



(781)

**CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**

**Wednesday, November 8, 2017
6:00 PM
City of Huntington Beach
Civic Center Council Chambers
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648-2702**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Kreitz called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Carchio (arrived at 7:22 pm), Cuzzacrea, Gasparian, Kaub, Kreitz, Mantini,
Miller, Sterud, Thiel
Absent: Schuetz (excused)

STAFF PRESENT: Janeen Laudenback; David Dominguez, Chris Slama, Charlene Gomez, Nashya Sadono

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Mantini

PRESENTATIONS:

Oath of Office:

Gomez administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Bridget Kaub, representative of the Huntington Beach City School District, and Commissioner Miller, representative of the Huntington Beach Union High School District.

MINUTES:

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Cuzzacrea and seconded by Commissioner Mantini to approve the minutes of October 11, 2017. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Cuzzacrea, Gasparian, Kreitz, Mantini, Thiel
Noes: None
Abstain: Kaub, Miller, Sterud
Absent: Schuetz; Carchio (arrived late)

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Kim Kramer suggested naming the new art project at the Senior Center in Central Park in memory of Michael Rodgers. Mr. Kramer stated that he feels Mr. Rodgers legacy should remain with the seniors, not parks.

Dennis Bauer represented the American Legion Post 133, providing history on the Post, current events and upcoming activities.

Russ Dohrmann also spoke on behalf of the American Legion Post 133.

Robert Dettloff spoke in support of memorializing Michael Rodgers at the Senior Center in Central Park, and suggested the installation of a plaque.

Jerry Person, historian for the City of Huntington Beach, supported naming the parkland at 1706 Orange as the 17th Street Park. Furthermore, Mr. Person requested that the park and buildings be named separately.

Amory Hansen was in support of Item G-1, the recommendation by the Park Naming & Memorials Committee to name the parkland at 1706 Orange Avenue the Michael E. Rodgers Park in recognition of Mr. Rodgers' many years of service to the City.

Jim McKay spoke in support of changing the name of the parkland at 1706 Orange Avenue to the 17th Street Park. Mr. McKay felt that the building should be named after Michael Rodgers.

Richardson Gray urged the Commission to preserve the name of 17th Street Park.

Cindy Motis spoke in support of naming the parkland the 17th Street Park and also supported naming something at the current Senior Center in Central Park after Michael Rodgers.

Barbara Haynes spoke in support of retaining the 17th Street Park name, and suggested naming the building "Rodgers Center" or having something named at the new senior center in honor of Michael Rodgers.

Gloria Alvarez spoke in support of the name "17th Street Park" for the former Rodgers Center site. Ms. Alvarez referenced historical documentation provided to Commission, which referenced the name, 17th Street Park.

Robert Redaelli spoke regarding bringing bocce ball to Huntington Beach. He provided an informational packet to Commission.

Michelle Marciniac spoke in support of an alternative action to return the name of the park to the 17th Street Park. Ms. Marciniac felt that Mr. Rodgers should be honored at the Senior Center in Central Park. Additionally she asked that Commission approve the Adopt-a-Park Project program.

Mark Rafter, a Fountain Valley resident, spoke in support of bringing bocce ball to Huntington Beach. He requested that Commission consider tournament quality courts for potential national tournament play.

John Redaelli spoke in support of bring bocce ball courts to Huntington Beach. Mr. Redaelli stated that he is the author of the hand out previously provided by public speaker, Robert Redaelli.

Susie Worthy spoke in opposition of Item G-1, the naming of the parkland at 1706 Orange Avenue. Ms. Worthy felt that the name Rodgers should have followed to the new Senior Center and that the parkland should be named the 17th Street Park.

Fran Varga spoke in dissention of the proposed action for Item G-1, the naming of the parkland at 1706 Orange Street as the Michael E. Rodgers Park. Ms. Varga felt it should be named the 17th Street Park. Ms. Varga thanked Community Services Director Janeen Laudenback for keeping the residents in the vicinity of the park updated on the activities related to this subject and wished her well in retirement.

Chris Varga urged the City to name the parkland the 17th Street Park and to name an area of the Senior Center in Central Park after Michael Rodgers. Mr. Varga felt that the building should be removed and the parcel returned to a viable park for the community.

Barbara Robinson spoke on the history of the parkland at 1706 Orange Avenue. Ms. Robinson felt that the parkland should be named the 17th Street Park and any buildings on the property could be named separately.

Andrissa Dominguez felt that locals have always referred to the parkland at Orange 1706 Orange Avenue as the 17th Street Park and that it should be named as such.

Mary DeGuelle spoke of her history with the parkland at 1706 Orange Avenue. She felt that it should be reverted back to a park and named the 17th Street Park.

DIRECTOR/MANAGER ITEMS:

Dominguez reported that recommendations from the Fountain Valley School District and the Westminster School District for Commission representatives will go before City Council on November 20, 2017 for approval consideration.

Dominguez further reported that no working meeting will be held in December. A holiday gathering will be held at Cruisers in downtown Huntington Beach. More information will follow.

Lastly, Dominguez stated that a revised agenda was distributed and posted in accordance with the Brown Act to reflect the appointments of Commissioners Miller and Kaub, and also to include a staff report for item G-1 which was inadvertently missing from the original agenda packet.

PUBLIC INPUT MEETING – None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

Rodgers Seniors' Center Naming - Dominguez provided a background report on how the naming of the parkland at 1706 Orange Avenue was vetted through Commission as requested by City Council. The Park Naming & Memorials Committee (PN&MC) met on August 1, 2017. A presentation was given by Historic Resources (HRB) Board Chair, Kathie Schey on the history of property referred to as "Block 417" and an overview of Michael E Rodgers' accomplishments in the City. Ms. Schey provided a report prepared by the HRB that indicates a name was never officially given to the parkland. Dominguez turned the floor over to Commissioner Miller, who served as Chair of the PN&MC. Commissioner Miller conveyed the tough decision the Committee had to make and outlined the process they used in looking at the parkland and the buildings as a whole and as separate naming possibilities.

Dominguez reviewed the full motion and action taken by the Committee. Discussion continued on naming options for Michael Rodgers at the new Senior Center in Central Park, whether the parkland at 1706 Orange Avenue and the building should be named the same or separately, the estimated costs of refurbishment or demolition of the buildings, and the public process. Laudenback stated that staff would have to work with the HB Council on Aging (HBCOA) regarding any potential naming opportunities for Mr. Rodgers at the new senior center.

MOTION: Commissioner Mantini motioned to not approve the recommended action and to refer the naming of the parkland located at 1706 Orange Avenue to the PN&MC for further review until such time that the function of the park is decided upon. Commissioner Carchio seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued on the motion, the naming process, and the future uses of the parkland. Commissioner Kaub voiced her concern about the wording of the motion including language to keep the item with the PN&MC until a decision regarding the use of the parkland is made. Her concern is the length of time it could take to decide upon a use for the land and the item remaining with the PN&MC during that lengthy process. Commissioner Carchio agreed and asked to withdraw his second of the motion. Discussion proceeded on the process and appropriate language for the motion.

AMENDED MOTION: Commissioner Mantini amended the motion to accept the Alternative Action in the staff's Request for Action report as written. The Alternative Action states: to not approve the recommended action and to refer the naming of the parkland located at 1706 Orange Avenue to the PN&MC for further review – removing the wording "*until such time that the function of the park is decided upon*" from the original motion. Commissioner Gasparian seconded the motion.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Gasparian, Kreitz, Mantini, Sterud, Thiel
Noes: Carchio, Cuzzacrea, Kaub
Abstain: Miller
Absent: Schuetz

Adopt-a-Park Project Program – Dominguez provided information on the program saying that it's an opportunity for community volunteers to assist the care and maintenance of City parks, playgrounds and open space. The program will begin at Irby, Bartlett and Huntington Central Park before moving to others in the future.

MOTION: Commissioner Cuzzacrea motioned to approve the Adopt-a-Park Project program as presented. Commissioner Kaub seconded the motion.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Carchio, Cuzzacrea, Gasparian, Kaub, Kreitz, Mantini, Miller, Sterud, Thiel
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Schuetz

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Rodgers Seniors' Center Site Re-Use – Dominguez reported that City Council directed staff to program the facility in the interim while a re-use of the site is being determined. The item will go through the public process, including notices to residents within 1000 feet of the parkland, a notice in the local newspaper, and various other methods.

HB Equestrian Center – Day of the Horse will be celebrated on December 16 at the Equestrian Center from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm. The event will feature food, family fun, and horse-related activities.

Huntington Central Park Permanent Parking Lot – The concept plan has been approved by City Council and will go before the Design Review Board on November 9, 2017. Dominguez provided an outline of the process going forward.

Huntington Central Park East Parking Lot – Dominguez provided a general update on the refurbishment of the parking lot in front of the Park Bench Café. The project will address the ponding issues. Staff is trying to schedule the project to take advantage of the Café's downtime to limit the impact on business.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None

COMMISSION BUSINESS: None

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS:

Commissioners Kaub stated she is happy to be back on Commission and said she appreciates all of the hard work and comments by the public on the Rodgers site topic. She also appreciates that the Adopt-a-Park Project program is moving forward.

Commissioner Carchio thanked Laudenback and Dominguez for their presentation at City Council and for all of the hard work put into bringing the All-Inclusive Park to fruition.

Dominguez announced a "Save the Date" for December 3, 2017 at 1 PM for the groundbreaking of the All-Inclusive Park, stating that it will be held on National Disabilities Day.

Chair Kreitz thanked Laudenback for all she has done for the Department and the City, especially through lean times and wishes her well in retirement.

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO COMMISSION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, Commissioner Carchio moved for adjournment at 7:57 pm.

Submitted by:

David C. Dominguez
Secretary
Community Services Commission

By: Charlene Gomez
Recording Secretary