kathy Borland: 1350 Osos, represented Grace Church and thought three hour parking zones would beneficial both around the park and on Pismo Street side next to the church where currently meters are located.

Tony Romero: 1045 Buchon, excited to hear that Commission is not visiting the parking lot issue for the park. Concerned that two hour parking zones will push more cars closer to his home and will impact parking constrains more than it already does. In favor of the permit idea for residents.

Agatha Reardon: Senior representative, expressed desire to find a solution since it is a stress for seniors and understands residents' concerns. Explained that seniors must park as close to the senior center as possible due to mobility.

Commission discussed the item.

Bill Pyper: Thinks parking lot is the best idea, but supports this plan, wants two hour limit on both sides of the street, not just side closes to the park. Thinks residents should have passes as well as seniors.

John Knight: Wants residents to have passes, likes two hour zone limit, supports recommendation from staff but thinks it will a long term solution.

Jill Lemieux: Wants to serve both residents and seniors, concerned that neighborhoods 1-2 blocks back

will be heavily impacted. Suggested that staff and Commission reviews again in six months.

Don Dollar: Sees issue as a long term employee work problem. Does not think this recommendation will solve the issue, it will create more and the City needs to find a long term solution. Thinks main issue is downtown employee parking and residents should have first priority to parking.

Gary Clay: Expressed that the issue is larger than the block and this recommendation is only a “band aide” fix. A parking lot seems to be the best solution and explained that an aesthetically pleasing lot can be done without decreasing housing value and increasing transient numbers.

Pete Dunan: Agrees that recommendation is a “band aide” fix and concerned that we may be benefiting one group at the expense of another. Questioned who would patrol the area and enforce parking and suggested that all spaces in front of Senior Center become handicap spots (Clay agreed). Thinks a parking lot may start to make more sense for the area.

Recommendation:

Recommend to the City Council that Senior Center members be issued a parking pass allowing unlimited parking on all four sides of Mitchell Park from 9:00am-4:00pm Monday through Friday, while attending Senior Center programs; that one pass be given to each resident immediately adjacent to the park; and that the Commission is given a status report on the pass program in June of 2006 and a full review of the Plan in November of 2006.

(Pyper/Knight 2 yes: 4 no: 1 Griffin absent).

2. Monterey Creekside Project Preliminary Review

Michael Codron presented this staff report and introduce developer Jeff Edwards.

Commission discussed the item.

Recommendation:

Review the preliminary project proposal and provide feedback to staff and the project proponent.

3. Approving the Naming of the Chinese Park

Director Paul LeSage presented this staff report.

Commission discussed the item.

Recommendation:

Recommend to the City Council that the Chinese Park at 1095 Marsh Street be named the LC YC CHENG PARK.

(Knight/Pyper) 6 yes: 0 no: 1 Griffin absent.

4. Director’s Report

LeSage briefed the Commission on the following projects:

- Comments from the artificial turf site visits
- Mitchell Park public art proposal
- Update on other projects

5. Staff Report

Rich Ogden, Recreation Supervisor, presented a staff report on the various programs happening in the Parks and Recreation Department and Todd Beights, Parks and Urban Forest Supervisor, informed Commissioners on all Park Maintenance projects.

6. Committee Reports

Commissioners gave reports on Committees they attended.

- Tree Committee – Dollar
- Mayors Youth Task Force –
- Open Space – Dollar
- Therapy Pool –
- Joint Use Committee –
- Jack House Committee – Pyper
- Golf - Lemieux
- Landscape Parkways-

7. Communications

-Don Dollar thanked staff for the Park Tour in July and expressed how beneficial all the information he received from the golf course.

-Jill Lemieux thanked staff for the Artificial Turf tour.

8. Adjourned

The meeting adjourned at 9:16pm to the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on October 5, 2005.