

CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)
Minutes of January 27, 2020 Meeting

1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Call to Order

Called to order by Chair McReynolds at 6:00 p.m.

1.2 Roll Call

Commissioners present:

Scott Grist
Aaron Haar
Garrett Liles
Elaina McReynolds
Lise Smith Peters

Commissioners absent:

Jeff Glatz
Anna Moore

Staff Present: Linda Herman (Park and Natural Resource Manager),
Erik Gustafson (Public Works Director O&M)
Richie Bamlet (Urban Forest Manager)
Angie Irmer (Administrative Assistant)

2. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are to be considered routine and enacted by one motion.

Commissioner Haar announced that he needs to recuse himself from Consent items 2.3 and 2.5 due to his employment.

Commissioner Smith Peters requested to pull 2.1 Approval of Meeting Minutes.

2.1 APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action: Approve minutes of BPPC meeting held on 10/28/19

2.2 PERMIT TO HOST A SUPPORT GROUP MEETING AT THE COUNCIL RING FROM 4/5/20 THRU 10/25/20

Angela Weaver Baucom, from the God Squad (Applicant) requests a permit to host a support group in the Council Ring. This group has been meeting at this location for 20+ years, and the meetings are approximately 1.5 hours long.

2.3 PERMIT FOR HEART & SOLE: RUN FOR WELLNESS – OAK GROVE A & B (3/30/19)

Enloe Medical Center (Applicant) is requesting to reserve One Mile Picnic/Barbeque Area, Oak Grove A and Oak Grove B, on March 30, 2019 for their annual event, Heart & Sole: Run for Wellness. Along with this reservation, Enloe Medical Center is requesting to use Sycamore Field for a possible helicopter landing.

2.4 PERMITS FOR EARTHBOUND SKILLS FIELD TRIPS AND SUMMER CAMP (FEBRUARY-AUGUST 2020)

Applicant Joni “Jahnia” Mitchell, Earthbound Skills, would like to host private field trips for multiple day camps in February at the Campfire Council Ring and again in March and June-August 2020 at the east 5 Mile picnic area. Day Camps range in ages from 4-11 years old. During these events, there will be games, activities, crafts, nature and bird walks. Under the Chico Municipal Code (CMC 12R.08.160) the BPPC must consider permits for an event held for multiple days.

2.5 CONSIDERATION OF CHICO AREA RECREATION DISTRICT’S (CARD) PERMITS FOR THE SPRING JAMBOREE AND MOVIES IN THE PARK AND REQUEST TO WAIVE PARK FEES FOR THE SPRING JAMBOREE EVENT.

The Chico Area Parks and Recreation District (CARD), which is a public agency/special district, requests the waiver of basic park use fees for the Spring Jamboree event to be held in Caper Acres in Lower Bidwell Park on April 10, 2020. Under Municipal Code (CMC) Section 12R.08.250, the BPPC may authorize the waiver of basic park fees for other public agencies.

Commissioner Grist made a motion to approve 2.2, 2.3, and 2.5. Seconded by Smith Peters

Motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Commissioner Grist, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith Peters, and Chair McReynolds

Noes: None

Recused: Commissioner Haar

Absent: Commissioner Glatz and Commissioner Moore

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT –

2.1 APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action: Approve minutes of BPPC meeting held on 10/28/19.

Commissioner Smith Peters addressed the minutes regarding why the inclusion of speakers in opposition or in favor for the tree permit appeal items were included in the minutes, but not for regular agenda such as the Cambistat item. Commissioner Smith Peters requested that the speaker’s opposition or in favor, be recorded in the minutes for all items.

Commissioner Haar made a motion to approve 2.1 with the inclusion of oppositions or in favors be stated in the minutes; Seconded by Commissioner Smith Peters.

Park and Natural Resources Manager Herman stated that the tree permit appeals were public hearings and she will need to consult with the City Clerk regarding this request. P&NRM will let the BPPC know the outcome of that discussion.

Motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Commissioner Grist, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Haar, Chair McReynolds

Noes: None

Absent: Commissioner Glatz and Commissioner Moore

***STAFF NOTE:** The P&NRM consulted the City Clerk on 1/29/20 and the City Clerk instructed that per City Council directed policy public speaking comments will not be included in the minutes for any agenda item, including public hearings.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE

5. REGULAR AGENDA

5.1 **CONSIDERATION OF PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC'S (PG&E) USE OF CAMBISTAT GROWTH INHIBITOR ON CITY STREET TREES**

At its 11/25/19 meeting, the BPPC received a presentation from PG&E regarding a small-scale trial of the use of Cambistat, a Plant Growth Regulator (PGR) on Street trees to assist in the management of tree growth in electrical utility right-of-way easements. The BPPC will receive a presentation from the CEO of PG&E's contractor Rainbow Tree Care Scientific Advancements. **(Report – Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager)**

Tom Prosser, Brandon Hughson, Robert Grabowski from Rainbow Tree Care addressed the Commission regarding the science and procedures for the application of Cambistat.

****Commissioner Moore joined the meeting at 6:53 p.m.****

The Commission recessed at 7:00 p.m. for a 15-minute break. The meeting was reconvened and all members of the Commission were present.

Public Comment: Marybeth Wuerther, Tom Wuerthner, John Crane, Robin McCollum for Chico Tree Advocates, and Richard Harriman addressed the Commission.

Commissioner Smith Peters made a motion that the City of Chico not use Cambistat on city trees. Seconded by Commissioner Liles.

Motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Grist, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Haar, Chair McReynolds

Noes: Commissioner Haar

Absent: Commissioner Glatz

5.2 **UPDATE ON THE CITY'S OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET PROCESS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21**

Staff will provide an update on the City's proposed operating and capital project budget process for fiscal year 2020-21.

Richard Harriman addressed the Commission

Commissioner Moore requested that budget priorities be provided to the Commission. Erik stated that can be provided.

5.3 **CONSIDERATION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR APPOINTMENTS, 2019 BPPC MEETING CALENDAR, AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS.**

The Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) will select a Chair and Vice-Chair. BPPC members also serve on the Policy Advisory, Natural Resources, and Tree Committees, and the City's *ad hoc* Bicycle Advisory Committee. Assignments are at the BPPC Chair's prerogative

with staff recommendations. In addition, the Commission will consider the BPPC meeting schedule for 2020.

Recommendation: *The Park & Natural Resources Manager recommends that the BPPC:*

1. Select a Chair and Vice-Chair for 2020.
2. Approve the 2020 regular BPPC meeting calendar, and
3. Approve Staff's recommendations regarding maintaining existing Committee member assignments or provide other recommendations.

Commissioner Smith Peters made a motion to keep Chair McReynolds and Vice-chair Haar and current Committee representatives the same for 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Moore.

Motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Grist, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith Peters, Chair McReynolds

Noes: Commissioner Haar

Absent: Commissioner Glatz

Commissioner Moore requested the BPPC consider moving the November 30th meeting due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Grist moved to approve the calendar with the amendment that November's meeting be set for November 23, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Haar.

Motion is carried as follows:

Ayes: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Grist, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Haar, Chair McReynolds

Noes: None

Absent: Commissioner Glatz

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Members from the public may address the Commission at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda; comments are limited to three minutes. The Commission is prohibited from taking action, except for a brief response from the Commission or to staff, on any comments or requests made under this section of the agenda.

Patrick Newman addressed the Commission

7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

These items are provided for the Commission's information. Although the Commission may discuss the items, no action can be taken at this meeting. Should the Commission determine that action is required, the item or items may be included for action on a subsequent posted agenda.

7.1 Parks Division Report – Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager.

Chair McReynolds requested that the biological reports for Peregrine Point be provided a week before the next meeting. Commissioner Liles concurred with this request.

7.2 Street Tree Division Report – Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourn at 8:51 p.m.to the next regular meeting on 2/24/20 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Chico Municipal Center building located at 421 main street, Chico, California.

Date Approved: / / .
Prepared By:

Angie Irmer, Administrative Assistant

Date

Distribution: BPPC

2/21/2020

CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)

Minutes of
February 24, 2020 Meeting

1. **REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 **Call to Order**

Called to order by Chair McReynolds at 6:00 p.m.

1.2 **Roll Call**

Commissioners Present:

Garrett Liles
Scott Grist
Lise Smith Peters
Jeff Glatz
Aaron Haar
Elaina McReynolds

Commissioners Absent:

Anna Moore

Staff Present: Linda Herman (Park and Natural Resource Manager)
Erik Gustafson (Public Works Director O&M)
Angie Irmer (Administrative Assistant)

2. **CONSENT AGENDA**

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are to be considered routine and enacted by one motion.

2.1 **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Action: Approve minutes of BPPC meeting held on 1/27/20.

2.2 **PERMIT FOR HOOKED ON FISHING NOT ON DRUGS EVENT AT HORSEHOE LAKE**
(5/30/20)

Pete Giampaoli (Applicant) requested a permit to host the “Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs” fishing derby for children ages 4-12 years old, held in Middle Park at Horseshoe Lake on May 30, 2020. This event will also need the approval to stock Horseshoe Lake with catfish. Staff recommended the Commission approve this long-standing free community event for five years. Staff will request additional BPPC approval if there are any substantial changes to this event during the 5-year approval period.

2.3 **PERMIT LIFE CHURCH TO HOLD A SUNRISE SERVICE IN MIDDLE PARK ON EASTER**
(4/12/20)

Jessica Ordaz (Applicant) with Life Church requested a permit to hold an Easter Sunrise service at the cross near Parking Area B in Middle Park on Sunday April 12, 2020. Staff recommended the Commission approve this long-standing free community event for five years. Staff will request additional BPPC approval if there are any substantial changes to this even during the 5-year approval period.

2.4 PERMIT TO HOLD VACATION BIBLE EXPERIENCE AT CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND AND BIDWELL BOWL FROM 6/22/20 THROUGH 6/26/20

Jenna Christophersen from Bidwell Presbyterian Church (Applicant) requested a permit to hold their 14th Annual Vacation Bible Experience at Children's Playground. This program is for 5 consecutive days at Children's Playground and Bidwell Bowl. The Applicant has requested to use the lawn areas for the event and anticipates 200 attendees daily.

2.5 PERMIT FOR BUTTE COUNTY CORRECTION OFFICERS ASSOCIATION TO HOLD A WALK/RUN IN ONE MILE PICNIC AREA IN LOWER PARK (6/13/20)

Eric Willadsen from Butte County Correctional Officer Association (Applicant) requested to hold a Walk/Run at the One Mile picnic area in Lower Bidwell Park along with a safety presentation at Sycamore Field on June 13, 2020. Sycamore Field will have multiple public safety vehicles and two helicopters on display. Applicant has reserved Sycamore Field with CARD.

Motion was made by Commissioner Glatz to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Liles.

Motion carried as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Grist, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

ABESTN: Commissioner Moore

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – None

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

5. REGULAR AGENDA

5.1 UPDATE ON THE PERGRINE POINT DISC GOLF COURSE MITIGATION AND MONITORING

The Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) considered the 2019 biological monitoring reports prepared by the City's consultant, the 2019 annual report from the Outside Recreation Advocacy Inc (ORAI), and an update on the mitigation measures for the Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course (PPDG). The BPPC began its five-year review of the PPDG Operating Agreement with ORAI. **(Report – Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager)**

Commissioner Smith Peters requested volunteer hours be provided for work done at Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course. Park and Natural Resources Manager Herman stated the Park services Coordinator Romain is working on obtaining the hours.

Steven Breedlove and Woody Elliott on behalf of Mt. Lassen Chapter – CNPS, addressed the Commission

Motion was made by Commissioner Haar that the BPPC direct its Natural Resource Committee to review and make recommendation regarding the Consultant’s monitoring recommendations and whether to extend the ORAI Agreement for another five years.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Smith Peters.

Motion carried as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Grist, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

ABESNT: Commissioner Moore

5.2 Item trailed for Commissioner Moore to be present

5.3 CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT FROM THE 2/19/20 BPPC NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Natural Resource Committee provided a report on the following agenda items that were discussed at its 2/19/20 meeting (**Report – Scott Grist, Committee Chair**):

5.3.1 UPDATE ON DEVELOPMENT OF A REVISED “TAKE A HIKE” BROCHURE

The City partnered with Explore Butte County, CARD, and the Chico Chamber of Commerce to revise the existing “Take a Hike” brochure highlighting trails in Upper Bidwell Park. The Committee reviewed a draft of a revised and redesigned “Explore Bidwell Park” brochure.

Commissioners requested time to submit comments.

Park and Natural Resources Manager Herman stated commissioners could email her comments for one week.

5.3.2 DISCUSSION OF OPTIONS TO REDUCE DAMAGE TO CITY PARKS AND GREENWAYS

At its 9/30/19 meeting, the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission approved Commissioner Haar’s request to discuss environmental degradation in Bidwell Park and other City parks and greenways from trash, disorderly conduct, and vandalism. The BPPC also approved discussing fencing at the Humboldt Avenue (Windchime) Park.

*****Commissioner Moore joined the meeting at 6:45 p.m.*****

Chair McReynolds made a motion to refer the discussion on reducing damage to City parks and greenways back to the Natural Resources Committee so that they can come back with a list of items specifically addressing how to reduce the damage to the park.

Commissioner Moore requested to make a friendly amendment to direct the Committee to discuss further and come up with a list of solutions so that the BPPC can decide on a solution to take to the City Council.

Commissioner Glatz requested to make a friendly amendment to bring the discussion back to the BPPC, not the Committee, to agendaize the issue.

Chair McReynolds restated the motion to agendaize discussion of options to reduce damage to City parks and greenways and come back for the March meeting with solutions to share with the Commission.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Liles.

Motion carried as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Grist, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

ABESNT: None

5.3.3 CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE 2020 WORK PLAN

The Natural Resource Committee reviewed the status of previous discussion items pertinent to the Committee's responsibilities (e.g. vegetation management, trails) and considered additional discussion items for 2020.

Woody Elliott addressed the Commission on behalf of Mt. Lassen Chapter – CNPS

Motion was made by Commissioner Grist to approve the Natural Resource Committee 2020 Work Plan with an adjustment in priorities as follows:

1. Review of CEQA policies and procedures
2. Review of Peregrine Point Disc Golf mitigation and monitoring
3. Completion of the restoration plan for the Nature Center area
4. Review of Vegetative Fuels Management Plan (Cal Fire grant)
5. Review of the proposed updated Trails Plan

Motion seconded by Vice-Chair Haar.

Motion carried as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Grist, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

ABSENET: None

5.2 CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT FROM THE 2/12/20 BPPC POLICY ADVISORY MEETING

The Natural Resource Committee provided a report on the following agenda items that were discussed at its 2/20/20 meeting (**Report – Anna Moore, Committee Chair**):

5.2.1 CONSIDERATION OF TEICHERT PONDS PEACE PARK PROPOSAL

At its 5/20/19 BPPC meeting, The BPPC received a status update on the activities that have taken place at Teichert Ponds and considered a proposal from Mr. Dick Cory to designate Teichert Ponds as a “Peace Park.” The BPPC forwarded discussion of Mr. Cory’s proposal to the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC).

Motion was made by Vice-Chair Haar to rename Teichert Ponds to Peace Ponds Nature Area.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Moore.

Motion carried as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Grist, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

5.2.2 CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN FOR 2020

The Policy Advisory Committee (POC) reviewed the status of previous priority discussion items pertinent to the Committee’s responsibilities (e.g. changes in policies, codes, finances) and considered additional discussion items for 2020.

John Merz addressed the Commission on behalf of Friends of Bidwell Park.

Motion was made by Commissioner Moore that the BPPC accept the Policy Advisory Committee Work Plan for 2020 with an adjustment in the work plan as follows:

1. Discuss budget priorities for the BPPC

2. Create budget priorities for the BPPC
3. Determine feasibility of re-establishing a non-sworn Ranger program, including a Junior Ranger program
4. Continue to research and identify potential revenue sources for the Park Division
5. Review and update the Park Division's donation policy
6. Review and update the current fees and policies for filming in City parks and greenways

Motion seconded by Commissioner Glatz.

Motion carried as follows:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Grist, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – None

7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

These items are provided for the Commission's information. Although the Commission may discuss the items, no action can be taken at this meeting. Should the Commission determine that action is required, the item or items may be included for action on a subsequent posted agenda.

7.1 Parks Division Report – Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager

7.2 Street Tree Division Report – Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager

8. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:02 p.m. to the next regular meeting on 3/30/20 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Chico Municipal Center building located at 421 Main Street, Chico, California.

Date Approved: __/__/__

Prepared By:

Becky Anderson, Office Assistant

Date

Distribution: BPPC

**CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)
MINUTES OF
JULY 20, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING**

1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Call to Order

The July 20, 2020 Special Meeting of the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission was called to order by Chair McReynolds at 6:02 p.m.

1.2 Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Moore, Liles; Smith Peters, Glatz, Haar, McReynolds

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Chris Constantin (Assistant City Manager)
Dani Rogers (Deputy City Clerk)
Linda Herman (Park and Natural Resource Manager)
Richie Bamlet (Urban Forest Manager)
Kimberly Graciano (Management Analyst)
Will Mansfield (Sr. Info. Systems Tech)
Becky Anderson (Office Assistant)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: *This meeting was conducted in accordance with Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20. The public was able to view the meeting on Comcast Channel 11 and via streaming video accessible on the City's website.*

Public comments were also accepted by email sent to parkpubliccomment@chicoca.gov before and during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment on an item.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are to be considered routine and enacted by one motion.

2.1 APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action: Approve minutes of BPPC meeting held on 2/24/20.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith Peters and seconded by Commissioner Moore to approve the consent agenda.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – None

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

5. REGULAR AGENDA

Commissioner Smith Peters requested to change the agenda order, moving 5.3 Consideration of Options to Reduce Damage to Bidwell Parks and Other City Parks and Greenways up to the 5.2 position.

Vice-Chair Haar made an objection and wanted the order of the agenda to stay as they were on the published agenda to allow for anyone watching online to be able to follow along with the published agenda.

Commissioner Smith Peters rescinded her request.

5.1 UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF A DRAFT VEGETATIVE FUELS MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Bidwell Park & Playground Commission (BPPC) received an update on the development of the Draft Vegetative Fuels Management Plan (VFMP) for Bidwell Park, and City greenways and open spaces. The BPPC also considered proposed potential implementation projects identified in the Draft VFMP. Development of the VFMP is funded by a CalFire Community Wildfire Prevention Grant. (**Report – Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager**)

Chair McReynolds opened the agenda item to the public. Email comments were received prior to the meeting from Woody Elliott, Suzette Welch, and Susan Mason. During the meeting, emails were received from Meleiza Figueroa and Ali Knight and Paul Bletz. The item was closed to further public comment.

The BPPC requested that the Draft VFMP go to the Natural Resources Committee for further review and public input. The Committee will bring their review and input to the Commission for the August 31st meeting.

5.2. CONSIDERATION OF POLICY REGARDING PERMIT APPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EVENTS DURING COVID-19 REOPENING PLANS

The BPPC considered developing a policy regarding park reservation applications and permits for compliance with Governor Newsom’s COVID-19 California Pandemic Resilience Roadmap. (**Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resources Manager**)

Chair McReynolds opened the hearing to the public. An email from Karin Willhoit regarding this item was received prior to the meeting. During the meeting, an email comment was received from Richard Elsom Sr. The item was closed to further public comment.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Haar and seconded by Commissioner Moore to cancel all reservations and events until further notice to follow State or County guidelines on reopening plans.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

The Commission recessed at 7:19 p.m. for a ten-minute break. The meeting was reconvened and all members of the Commission were present.

5.3 CONSIDERATION OF OPTIONS TO REDUCE DAMAGE TO BIDWELL PARK AND OTHER CITY PARKS AND GREENWAYS

At its 2/24/20 meeting, the BPPC approved agendaizing the discussion of developing options to reduce environmental degradation, trash, and damage to Bidwell Park and other City parks and greenways due to encampments. The BPPC also discussed the increased impacts due to COVID-19. **(Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resources Manager)**

Chair McReynolds opened the hearing to the public. Email comments prior to the meeting were Suzette Welch, Elaina Brown, Janet Elner, Michele Burton, Jeri Luce, Susan Smead, Kate Roark, Lisa Holeman, Karen Willhoit, Linda Calbreath and Julie Brown

During the meeting, emailed comments were received from Charles Withuhn, Jessica Bender, Tom Bond, Sisarie Sherry, Meleiza Figueroa, Nichole Nava, Rich Ober, Tom Barrett, Amy Wheeler, Angela McLaughlin, and Theresa O'Connor and Effie Hale. The hearing was closed to further public comment.

Commissioner Moore made a motion and seconded by Vice-Chair Haar to send the following letter to City Council:

Dear Chico City Councilors:

To protect our parks, the Bidwell Parks and Playgrounds Commission unanimously supports your taking immediate action: please establish a sanctioned campground or low-barrier shelter for Chico's unhoused population.

As you know, One Mile, Comanche Creek, and other park areas did not have the infrastructure to support encampments before the pandemic; this is more apparent now that our city is confronted with COVID-19. To a greater extent than ever before, the park is being stretched beyond its limits, limits it was never meant to have. The environmental impacts of encampments in the park are profound, as is the risk of fire danger and other public safety issues.

Please act accordingly. Our community needs to protect Bidwell Park and other city parks and greenways as we are entrusted to do by our Charter. The establishment of supported campground or low-barrier shelter as soon as possible will provide a healthier alternative for those who are currently homeless and for visitors to the Park and greenways, especially in this time of crisis. A campground or shelter will also provide time for other city measures and partnerships to fully develop in order to address our community's homeless issues.

In addition, we strongly urge the council to direct the City Manager to divert money in the budget toward public works in order to clean up the parks. COVID-19 has reduced the number of park volunteers who regularly and heroically cleaned up. We need more support from the city to mitigate the trash. Please also consider a shopping cart ordinance that requires businesses to keep carts on their business' property.

Again, these efforts have the unanimous support of the Bidwell Parks and Playground Commission. Please address this crisis immediately. Thank you.

*Sincerely,
Bidwell Parks and Playgrounds Commission*

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

Staff requested the Commission take a recess at 9:11 p.m. for a ten-minute break. The meeting was reconvened and all members of the Commission were present.

Staff informed the Commission that there was a concern from the City Attorney that the annotation for Item 5.2 regarding park reservations and large events on the posted Agenda may not have been clear to the public that current and future events may be cancelled. Staff advised that the original motion be rescinded and that the Commission direct Staff to work with the City Manager, as the COVID-19 Emergency Operations Director, to develop park reservation and event procedures to comply with State and County restrictions.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Haar and seconded by Commissioner Glatz to rescind the motion previously made on Agenda Item 5.2.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

A motion was made by Commissioner Liles and seconded by Commissioner Glatz to provide Staff and the City Manager the ability to comply with State social distancing guidelines and mandates on group sizes, and large public events in the context of the permitted activities in City Parks during COVID-19.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

5.4 CONSIDERATION OF STAFF'S PROPOSAL TO MODIFY THE SOUTH ONE MILE RESTROOMS

The BPPC considered a proposal from Staff to make some modifications to the changing and shower areas at the restroom on the south side of Sycamore Pool in the One Mile Recreation Area. Staff proposed to knock down a portion of the changing area walls and to enclose the unused shower areas for use as storage rooms. ***(Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resources Manager)***

Chair McReynolds opened the hearing to the public. No email comments were received. The hearing was closed to further comment.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Haar and seconded by Commissioner Smith Peters to approve the proposed One Mile Restroom modifications.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – None

7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

These items are provided for the Commission’s information. Although the Commission may discuss the items, no action can be taken at this meeting. Should the Commission determine that action is required, the item or items may be included for action on a subsequent posted agenda.

7.1 Parks Division Report – Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager

7.2 Street Tree Division Report – Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager

8. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 9:50 p.m. to the next regular meeting on 8/31/20 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Chico Municipal Center building located at 421 Main Street, Chico, California.

Date Approved: __/__/__

Prepared By:

Becky Anderson, Office Assistant

Date

Distribution: BPPC

CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)
Minutes of
August 31, 2020 Meeting
Remote Meeting via City's WebEx Platform

1. **REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 **Call to Order**

Called to order by Chair McReynolds at 6:03 p.m.

1.2 **Roll Call**

Commissioners Present:

Anna Moore
Garrett Liles
Lise Smith-Peters
Jeff Glatz
Aaron Haar
Elaina McReynolds

Commissioners Absent:

None

Staff Present: Erik Gustafson (Public Works Director O&M)
Linda Herman (Park and Natural Resource Manager)
Richie Bamlet (Urban Forest Manager)
Shane Romain (Park Services Coordinator)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: This meeting was conducted in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29_20. The public was able to view the meeting via the City's WebEx Platform.

Public comments were also accepted by email sent to parkpubliccomment@chicoca.gov before and during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment on an item.

2. **CONSENT AGENDA**

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are to be considered routine and enacted by one motion.

2.1 **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Action: Approve minutes of BPPC meeting held on 7/20/20.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Haar and seconded by Commissioner Liles to approve the consent agenda.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters,
Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

3. **ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – None**

4. **PUBLIC HEARINGS – None**

5. **REGULAR AGENDA**

5.1 **CONSIDERATION OF COMMENTS RECEIVED ON DRAFT VEGETATIVE FUELS MANAGEMENT PLAN AND FINAL PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS**

The Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) considered public comments received on the first draft of the Vegetative Fuels Management Plan (VFMP) for Bidwell Park, City greenways and open spaces. The BPPC considered further comments from the BPPC or the public, and final approval of potential implementation projects identified in the Draft VFMP. **(Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resources Manager)**

Commissioner Smith-Peters requested that the Verbena Fields project be removed from the list of potential projects and that vegetation removal in Lower and Middle Bidwell Park and Comanche Creek be added to the list.

Chair McReynolds responded and directed Staff to consult with the Mechoopda Indian Tribe regarding the Verbena Fields project before considering removing it from the plan.

Chair McReynolds opened the hearing to public comments. Email comments were received from John Mertz and Timmarie Hamill.

Chair McReynolds made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Smith-Peters to send the VFMP plan to the Natural Resources Committee with the intent of having a committee meeting using WebEx within a month.

After discussion of concerns regarding completing the environmental review and the plan by the March 15, 2021 grant deadline, Chair McReynolds rescinded her motion.

Commissioner Liles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Smith-Peters to move the draft VFMP forward to the next step, which is to issue a public Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the plan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters
Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

5.2 **UPDATE ON WATER QUALITY TESTING FOR SYCAMORE POOL IN BIDWELL PARK**

Staff provided an update on a proposed revised policy regarding water quality testing for

Sycamore Pool in Lower Bidwell Park. **(Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resources Manager)**

Chair McReynolds opened the hearing to the public. Karen Lazlo and Timmarie Hamill addressed the Commission.

Due to poor audio reception, the BPPC directed Staff to connect with Ms. Hamill and include her public comments in the minutes, which are summarized as follows:

- *“Our Stream Team (ST) data collected monthly at 6-10 sites looks similar and reflects an increase in bacteria levels as you move downstream through the watershed and during summer months.*
- *Also, please consider the capacity of The Stream Team (ST) to assist (volunteer) in updating the bacterial monitoring plan for Sycamore Pool and the other sites the City might be interested in tracking bacteria and other water quality parameters. including setting the management goals with criteria for posting and closure, etc. and also help create the standard operating procedures (SOPs) based on those already created by other communities.*
- *ST agrees that with the increase in park users at sites beyond Sycamore Pool, it would be good to have more data to base management decisions on, beyond Sycamore Pool for safe swimming. ST would like to work with BPPC to identify a more recognized role for providing data and align our monitoring objectives to serve the City in meeting water quality goals. Identifying a role would also help recognize the important work by the hundreds of ST volunteers over the past 20 years, who want to know that the work they do is useful.*
- *ST would also like to volunteer to assist with some outreach and education regarding what folks can do to protect the water quality when swimming in the park and specifically at the Sycamore Pool, such as showering prior to swimming, use of swim diapers (need dispensary installed), and yes,. how to dispose of dog poop properly.*

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Members of the public may address the Commission via WebEx or by email at parkpubliccomment@chicoca.gov at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda, with comments being limited to three minutes or as determined by the Chair. The Commission cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

Karen Lazlo addressed the Commission.

7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

These items are provided for the Commission’s information. Although the Commission may discuss the items, no action can be taken at this meeting. Should the Commission determine that action is required, the item or items may be included for action on a subsequent posted agenda.

7.1 Parks Division Report – Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager

7.2 Street Tree Division Report – Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager

The Commission recessed at 7:58 p.m. for a ten-minute break. The meeting was reconvened, and all members of the Commission were present.

8. COMMISSIONER REQUESTS

Pursuant to AP&P 10-1, a majority vote of the Commission will be needed in order to agendize these items for discussion at a future meeting. If agendized, public comment will be taken at that meeting. Speaker cards will not be accepted for these items.

8.1 By email dated 8/17/20, Commissioner Glatz requested to agendize discussion regarding the following topics at future BPPC meetings over the next 90 days:

- 8.1.1 Designating all of Bidwell Park as a “playground”
- 8.1.2 Revise noise ordinance to ban amplified sound in Bidwell and City parks
- 8.1.3 Establish Code of Conduct for City parks and greenways
- 8.1.4 Providing phone/text number for public to report incidents in the parks and greenways
- 8.1.5 Enhancing enforcement with private security and/or Butte County Sheriff’s Office

Vice-Chair Haar made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Glatz to agendize item 8.1.1.

The motion failed by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar

NOES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters, Chair McReynolds

Commissioner Liles made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Glatz to agendize item 8.1.2.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar

NOES: Commissioner Smith-Peters, Chair McReynolds

Vice-Chair Haar made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Glatz to agendize item 8.1.3.

The motion failed by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar

NOES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters, Chair McReynolds

Commissioner Glatz made a motion to agendize item 8.1.4. The motion failed due to the lack of a second vote.

Commissioner Glatz made a motion to agendize item 8.1.5. The motion failed due to the lack of a second vote.

8.2 Commissioner Haar requested to agendize discussion of the following items at a future BPPC meeting:

8.2.1 Consider developing Lost Park near City Parking Lot 5 as a river walk recreation area or other revenue opportunity

8.2.2 Addressing potential fire hazards in Lower Bidwell Park, Lindo Channel, and on Humboldt Avenue along Little Chico Creek due to encampments

Commissioner Glatz made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Liles to agendize item 8.2.1.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commission Liles, Commission Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar

NOES: Commissioner Smith-Peters, Chair McReynolds

Commissioner Glatz made a motion and seconded by Vice-Chair Haar to agendize item 8.2.2.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: Commissioner Smith-Peters

9. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at **8:36** p.m. to the next regular meeting on 9/28/20 at 6:00 p.m. at a location or format to be determined.

Date Approved: __/__/__

Prepared By:

Becky Anderson, Office Assistant

Date

Distribution: BPPC

**CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)
MINUTES OF
SEPTEMBER 28, 2020 MEETING
Remote Meeting via City's WebEx Platform**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: *This meeting was conducted in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29_20. The public was able to view the meeting via the City's WebEx Platform. Public comments were also accepted by email sent to parkpubliccomment@chicoca.gov before and during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment on an item.*

1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1.1 Call to Order

Called to order by Chair McReynolds at 6:11 p.m.

1.2 Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Anna Moore
Garrett Liles
Lise Smith-Peters
Aaron Haar
Elaina McReynolds
Jeff Glatz (*Commissioner Glatz had difficulty logging in and joined the meeting after the consent agenda*)

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Linda Herman (Park and Natural Resource Manager), Richie Bamlet (Urban Forest Manager), Shane Romain (Park Services Coordinator), and Becky Anderson (Office Assistant)

1.3 Natural Resource Committee Vacancy – Commission members were requested to notify the Chair if interested in filling the vacant seat on the BPPC's Natural Resource Committee.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: *This meeting was conducted in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29_20. The public was able to view the meeting via the City's WebEx Platform. Public comments were also accepted by email sent to parkpubliccomment@chicoca.gov before and during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment on an item.*

2. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are to be considered routine and enacted by one motion.

2.1 APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action: Approve minutes of BPPC meeting held on 8/31/20.
A motion was made by Commissioner Smith-Peters and seconded by Commissioner Liles to approve the consent agenda.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Glatz ***

*****Commissioner Glatz had difficulty logging in and joined the meeting after the consent agenda*****

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – None

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

5. REGULAR AGENDA

**** Commissioner Glatz joined the meeting at 6:15 p.m. ****

5.1 PRESENTATION ON UPPER BIDWELL PARK TRAILS INVENTORY DRAFT REPORT

The City's consultant, Trail Labs Co, presented the baseline conditions draft report from the surveys and inventory of the trails in Upper Bidwell Park, and provided an update on the development of a new trails plan. **(Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resource Manager)**

Woody Elliott addressed the Commission. Email comments were received from Tom Barrett.

5.2 CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT FROM THE 9/16/20 BPPC NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Natural Resource Committee provided a report on the following agenda items that were discussed at its 9/16/20 meeting. **(Report – Lise Smith-Peters, Committee Interim Chair)**

5.2.1 CONSIDERATION OF NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN EIR FOR THE DRAFT VEGETATIVE FUELS MANAGEMENT PLAN

An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is being prepared for the draft Vegetative Fuels Management Plan ("VFMP") prepared for City-owned parks, greenways and open spaces. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15082(a), the Commission reviewed the Notice of Preparation requesting comments on the scope and content of the EIR and heard public comments.

Commissioner Smith-Peters requested that the Verbena Fields project be dropped from the list of implementation projects in the VFMP, and that a project to address the understory of Lower Bidwell Park and Comanche Creek be added to the list of projects.

Woody Elliott addressed the Commission. Email Comments were also received from Raphael Genova.

The Commission directed Staff to consult with the Mechoopda Indian Tribe on whether Verbena Fields should be removed from the plan and report back to the Commission.

5.2.2 REVIEW OF THE PEREGRINE POINT DISC GOLF AGREEMENT WITH OUTSIDE RECREATION ADVOCATES, INC (ORAI).

At its 2/24/20 meeting, the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission forwarded the five-year review of the operating agreement with ORAI for the Peregrine Point Disc Golf Course to the Committee. The Committee reviewed the status of ORAI's compliance with the agreement terms.

Woody Elliott addressed the Commission. Email comments were received from Tom Barrett.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moore and seconded by Commissioner Smith-Peters to approve and direct Staff to

1. Work with ORAI to propose amendments to the Agreement that reflect the group's current capability to maintain the course.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters,
Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

The Commission recessed at 8:41 p.m. for a ten-minute break. The meeting was reconvened, and all members of the Commission were present.

5.3 REVIEW OF THE CHICO MUNICIPAL (CMA) CODE NOISE RESTRICTIONS

At its 8/31/20 meeting, the BPPC approved Commissioner Glatz's request to agendize review of the current noise restrictions in City parks and greenways and discuss a possible ban on amplified sound, unless allowed by a park permit. **(Report – Jeff Glatz, Commissioner)**

Email comments were received from Tom Barrett.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Haar and seconded by Commissioner Liles to ban or put further restrictions on amplified sound in City parks and greenways.

The motion failed by the following tie vote:

AYES: Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar

NOES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Smith-Peters, Chair McReynolds

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Members of the public may address the Commission via WebEx or by email at parkpubliccomment@chicoca.gov at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda, with comments being limited to three minutes or as determined by the Chair. The Commission cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

Email comments were received from Tom Barrett.

7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

These items are provided for the Commission's information. Although the Commission may discuss the items, no action can be taken at this meeting. Should the Commission determine that action is required, the item or items may be included for action on a subsequent agenda.

7.1 Parks Division Report – Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager

7.2 Street Tree Division Report – Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager

8. COMMISSIONER REQUESTS

Pursuant to AP&P 10-1, a majority vote of the commission will be needed in order to agendize these items for discussion at a future meeting. If agendized, public comment will be taken at that meeting. Speaker cards will not be accepted for these items.

8.1 By email dated 9/16/20, Commissioner Moore requested to agendize discussion regarding requesting funding to hire maintenance workers, a resource manager, and a development director for the Park Division.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith-Peters and seconded by Commissioner Haar to agendize the item.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

9. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 9:57 p.m. to the next regular meeting on 10/26/20 at 6:00 p.m. at a location or format to be determined.

Date Approved: ___/___/___

Prepared by:

(Becky Anderson, Office Assistant)

Date

CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)
MINUTES OF
OCTOBER 26, 2020 MEETING
Remote Meeting via City's WebEx Platform

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: *This meeting was conducted in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20. The public was able to view the meeting via the City's WebEx Platform. Public comments were also accepted by email sent to parkpubliccomment@chicoca.gov before and during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment on an item.*

1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

Called to order by Chair McReynolds at 6:00 p.m.

1.2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Anna Moore
Garrett Liles
Lise Smith-Peters
Jeff Glatz
Aaron Haar
Elaina McReynolds

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Erik Gustafson (Public Works Director O&M)
Linda Herman (Park and Natural Resource Manager)
Richie Bamlet (Urban Forest Manager)
Shane Romain (Park Services Coordinator)
Melissa Beck (Admin Analyst II)

2. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are to be considered routine and enacted by one motion.

2.1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action: Approve minutes of BPPC meeting held on 9/28/20.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith-Peters and seconded by Vice-Chair Haar to approve the consent agenda.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – NONE

4. **PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE**

5. **REGULAR AGENDA**

5.1. **UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE UPPER BIDWELL PARK ROAD SEDIMENT REDUCTION PROJECT**

The Bidwell Park & Playground Commission (BPPC) will receive an update and presentation from the City's consultants on the status of the Upper Bidwell Park Road Sediment Reduction Project and the environmental review for the project. *(Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resource Manager)*

Woody Elliott addressed the Commission and emailed comments.

5.2. **CONSIDERATION OF COMMISSIONER MOORE'S REQUEST TO DISCUSS SEEKING FUNDING FOR ADDITIONAL PARK DIVISION STAFF.**

At its 9/28/20 meeting, the BPPC approved Commissioner Moore's request to agendaize discussion regarding requesting City Council approval of funding to hire additional maintenance workers, a natural resource manager, and a development director for the Parks Division. *(Verbal Report – Anna Moore, Commissioner)*

The BPPC discussed Commissioner Moore's request for additional maintenance worker positions, and a new natural resource manager. Commissioner Moore requested that the Commission send a letter to the City Council requesting funding for these additional positions. Commissioner Moore will draft a letter and bring it back to the next meeting for further discussion.

Woody Elliott addressed the Commission.

6. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Members of the public may address the Commission via WebEx or by email at parkpubliccomment@chicoca.gov at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda, with comments being limited to three minutes or as determined by the Chair. The Committee cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

Email comments were received from Dr. Norm Rosene.

7. **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

These items are provided for the Commission's information. Although the Commission may discuss the items, no action can be taken at this meeting. Should the Commission determine that action is required, the item or items may be included for action on a subsequent posted agenda.

7.1 Parks Division Report – Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager

7.2 Street Tree Division Report – Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager

8. COMMISSIONER REQUESTS

Pursuant to AP&P 10-1, a majority vote of the commission will be needed in order to agendize these items for discussion at a future meeting. If agendized, public comment will be taken at that meeting. Speaker cards will not be accepted for these items.

- 8.1. By emails dated 9/16/20 and cc respectively, Commissioners Moore and Haar request to agendize discussion regarding addressing fire concerns in Bidwell Park.

Commissioner's Moore stated she requested this agenda item to hear from the Chico Fire Department or other individuals who can help provide a clear assessment on the actual fire risks in Lower Bidwell Park.

Commission Haar agreed and is concerned said he requested this item to address tall grasses and other potential fire risk vegetation in the park.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moore and seconded by Commissioner Glatz to agendize this item and to invite the Chico Fire Chief or pertinent others to the meeting.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

9. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:06 p.m. to the next regular meeting on 11/30/20 at 6:00 p.m. at a location or format to be determined.

Date Approved: ___/___/___

Prepared by:

Melissa Beck, Admin Analyst II

Date

CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)
MINUTES OF
DECEMBER 14, 2020 MEETING
Remote Meeting via City's WebEx Platform

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: *This meeting was conducted in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20. The public was able to view the meeting via the City's WebEx Platform. Public comments were also accepted by email sent to parkpubliccomment@chicoca.gov before and during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment on an item.*

1. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

Called to order by Chair McReynolds at 6:00 p.m.

1.2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Anna Moore
Garrett Liles
Lise Smith-Peters
Jeff Glatz
Aaron Haar
Elaina McReynolds

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present Erik Gustafson (Public Works Director O&M)
Steve Standridge, Fire Chief
Linda Herman (Park and Natural Resource Manager)
Richie Bamlet (Urban Forest Manager)
Shane Romain (Park Services Coordinator)
Monica Murdock (Admin Assistant)

2. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are to be considered routine and enacted by one motion.

2.1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action: Approve minutes of BPPC meeting held on 10/26/20.

A motion was made by Commissioner Haar and seconded by Commissioner Moore to approve the consent agenda.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar, Chair McReynolds

NOES: None

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – NONE

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE

5. **REGULAR AGENDA**

5.1. **CONSIDERATION OF COMMISSIONER MOORE'S AND HAAR'S REQUEST TO DISCUSS FIRE RISKS IN BIDWELL PARK.**

At its 10/26/20 meeting, the BPPC approved requests from Commissioners Moore and Haar to agendize discussion regarding fire risks in Bidwell Park and requested that representatives from Chico Fire Department attend tonight's meeting. (*Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resource Manager*)

Recommendation: The BPPC is requested to provide direction on whether to send recommendations to the City Council regarding this discussion.

Chief Standridge discussed the fire risks in Bidwell Park along with response times, indicating that fire risk is determined primarily on three factors, topography, weather and fuel loads and that the affects of these factors are more likely to occur in Upper Park, than Lower Park.

Chair McReynolds asked if the Chief could please help the Park Division inform the public regarding the extent of fire risks in Bidwell Park.

June Carey emailed comments and Woody Elliott provided comments during the meeting on this item.

5.2. **INTRODUCTION OF THE DRAFT PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (PEIR) FOR THE DRAFT VEGETATIVE FUELS MANAGEMENT PLAN (VFMP).**

The Bidwell Park & Playground Commission (BPPC) will receive an update and presentation from the City's consultants on the draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the City's Draft Vegetative Fuels Management Plan. (*Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resource Manager*)

Recommendation: None this is an informational item only at this time. The Commission and the public will be able to provide comments on the PEIR at the Natural Resources Committee and the BPPC meetings in January 2021, and throughout the 45-day public comment period.

Wolfy Rogle presented a slideshow.

Comments were received from John Blachley via email and from Woody Elliott by email and during the meeting.

5.3. **CONSIDERATION OF THE FINAL RESTORATION PLAN FOR THE NATURE CENTER AREA**

On 11/25/19, the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission (BPPC) reviewed a draft plan for the tree-clearing area near the Nature Center area in Lower Bidwell Park to restore the area as a Valley Oak Woodland demonstration site. The plan was also reviewed by the Natural Resources Committee (NRC). The BPPC will consider the final restoration plan prepared by the City's consultant Dempsey Vegetation Management to achieve this goal. (*Report – Linda Herman, Park & Natural Resource Manager*)

Recommendation: The Commission is requested to approve the final restoration plan.

Comments were received from Tom Barrett via email and from Woody Elliott by email and during the meeting.

After receiving the comments concerning CEQA review for the project, the Commission requested that the following more specific language be added to the plan:

1. That any and all work on this project will be completed outside of the migratory bird nesting season of February 1 to August 31, and the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle (VELB) adult stage activity season of March 15 – June each year to avoid physical disturbance of the elderberry bushes.
2. No herbicides will be used within 100 feet of elderberry stems > 1” in diameter.

A motion was made by Commissioner Haar to approve the final restoration plan with the above additional language. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Liles.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner Moore, Commissioner Liles, Commissioner Smith-Peters, Commissioner Glatz, Vice-Chair Haar and Chair McReynolds.

NOES: None

6. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Members of the public may address the Commission via WebEx or by email at parkpubliccomment@chicoca.gov at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda, with comments being limited to three minutes or as determined by the Chair. The Committee cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

Comments were received from Tom Barrett via email and from Woody Elliott by email and during the meeting.

Comments were received from Woody Elliott by email and during the meeting.

7. **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

These items are provided for the Commission’s information. Although the Commission may discuss the items, no action can be taken at this meeting. Should the Commission determine that action is required, the item or items may be included for action on a subsequent posted agenda.

7.1 Parks Division Report – Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager

7.2 Street Tree Division Report – Richie Bamlet, Urban Forest Manager

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at 8:47 p.m. to the next regular meeting on 1/25/21 at 6:00 p.m. at a location or format to be determined.

Date Approved: ___/___/___

Prepared by:

Monica Murdock, Admin Assistant

Date