

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS & RECREATION
COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2021, AT 7:00 P.M. WITH REMOTE ACCESS VIA
RINGCENTRAL WEBINARS**

ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Dailey, Vice Chair Morris, Commissioners Yeh, Corrigan, Valadez, and Wang

ABSENT: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Commission Minutes

Approve minutes of the Regular Meeting on September 8, 2021

Public Comment: None.

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Wang, seconded by Chair Dailey, the Commission approved accepting the minutes of the meeting of September 8, 2021, with minor corrections.

Approve: Dailey, Morris, Yeh, Corrigan, Valadez, and Wang.

Oppose: None.

Abstention: None.

Motion passed unanimously: 2-0-0.

2. Review of Off-leash Pilot Program

Receive the Dog Park Subcommittee Report and recommend to City Council the continuation or discontinuation of the off-leash program at the Hillview Baseball Field

Public Comment: Larry Baron, Bette Houtchens, Steve Houtchens, and Tricia Jordan ceded their time to Lisa Deegan.

Lisa Deegan spoke on behalf of 300+ residents who are in favor of the off-leash hours at Hillview Baseball Field. She highlighted the group's commitment to safety, asking for a containment fence, collaboration with neighbors, clear rules and regulations, and consistent enforcement.

Anastasia Ierides ceded her time to Mehmet Deveci.

Mehmet Deveci spoke in support of the off-leash hours at Hillview Baseball Field. He addressed the dry patches in the field and explained his interpretation of the success of the park.

Zahra Ardahali spoke against the off-leash hours at Hillview Baseball Field. She recommended that the Commission go back to exploring a dedicated dog park primarily because of safety concerns with off-leash hours.

Wes (no last name given) spoke in support of the off-leash hours at Hillview Baseball Field. He echoed previous requests for a containment fence and suggested finding another location.

Gene Feroglia spoke against the off-leash hours at Hillview Baseball Field, highlighting several groups that he feels have been displaced by the off-leash hours. He believes a permanent, dedicated dog park at Hillview (near the Soccer Field) would better serve the Community.

Frank Martin spoke in support of the off-leash hours at Hillview Baseball Field, explaining the shortfalls of the Subcommittee's Report. He stated that he believes the contingency against the off-leash hours pilot program is small but vocal.

Marta Tkalcevic spoke in support of the off-leash hours at Hillview Baseball Field. She explained that she had not seen significant safety concerns during her attendance and expressed disbelief that a dog park had not already been provided to the Community.

Alon Amit spoke in support of the off-leash hours at Hillview Baseball Field, echoing the safety accommodations outlined by speaker Lisa Deegan.

Nancy (no last name given) spoke against the off-leash hours at Hillview Baseball Field, citing several specific examples of poor dog/dog-owner behavior during a recent trip to/near the park.

CHAIR DAILEY CALLED A RECESS TO THE MEETING AT 9:12PM

CHAIR DAILEY CALLED THE MEETING BACK TO ORDER AT 9:20PM

Action: Vice Chair Morris moved that the Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) accept the Dog Park Subcommittee's recommendations as they are. Commissioner Valadez seconded the motion.

Action: Chair Dailey offered a substitute motion that PARC recommend to City Council that the off-leash program continue with appropriate changes when the parks reopen after their [regular] maintenance period. Commissioner Yeh seconded the motion.

Approve: Dailey, Yeh, and Wang

Oppose: Morris, Corrigan, and Valadez.

Abstain: None.

Motion fails: 3-3-0.

Action: [Original motion] Vice Chair Morris moved that PARC accept the Dog Park Subcommittee's recommendations as they are written [first, to discontinue off-leash program at Hillview Baseball Field and second, to allow the Dog Park Subcommittee to actively work with staff to further explore options for off-leash activity in Los Altos] and send the recommendations to City Council for approval. Commissioner Valadez seconded the motion.

Chair Dailey offered a friendly amendment to change the second component from "Dog Park Subcommittee to actively work with staff" to "the Commission to actively further explore."

Vice Chair Morris declined the friendly amendment.

Vice Chair Morris amended her own motion as follows: PARC accept the Dog Park Subcommittee's recommendations as they are written [first, to discontinue off-leash program at Hillview Baseball Field and second, to allow the Commission to actively work on alternatives, starting with discussion of Attachment 1 of the Dog Park Subcommittee's 10/13/2021 report] and send the recommendations to City Council for approval. Commissioner Valadez seconded the amendment.

Approve: Morris, Corrigan, Valadez, and Wang.

Oppose: Dailey and Yeh.

Abstain: None.

Motion passes: 4-2-0.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

3. Monthly staff report

Attachment provided with information and announcements from City staff

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Dailey adjourned the meeting at 10:55 p.m.