

Huntington Central Park Committee
Wednesday, June 12, 2019
4:00 PM - Regular Meeting
MINUTES

City of Huntington Beach
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648
Room B-8, Lower Level



COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

ANN ANDERSON, Urban Forest/HB Tree Society
MARY BEHRENS, HB Equestrian Center
MIKE BARTUSICK, Park Bench Café
SHARI ENGEL, Secret Garden
STEVE ENGEL, Secret Garden
KAY GODDARD, Shipley Nature Center
VIC LEIPZIG, Sea & Sage Audubon Society

COMMISSIONERS:

STEPHANIE GREEN, Committee Member
BRIDGET KAUB, Committee Member
JANIS MANTINI, Committee Member
KRISTA STERUD, Committee Member

STAFF:

MARIE KNIGHT, Community Services Director
TRAVIS HOPKINS, Public Works Director
DENNY BACON, Public Works Staff
NASHYA SADONO, Planning Assistant
CHARLENE GOMEZ, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Chair Kaub, the meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Commission Sterud, at which time a quorum was not met. Therefore, no action could be taken on this day.

ROLL CALL

Present - Commissions: Green, Sterud; Community Members: Anderson, Behrens, Engel, Engel, Goddard, Mueller, Nagy; Community Services Staff: Knight, Slama, Sadono, Gomez; Public Works Staff: Herbel, Bacon

Council Liaison: Delgleize

Absent - Commissioners: Kaub, Mantini; Community Members: Bartusick, Leipzig, Livengood, Spohr

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Commissioner Sterud.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Huntington Central Park (HCP) Committee welcomes public comments on all items on this agenda or of community interest. Three minutes per person, time may not be donated to others. Committee on this date can take no action on any item not on the agenda.

Cheryl Johnson - Ms. Johnson inquired about the lake embankment, asking if the maintenance contract had been awarded, and if so, when work would begin. She also asked about the ranking of the projects in the new fiscal budget. Lastly, Ms. Johnson thanked Commissioner Green for her assistance with a fundraiser.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Central Park Current Project Updates - Staff will provide updates on current and approved pending projects, including Public Works maintenance activities and proposed Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) for fiscal year 2019/20.

Bacon reported on tree trimming saying it has been completed. He provided information and sample images of the new trash bins. The color selected was brown as other colors were not aesthetically conducive to the area. Bacon also reported that there is \$250,000 available for fiscal year 2019-20 budget that can be allocated to the elevated path and trail improvements, along with funds left in this year's budget for other park maintenance projects on the priority list.

Herbel reported on the lake embankment stabilization and the need for cost effective options. Natural vegetation and trees will be used for stabilization. Herbel said he would provide the estimated costs at the next meeting. Discussion ensued on the amount and cause of the erosion.

Discussion moved to the color of trash bins, the wear and tear, materials, and what other cities are using. Bacon reported that brown is also used instead of a colored trash bin so as not to be confused with the colors of various recycle bins. Commissioner Green inquired about the timeline of placement. Bacon responded that the department is looking to install/replace the bins by Labor Day.

Steve Engel asked about the status of the maintenance contract. Bacon reported that the maintenance contract is behind schedule due to his recent absence from work. He said the first contractor has been selected and should begin work the first weekend in July.

2. Central Park Groundwater - Brian Ragland, Public Works, will update the Committee on the groundwater conditions in Huntington Central Park and the surrounding area.

Bacon reported that Ragland was not available for today's meeting. Bacon said that Ragland met with others at Blackbird Pond and the water levels were still high. Goddard asked about the timeline. John Scandura, a volunteer with Shipley Nature Center who was attending on behalf of Livengood, provided an overview of the pond and the issues of the high levels. He said that they are looking at a solution to drain some of the water by installing a pipe along the path to the Slater Flood Control Channel. Mr. Scandura confirmed with Goddard that this has been reported to them as an issue with the OC Vector Control. Goddard said that the reeds need to be removed to limit the mosquito nesting. Bacon will review the maintenance schedule. Knight asked if Bacon could request a status for the pond maintenance from Ragland. Knight said that once Bacon has obtained the information it would be disseminated to the Committee.

3. Prop 68 CNRA Green Infrastructure Program - Sadono will provide an update on the grant application.

Sadono reported that she is working with Toni Graham to submit an application for the Prop 68 Green Infrastructure Grant to receive funding for the planting of 200 trees along the Central Park west trail and possibly additional irrigation.

Commissioner Green asked Sadono for a restroom update. Sadono also reported that the restrooms went out to bid and they are currently in plan check. Once they go through the plan check review, construction will begin.

VOLUNTEER PROJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR APPROVAL - None

CENTRAL PARK PROJECT CONSIDERATIONS - None

STAFF AND COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Bacon announced that during the meeting he received communication that the new trash bin sample had arrived. He will drop it off at Shipley Nature Center for everyone to view.

Shari Engel asked if new scouts could replace a failing garden area that was previously installed by another troop without going through the new project process again. Knight said as long as the new scouts complete the necessary waiver forms and the footprint remains the same, they could revitalize the garden.

Nagy stated that Ray Hiemstra from Coast Keepers said that the area by the gun range would be mitigated with Crystal Cove. Nagy suggests moving the soil to the Urban Forest instead of to Crystal Cove. Nagy feels that the City of Huntington Beach should review the City of Newport Beach's donation program as part of the City's bench donation program.

Steve Engel commented about the Boy Scout project at Steve's Garden saying the public/private partnership is fantastic. He is currently working with Republic Disposal on aggregate and Armstrong Gardens for mulch donations.

Goddard commented on the slurry project near Shipley Nature Center saying that because of the coordination with the Community Services Department, the contractor is now coordinating well with Shipley Nature Center.

Shari Engel asked about the status of a memorial boulder program. Knight said when Engel is ready to present, she should let the department know at least two weeks prior for agenda timeline purposes.

Anderson commented on how much she likes the City's "My HB" online service app, however, Public Work staff is not always aware of the location of the service call. Bacon will review with the IS department regarding the GPS capabilities of the app.

Mueller commented on the 2019-20 maintenance budget saying it was approved for \$20 million for all parks. She asked about the distribution process and how much is available for Central Park. Mueller also asked about the use of park fund monies. Knight explained that there are two different types of funds - one that is the Park Development Fees which have limited use and cannot include routine maintenance. The other is the CIP budget which was discussed previously under Informational Items - Central Park Update. Discussion continued on CIP project examples, the Park Fund, the budget request and approval process, along with items that are taken through the Community Service Commission process for their approval prior to City Council approval, insurance requirements, property taxes, Quimby funds and more.

Knight announced that Travis Hopkins has taken the position of Acting Assistant City Manager and in his place, Tom Herbel is the new Acting Director of Public Works. Knight also thanked everyone for their support during her extended absence and thanked Slama for filling in for her while she was out.

Council Member Delgleize thanked Bacon for his team's efforts in the improvement of Sunset Island.

Nagy discussed fundraising ideas to support the parks within the City. Knight suggested that the ideas may be held for a potential future fundraising/fund development group.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA CONSIDERATION

1. Huntington Central Park Biological Resources - Vic Leipzig
2. Central Park Groundwater Update - Brian Ragland, Public Works

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Commissioner Sterud adjourned the Huntington Central Park Committee meeting at 5:04 pm.

ATTACHMENTS

- [1. April 10, 2019 Meeting Summary Notes](#)

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Huntington Central Park Committee is Wednesday, July 10, 2019, at 4:00 PM in Room B-8, Civic Center, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA.

INTERNET ACCESS TO THE HUNTINGTON CENTRAL PARK COMMITTEE AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT MATERIAL IS AVAILABLE PRIOR TO COMMITTEE MEETINGS AT:
<https://huntingtonbeach.legistar.com/>

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