



PARKS, ARTS AND RECREATION ACTION MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Wednesday December 15, 2004
Grant Park Center
1575 Holt Avenue, Los Altos, California 94022

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Bautista, Commissioners Boennighausen, Charlton, Cooper, Lee Eng, and Lippe
Absent: Commissioner Weiden

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

COMMISSIONER COOPER MOVED the minutes of the November 17, 2004 Regular Meeting AND the minutes of the December 8, 2004 Special Meeting be approved. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LIPPE AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF THE GRANT PARK LONG TERM USE PLAN

The Commission's Grant Park Long Term Use Plan Subcommittee presented its report and recommendations to the Commission for consideration. Commissioner Bautista reviewed the process the Subcommittee followed how its recommendations were developed. She noted the interest survey the Subcommittee implemented both validates the need for the current youth program offerings and identifies needs for adult programming not currently being offered. Commissioner Lee Eng recused herself from the dais at this point of the discussion as she lives across the street from the park.

Comments expressed by the community members were supportive of the Subcommittee's recommendations. Comments included support for increasing the vitality of the community center, allow indoor room use for youth theater programs, improve the soccer field maintenance, concern not to overuse the facility and increase traffic and noise in the neighborhood, and increased dog owner awareness of issues regarding control and clean up of the pet. The following community members addressed the Commission on this item.

Mr. Sig Rich, DVM
Mr. Steve Smith
Ms. Lynette Lee Eng
Ms. Barbara Loebner
Mr. Joseph Bassi

The Commission discussed the Subcommittee's recommendations. There were questions as to how the number and variety of programs offered at the Center would be determined. They did not like the reference to programs being "on par" with North Los Altos. The Commission preferred the City provide services that meet the needs of all the community regardless of geographical location. There was concern over the City's ability to maintain and support new program levels at the community center. The Commission also recognized that the City's infrastructure would also need to increase if there were to be an increase in new program levels.

The Commission expressed their appreciation to the Subcommittee and all the community members for their input and work on the proposed long-term use plan. COMMISSIONER LIPPE MOVED to approve the following recommendations to City Council:

- To maintain Grant Park as an open, public, small-scale neighborhood park;
- To direct Staff to increase the level of adult programs and the level of school-year youth programs;
- To direct Staff to complete facility improvements: the addition of picnic tables and the surfacing of the remaining portion of the jogging trail along Grant Park Lane;
- To host at least one city-sponsored event annually at Grant Park;

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COOPER AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.