

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 30, 2006  
Meeting held in the Council Chambers

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call:**

Chair Jim Walker, Commissioners Russell Mills, Tom Barrett, Richard Ober, Michael Candela, Stephen Lucas, and David Wood; staff: General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Election of Officers**

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO ELECT STEPHEN LUCAS CHAIR AND RICHARD OBER VICE CHAIR. COMMISSIONER LUCAS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**3. Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of December 13, 2005.**
- 2. Minutes from Regular Meeting of December 14, 2005.**
- 3. Minutes from Regular Meeting of December 19, 2005.**
- 4. Minutes from Regular Meeting of January 23, 2006.**
- 5. Minutes from Regular Meeting of January 25, 2006.**  
Commissioner Mills removed this item from Consent Agenda.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO ACCEPT ITEMS 1-4 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**      None

#### **4. REGULAR AGENDA**

##### **1. Items Removed From the Consent Agenda**

###### **Minutes from Regular Meeting of January 25, 2006.**

Commissioner Mills added a word to his motion on page 2, seconded by Commissioner Ober.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 25, 2006 AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

##### **2. Review and Consideration of the Proposed Master Plan for Highland/Ceres Neighborhood Park**

This Master Plan comes to the BPPC for conceptual approval. Greg Melton of Land Image, showed a graphic of the design and explained features. There is an elevated path system, entrances at four corners; the majority of action will occur in the center corridor where benches overlook the lower grassy areas, a basketball court is placed on the most visible corner, and a water retention basin will drain underground through a leach trench and storm drain that will send one-half to Mud Creek and one-half to the Channel.

From the public:

The Bailey children read a poem saying they have waited for seven years and asked to please approve the Plan.

John Merz said he sued the City to have this park completed years ago. He is curious about the elevation and open swale, but the natural vegetation is a good idea.

Fred Brooks paid a park dedication fee 18 years ago and costs have gone up a lot, but the plan is sound.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE PLAN WITH CONSIDERATION FOR ANOTHER DRINKING FOUNTAIN AND ANOTHER LOCATION FOR THE RESTROOM. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

##### **3. Review and Consideration of a Preliminary Plan for the East First Avenue and Verbena Restoration Project**

Commissioners Candela and Wood excused themselves from this discussion.

Susan Strachan, of Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance, said she is working with Streaminders, CSUC Research Foundation and the City of Chico on this project. They hope to obtain grants that support flood plains, streams, wells and restoration. This project is planned to be low cost and require minimum maintenance.

Greg Melton of Land Image, showed a graphic of the site design. Plans for this site are to create wetlands and to enhance the Lindo Channel flood plain. Construction would be mainly grading and making paths. The gravel, concrete, and pipes left from the past will be removed or used as fill. Revegetation will include oaks and willows, native grasses and California poppy. Mosquitos should not be a problem, as the Channel drains fast and water moves through quickly when it is full.

From the public:

Rebekah Funes said her Tribal Council will see this plan next week and vote on it then. They would like to design a gathering area here and do interpretations.

John Merz recommends against a trail on the south side of the channel, but to put in a bridge for linkage. Use native stock for any plant species.

Michael Reilley asked BPPC to consider any grant funding restrictions that would affect plans for the future. A bridge may be needed as traffic problems going North to South continue to grow.

Michael Candela said he lives nearby and discussions in 1996-97 showed neighbors wanted the area to be natural. He would like more involvement with Mechoopda.

Arlene Ward, Cultural Co-ordinator for the Mechoopda Tribe, said the area should be called an "interpretive site."

Commissioner Lucas said the Master Management Plan calls for intensive recreational development out of Bidwell Park and this plan takes the land away from that. He likes the tribe to have a strong presence there.

Commissioner Barrett agrees we are losing an opportunity to get intensive recreation out of the Park, but likes the plan's concept.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE SCHEMATIC DESIGN AND RESERVE AN OPTION TO LEAVE SOUTH CORNER AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

Break from 8:40 p.m. to 8:50 p.m..

#### **4. Review and Consider Current Activities at the Proposed Disc Golf Area (Hwy 32)**

Commissioner Barrett has an ongoing concern for soil degradation in this area and it is worse when the ground is wet. Other parts of the Park are closed when the ground is saturated and this could be also. Something needs to be done now and not in about two years after the MMP is completed. Posting signs are not enough and he suggests removing the targets when the ground is wet

GSD Beardsley has had a sign installed asking the public not to play disc golf when the trails are closed and asked on the web site for compliance. He is trying to follow up on the tournament use last month. No part of the Park is closed to pedestrians, just to bikes and equestrians. If poles were removed, they would be put back in by players, and staff cannot do adequate surveillance. The best solution is to make decisions about the MMP so this site can be managed.

Commissioner Mills said to have restrictions prepared and approved before the next wet season in case the MMP is not completed Voluntary compliance is all we can do this year.

Chair Walker said more ranger presence is needed there, and also a second sign by the other entrance being used.

From the public:

Josephine Guardino distributed a letter dated 12-08-04 from a soil scientist warning the soil at the course must be watched, yet nothing in the MMP addresses the problem of soil there. The course is being advertised state-wide on the Disc Golf Association web site and the City could ask that it be removed from there because it is an unofficial course. Commissioner Mills said the BPPC was cut out of the loop by a letter from an attorney that threatened a suit and now we have this situation. Ms. Guardino said no law suit was threatened. The first mitigated negative declaration had inadequacies and the letter was to get a response to that.

John Merz said the BPPC and staff is responsible for maintenance of the Park and has the right and responsibility to remove those poles that were installed by an individual and to close an entrance that leads people into a vernal pool.

Rebekah Funes said the MMP should have a plan for closing a trail, both temporarily and permanently.

Arlene Ward thought this MMP was for the Park addition, not all of the Park. What was done on site to preserve archeology?

Randy Abbott said the BPPC has a responsibility to investigate public comments. If the MMP and EIR take two more years, you are not erring on ecological side.

GSD Beardsley said the EIR on the disc golf course and the Annie Bidwell Trail was halted and rolled into this MMP update. After conceptual approval of the MMP, details will come during the EIR process that follows.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED TO REMOVE TONE POLES BY STAFF OR PLAYERS DURING WET SEASON. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH FAILED 2-5. YES: BARRETT AND OBER. NO: MILLS WALKER, CANDELA, LUCAS AND WOOD.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO SEND THIS ITEM TO STREAM/PRESERVATION COMMITTEE. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH FAILED 3-4. YES: MILLS, BARRETT AND OBER. NO: WALKER, CANDELA, LUCAS AND WOOD.

Staff will move forward on standing action.

**5. Report from Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of 1/25/06**

**Review and consideration of request from the Safor Corporation (Safor) to extend a grant of license for property within Bidwell Park adjacent to 400 Camelia Way (Camelia Courtyard)**

The former 20-year lease has expired and staff recommends a 15-year lease with review every five years. A benefit to the City would be having Safor monitor and maintain the area while inhibiting undesirable access to the creek. Property lines need to be clearly delineated.

Commissioner Mills needs a compelling reason to lease Park land, but suggests allowing an encroachment permit.

From the public:

Bob Fortino, Safor Corp, said they light the strip all night and water and maintain the grass area. They do that as a matter of aesthetics, not for any use purpose.

John Merz asked what is the pay off and it should be in writing.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 15 YEARS TO ALLOW CONTINUED MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING IMPROVEMENTS AT 400 CAMELIA WAY WITH A CANCELLATION OF 90 DAYS BY EITHER PARTY. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-1. YES: MILLS, OBER, WALKER, CANDELA, LUCAS AND WOOD. NO: BARRETT.

**6. Review and Consideration of Procedures Regarding Reconsideration of Action Items.**

At the January 23, 2006 meeting, BPPC discussed reconsidering items in the

MMP that failed on a tie vote since there is need for clarity. In item 4.2, a motion to reconsider ties was passed with three stipulations.

Commissioner Ober thinks it is good to revisit certain items after seeing the draft as a whole.

From the public:

Randy Abbott said this is a unique situation and participators learn as they go through the document.

COMMISSIONER LUCAS MOVED TO ADD STIPULATION 4) "AT END OF THE PROCESS" TO THE ORIGINAL MOTION. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-2. YES: MILLS, OBER, WALKER, LUCAS AND WOOD. NOES: BARRETT AND CANDELA.

## **5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**1. Director's Report** Received and filed.

**2. Urban Forester's Report** Received and filed

**3. Monthly Reports** Received and filed

**4. Incident Reports** Received and filed

Commissioner Mills said the incident reports have been copied for about 12 years and he seldom uses them. Commissioners agreed to save the paper and discontinue including them in the packet each month.

**5. Correspondence**

A letter from CARD noted a potential hazard from condemned light poles near Doryland Field and asked the City to expedite the plan review process; reply by GSD Beardsley.

## **6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Chair Walker said there is a groundbreaking at the Nature Center tomorrow for the new Mechoopda facility.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m. to the next regular meeting of February 1, 2006.

BPPC MEETING OF JANUARY 30, 2006

SIGN-IN SHEET

	Name	Address
1.	John Merz	1813 Broadway
2.	Fred Brooks	2223 Ceres Avenue
3.	Bailey Children	
4.	Susan Strachan	40 Via Morro Court 95928
5.	Rebekah Funes	125 Mission Ranch 96926
6.	Michael Reilley	678 Vallombrosa Way
7.	Michael Candela	832 Madrone Ave
8.	Arlene Ward	125 Mission Ranch Blvd
9.	Josephine Guardino	PO Box 6 Los Molinos
10.	Randy Abbott	

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 1, 2006  
Meeting held in Conference Room 2

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Russell Mill, Tom Barrett, Richard Ober, Jim Walker, Michael Candela, and David Wood; Consultant Petra Unger; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**     None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**     None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**     None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**     None

**2. Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

Commissioner Barrett submitted his ideas about including into the MMP more objectives, implementation strategies, and guidelines regarding Lost Park, Annie's Glen, Camelia Way, picnic sites, Lower Park trails, and Walnut Grove. Each item was discussed, amended, approved, and/or some sent to other sections of the Plan.

Break from 7:30 p.m. to 7:40 p.m..

*3.2.2 Middle Park*

From the Public:

Randy Abbott sent an email pointing out that Middle Park has the most fragile areas in the Park, such as at Monkey Face and the North Rim Trail. Open grass lands have been lost with every development so far, and there will be more in the future. This should be a transition zone.



*3.2.2.1 Permissible Uses in Middle Park*  
Amended and approved

*3.2.2.2*  
*Objectives, Implementation Strategies and Guidelines*  
Added, amended and approved.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED TO INCLUDE AND OBJECTIVE “MAKE RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION OF BIDWELL PARK’S EXISTING NATURAL COMMUNITIES A HIGH PRIORITY”. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-3. YES: BARRETT, LUCAS, WALKER AND OBER. NOES: WOOD, CANDELA AND MILLS.

A section for Five Mile Recreation Area was added with objectives, implementation strategies, and guidelines for the area.

**5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**                      None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 to meetings of 02-09-06 and 02-13-06.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call**

Chair Steven Lucas, Commissioners Jim Walker, Tom Barrett, and Michael Candela; consultant Petra Unger; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Senior Planner Patrick Murphy, and Administrative Assistant Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**

Cheryl Adams said signs should say “disabled persons” instead of “handicapped”. Some picnic sites labeled accessible are not, and signs should come down. GSD Beardsley said an inventory was done six years ago and all requirements were satisfied at that time. Design standards are incorporated in the current design.

Jim Stutz said he would be badly affected if there were more restrictions for driving on park roads.

Josephine Guardino said impact on the disc golf course would be reduced if it was not advertised on web sites or at the Chamber of Commerce.

COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED TO AGENIZE THIS ITEM FOR MASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 3-2. YES: WALKER, CANDELA AND LUCAS. NOES: WOOD AND BARRETT.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO RECONSIDER THE VOTE. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-1. YES: CANDELA, WOOD, LUCAS AND WALKER. NO: BARRETT.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED THIS ITEM NOT BE SENT TO COMMITTEE. COMMISSIONER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**      None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**      None

#### 4. **REGULAR AGENDA**

##### **Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

###### *3.2.2.3 Horseshoe Lake*

*Objectives* were read, amended and agreed upon.

###### *Implementation Strategies and Guidelines*

From the public:

Josephine Guardino wants professional help for some trail maintenance. GSD Beardseely said staff knows how to do most of the work, but Monkey Face is one place expert help is needed.

Commissioners discussed keeping landscape natural and at a minimum, including backless seating areas on Monkey Face, and a need for more parking spaces. Ms. Unger sees the Lake as the hub of Upper Park that will receive more use planning, including a path around the lake and a clear plan of traffic.

Section discussed, amended and agreed upon.

Break from 8:20 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Commissioners Lucas, Walker, Barrett, Wood and Candela returned.

###### *3.2.3.1 UPPER PARK*

From the public:

Lon Glazner - will take the disc golf course map off his web site.

Randy Abbott - the language used in stated objective of Upper Park would keep out disc golf as well as paintball and other such sports.

Josephine Guardino - encourage recreation that is compatible with protecting natural resources. Disc golf may limit others' enjoyment of the area.

Phil Johnson - use a policy of no net soil loss when developing recreational facilities.

Lon Glazner - the EIR will determine if Disc Golf is an OK use of the area.

Gregg Payne - change is part of evolution; present conditions occurred during ten years of no management; look for alternative locations for the course.

Mark Kessler - close the course and trails when wet and enforce it.

O. J. McMillan - future management will cost a lot; will the money be well spent in proportion to the number of people using the course?

*3.2.3.1 Permissible Uses*

COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED TO ADD “DOGS OFF LEASH WHERE PERMITTED” UNDER PERMISSIBLE USES SECTION IN UPPER PARK. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-1. YES: WALKER, WOOD, CANDELA, AND LUCAS. NO: BARRETT.

COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED TO SUPPORT THE CONCEPT TO RECOGNIZE THE 38 ACRES OF THE DISC GOLF COURSE IN A SEPARATE FASHION FROM THE REST OF UPPER PARK. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-1. YES: WALKER, WOOD, LUCAS AND CANDELA, NO: BARRETT.

A policy on rock climbing will be added and developed later.

**5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**                      None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m to the next meeting of February 13, 2006.

BIDWELL PARK MASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN  
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 13, 2006  
Meeting held in Council Chambers

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call**

Present: Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Russell Mills, Richard Ober, Jim Walker, David Wood, Tom Barrett, and Michael Candela; Consultant Petra Unger; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Sr. Planner Patrick Murphy, Sr. Planner Brendan Vieg, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson

**2. Public Comments**     None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**     None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**     None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**     None

**2. Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

*3.2.3.2 Upper Park Implementation Strategies and Guidelines*

From the public:

Randy Abbott - would like to have repair of trails and closure of unauthorized trails be a priority and part of education on how to treat the park.

Gregg Payne - last week there were many young people in the Park with open minds who could become members of helpful organizations if not alienated

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED TO RESTRICT USE OF TRAILS AND USE IN SENSITIVE AREAS DURING WET SEASON. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-3. YES: BARRETT, OBER MILLS AND WALKER. NO: WOOD, CANDELA AND LUCAS.

GSD Beardseely said closure of trails would require an OK by council to change 12R's.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO ENCOURAGE PARK USERS TO USE EXISTING TRAILS AND DISCOURAGE ORGANIZED GROUPS FROM OFF TRAILS.  
COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTIONS WHICH CARRIED 4-3. YES. BARRETT, OBER, MILLS AND WALKER. NO: WOOD, CANDELA AND LUCAS.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO RE-EVALUATE REGULATIONS IN THE NEW ACQUISITION PERTAINING TO PARK USES INCLUDING DOG LEASH LAW.  
COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

All items were read, discussed, amended and agreed upon.

### *3.2..3.3. Disc Golf Area Objectives, Implementation Strategies and Guidelines*

Sr. Planner Vieg distributed an updated version of this section, based on past discussion. He said the EIR has a "No Project" alternative. If that is decided, this section goes away. This is the access point to Upper Park so is high multi-use, not just for disc golf.

From the public

Gregg Payne - keep considering alternate locations for the course that might offer easier and cheaper access. Safety from cliffs is determined by the direction the disc is going.

Randy Abbott - This area could be a fourth zone, along with lower, middle and upper park. Disc golf requires an acre per hole, which leaves two acres for non-disc golf use.

Objectives were read, discussed, amended and agreed upon.

## **5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

ADA Guidelines will be mailed out and discussed at next meeting after Disc Golf Area implementation strategies and guidelines

Committee assignments will stay the same except to put Commissioner Walker on the Master Management Committee.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. to next meeting of February 22, 2006.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2006  
Meeting held in Conference Room 2

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Russell Mills, Richard Ober, Jim Walker, David Wood, Tom Barrett, and Michael Candela; Consultant Petra Unger; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Sr. Planner Patrick Murphy, Sr. Planner Brendan Vieg, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**     None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**     None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**     None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**     None

**2. Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

*3.1.4.1 ADA Accessibility*

Discussion of this section was deferred until Commissioner Candela was able to study the outdoor ADA guidelines and bring information to Commission. He learned that “independence” and “universal design” are important words to keep in mind so that disabled persons do not feel separate from others.

Chair Lucas said this topic has been addressed in several sections and asked if it should be covered in one section instead. It was decided to add it to the Park vision and to include a reminder of the ADA Accessible section in other appropriate places, including the Trails Manual

From the Public

Dave Kelley - intent of the law is clear and access is for all, not just the healthy.  
Brooke Moore - address accessibility in Upper Park for ones with modest disability. Close Upper Park Road or increase patrols.



Marianne Larson - keep the gates always open, but limit traffic to safety vehicles, those with stickers or with a special permit for groups.

Cheryl Adams - South side of the Park is most desirable part for the disabled.

Make it accessible to everybody and put a big fine on speeders.

Dan Grover - He uses Upper Park Road when it is closed and it makes a reasonable trail for him in a wheelchair.

Randy Abbott - Make some picnic sites on north side ADA accessible and keep south side closed.

Jim Stutz - The Park has challenges for different abilities and needs. There are no simple answers. A shuttle could be a solution but going on their schedule would take away freedom.

Loretta Quiring - don't close the Park to anyone and address the speeding.

Greg Tropea - Driving around in Lower Park was part of Chico character.

Commissioner Candela presented his written Objectives and Implementation Strategies and Guidelines, which were were discussed, amended and agreed upon by Commissioners along with what was written in the draft.

## **5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

The next BPMMP meeting will discuss the balance of disc golf course section, then meetings on trails and Natural Resource Master Plan.

Meetings will be:

02-28-06 at 7:00 for disc golf, CR1

03-06-06 at 6:30 for natural resources, Chamber

03-13-06 at 6:30 for trails, CR1

03-20-06 at 6:30 open agenda if needed, CR2 and

03-27-06 at 7:00 for regular BPPC meeting

## **6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. to Monday, February 27, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

BIDWELL PARK MASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN  
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 22, 2006  
SIGN-IN SHEET

	Name	Address
1.	Dave Kelley	1274 Valley View Drive
2.	Brooke Moore	2642 Lakewest Drive
3.	Marianne Larson	2642 Lakewest Drive
4.	Dan Grover	1140 Normal Avene
5.	Jim Stutz	11 11 River Oaks
6.	Loretta Quiring	3141 Hudson Ave
7.	Greg Tropea	8 San Ramon Drive
8.	Randy Abbott	

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 27, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Russell Mills, Richard Ober, Jim Walker, David Wood, and Michael Candela; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

Absent: Tom Barrett

**2. Public Comments**

Cheryl Adams - she talked to City Manager about the correct way to get the closed portion of South Park Drive on the agenda? When will it be on? Chair Lucas said it will be put on when the Commission agrees to a date.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Minutes of Regular Meeting of January 30, 2006**

**2. Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 9, 2006**

**3. Application and Permit for Park Use of Wildwood Park for the 2006 Season from Butte United Soccer League, Chico Central Little League, and Chico Cal Soccer Club for us until December 1, 2006**

**4. Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use from the Downtown Chico Business Association for 2006 Friday Night concerts May 12, 2006 to September 20, 2006 - Children's Playground**

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION 6-0.

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**                      None

**2. Receive and Discuss Report on the Kiwanis Community Observatory**

Kris Koenig gave the annual report on activities. High light of the year was when 500 people watched the deep impact of a probe into a comet on July 3, 2005. On March 29, 2006, there will be live feed from Egypt on the total eclipse of the sun. Ten days of sunshine is needed before they can begin digging the hole for an outdoor planetarium. They are still spending \$9,000 per year.

**3. Receive a Report Regarding the Removal of Giant Reed (Arundo donax) from Lindo Channel**

Susan Mason said work will continue of what was started about five years ago as a plan to eradicate the plant throughout the state. It will be taken from the entire length of Lindo Channel (nine miles) from land owned by both city and private parties. All owners and residence will be notified and asked to cooperate. A version of Round Up will be used and a "masticator" bobcat will shred the matter. Others waterways in the area have the plant, but only all colonies of it in Lindo Channel have been identified, as required for effective treatment.

From the public: Gregg Payne asked if we can get such a policy for treatment of poison oak.

**4. Report from the Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of 02/16/06**

**Review and Consideration of Request to Install a Memorial Project in Caper Acres**

David Brobst introduced the design and materials of the play area requested to be placed in Caper Acres as a memorial to Nico Cordoza, a toddler who died in December 2005. The planning, fund raising, and construction are to be done by professional friends of Nico's family. They have already raised \$26,000 and are planning five fund-raising events. They are asking for approval of the concept, the site and endorsement of the suggested products to be used.

From the public

Speaking in favor of the project were Lon Glazner, Tina Day, Scott Reynolds, Jennifer Nelson, Roshell Brobst, Marianne Paiva, and Marshall Roman.

General Services Director Beardsley asked the group to keep staff aware of what is occurring and communicate via email with BPPC. It will go back before the committee when the project is near the end.

**COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONCEPT. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0**

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE LOCATION. COMMISSIONER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

break from 8:15 to 8:25.

Commissioners Lucas, Walker, Mills, Wood, Candela and Ober returned.

**5. Review and Consider Request from Commissioner Walker Regarding Funding for Trail Improvements in Bidwell Park**

Commissioner Walker said we should treat trail maintenance the same as we do street trees and have an item in the budget to get the work done.

General Services Director Beardsley said ten years ago there was no trail maintenance program. Now Bidwell Park has an agreement for 20 weeks of California Conservation Corp crews of 18 workers each at \$2,100 a day, one existing permanent position assigned as head of the maintenance crew during the summer, and the Adopt-A-Trail program. Still there is need for more. Soon a full-time Volunteer Coordinator will set trails as a high priority.

From the public: Paul Lee, Chico Velo, sends emails to 50 people each month who would help out.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**1. Director's Report** Received and filed

- a. City Plaza
- b. Baroni Park
- c. Council Actions/Correspondence

Update: BPPC view shed policy went to council on February 27 and final approval is expected in March; new drinking fountains were installed at Wildwood and Caper Acres.

**2. Monthly Reports** Received and filed.

**3. Correspondence** None

**4. Urban Forester's Report**

There will be programs at the three junior high schools on March 7 for California Arbor Day.

Injection to control aphids on Chinese Hackberry trees is complete

City worked with PG&E to take down a large oak tree at Depot Park. Roger Cole and the tree crew is working with neighbors on proper pruning in areas where we have planted young trees.

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Set March meetings for 03-06, 03-13 to review trails and 03-20 if needed.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to the next meeting of February 28, 2006 in Conference Room 1 at 7:00 p.m.

**SIGN IN SHEET**

	name	Address
1.	Cheryl Adams	
2.	Kris Koenig	
3.	Susam Mason	
4.	Gregg Payne	
5.	Lon Glazner	
6.	Tina Day	
7.	Scott Reynolds	
8.	Jennifer Nelsen	
9.	Rashell Boebst	
10.	Marianne Paita	
11.	Doug Andrews	
12.	Marshall Roman	
13.	Paul Lee	

BIDWELL PARK MASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN  
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 28, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Russell Mills, Richard Ober, Jim Walker, David Wood, Tom Barrett, and Michael Candela; Consultant Petra Unger; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Sr. Planner Patrick Murphy, Sr. Planner Brendan Vieg, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**     None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**     None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**     None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**     None

**2. Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

*3.2.3.3 Disc Golf implementation strategies and guidelines*

From the public:

Scott Reimer - this not just a disc golf area so maybe it could be referred to as a recreation area.

Lon Glazner - make signs to delineate between beginners and advance courses.

Michael Green - when putting tees outside of tree drip line, remember players like to have shade

Randy Abbott - Intensive recreational development anywhere says goodbye to the natural state. This draft is putting the cart before the horse.

Gregg Payne - the first design with 45 holes was to offer seasonal alternatives.

The new design is far more restrictive. Nature does more damage than man does.

Sr. Planner Veig said there still needs to be a preamble to this section saying all depends on the EIR. It may not be possible to mitigate all problems to the necessary level of acceptance, but Council can decide that other issues outweigh the impacts.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED THAT BASKETS AND EARTH TONE CONCRETE TEE PADS SHALL BE INSTALLED AT EACH HOLE. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED THAT THE WIDTH OF ALL PATHWAYS SHALL BE MINIMIZED. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

*Discussion of the final seven bullets*

From the public-

Gregg Payne - a lot of money was spent on the original design and it dealt with every point we have gone over here.

Lon Glazner - expand programs into this area; patrol by Park Watch; get support from non-profit organizations. The complex design standards takes the construction beyond the ability of volunteer labor.

Michael Green - multiple use within the boundaries of the course is not safe.

Randy Abbott - how much of the area will be held for multiple use?

Commissioner Barrett wants some limits on play until we get to the end of this process. Put an item on the next regular agenda to develop interim management measures to be used until the area becomes an official course.

The last three points of this section will be evaluated at the next meeting. Then the Natural Resources Master Plan will be considered comprehensively, not line by line.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 to the next BPMMP on March 6, 2006.



BIDWELL PARK MASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN  
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 28, 2996  
SIGN IN SHEET

	Name	Address
1.	Michael Green	PO Box 683 Marysville CA 95901
2.	Scott Riemer	Box 4529 Chico
3.	Lon Glazner	
4.	Randy Abbott	
5.	Gregg Payne	

BIDWELL PARK MASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN  
MEETING OF MARCH 6, 2006  
Meeting held in Council Chambers

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Present at Roll Call:**

Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Russell Mills, Richard Ober, Jim Walker, Michael Candela; consultant Petra Unger; staff Senior Planner Patrick Murphy, General Services Director Dennis Beardsley and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**     None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**     None

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING**     None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items from Consent Agenda**     None

**2. Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

*3.2.31 Permissible Uses in Upper Park*

Two objectives and one Implementation Strategy from Section 3.2.3.4 “Resource Protection Area Objectives, Implementation Strategies and Guidelines” have been incorporated into Section 3.2.3.1 and the updated document was distributed.

From the public:

Randy Abbott - Upper Park has incredible wilderness features and the Master Plan should be clear and strong to keep it for passive or non-intensive recreation use only.

Phil Johnson - visualize the entire Sacramento Valley in 50 or 100 years and you will see the great value of preservation in Upper Park. Make the language the strongest you can because there will be pressure to erode it.

Carol Wright - She, her parents, and her grandparents all roamed through Upper Park before the swimming holes had names. It has changed greatly, but give it the most protection you can because there is still the chance for others to enjoy the things she did there. Be far-sighted in limiting development.

Planner Murphy explained that zoning is now OS1 throughout the Park. Resource Conservation Area (RCA) is overlaid in all of Upper Park except the disc golf course. BPPC can keep zoning as is or designate others.

Randy Abbott had earlier submitted his own goals and objectives for consideration in this section. Commissioners read, discussed, amended and agreed upon what to include in the document.

### *Appendix "C" Natural Resources Management Plan*

From the Public

Randy Abbott - find the resources to develop this plan in the future and remember the community is full of qualified volunteers.

Carol Wright - do the natural resource inventory and remember creatures as well as plants.

Susan Mason - the inventories and fire management plans need leaders to get them done. City staff does not have the expertise and no money allotted so all will be pushed into the future. There is no way to monitor any progress.

GSD Beardsley said steps to accomplishment these tasks will be 1) have the Plan, 2) increase staff knowledge and go into the community for help, 3) set priorities, and 4) come back to BPPC for discussion as things go through.

Commissioners discussed, amended and agreed upon what to include in Appendix "C".

Meetings scheduled are now:

Monday, March 13, revisit trail master plan

Monday, March 20 if needed to complete the trails plan

Monday, March 27 for regular BPPC meeting. Commissioners will receive the revised document, both the redline version and one with just changes. They will be on CD and on the web sight.

Third week of April, Commissioners bring back their three topics for further discussion

Last week of April for final approval of the entire document.

## **5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Phil Johnson said he advocates rock climbing in Upper Park, but people are going there and defacing property, drilling holes and putting bolts into rock.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. to the next meeting of March 13, 2006.

**BIDWELL PARK MASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN  
MEETING OF MARCH 6, 2006  
SIGN-IN SHEET**

	Name	Address
1.	Randy Abbott	
2.	Phil Johnson	
3.	Carol Wright	
4.	Susan Mason	

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES FOR MEETING OF MARCH 27, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call:**

Present: Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Richard Ober, Michael Candela, David Wood, and Tom Barrett; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Bosa, and Administrative Assistant Janice Heckerson.  
Absent: Commissioner Russell Mills.

**2. Public Comments**                      None

**2. Consent Agenda**

- 1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of February 1, 2006**
- 2. Minutes from Regular Meeting of February 13, 2006**
- 3. Minutes from Regular Meeting of February 22, 2006**
- 4. Minutes from Regular Meeting of February 27, 2006**
- 5. Minutes from Regular Meeting of February 28, 2006**
- 6. Minutes from Regular Meeting of March 6, 2006**
- 7. Review and Consideration of an Application and Permit for Park Use of Children's Playground from Bidwell Presbyterian Church - July 10, 2006 to July 14, 2006**
- 8. Review and Consideration of an Application and Permit for Public Use from North Valley Productions for a Public Concert in Cedar Grove - September 16, 2006**
- 9. Review and Consideration of an Application and Permit from Chico Velo Cycling Club for a Hike in Upper Bidwell Park - April 30, 2006**  
  
Commissioners Walker and Barrett are members of Chico Velo and will abstain from voting on this item.
- 10. Review and Consideration of an Application and Permit from the Chico Area Recreation and Park District for a Baby Boot Camp in Lower Bidwell**

**Park, May 16, 2006 - August 31, 2006**

This item was removed from Consent Agenda by Commissioner Walker.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 9 OF CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0 WITH WALKER AND BARRETT ABSTAINING ON ITEM 9.

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS** None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

**Review and Consideration of an Application and Permit from the Chico Area Recreation and Park District for a Baby Boot Camp in Lower Bidwell Park, May 16, 2006 - August 31, 2006**

Commissioner Walker wanted to know more about particulars.

COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**2. Review and Consideration of Fiscal Year 2006-07 Park Related Community Organization Funding Requests**

a. Chico Creek Nature Center - request of \$60,960

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

b. Chico Cat Coalition - request of \$14,000

COMMISSIONER OBER MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST. COMMISSIONER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**3. Review and Discussion of the Public and Open Space Elements of the Proposed Meriam Park Project**

John Anderson, of New Urban Builders, gave a presentation on the status and highlights of the project, and vision for the Little Chico Creek Greenway within Meriam Park. For Commission information only with no action required.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- 1. Director's Report** Received and filed.

Update: will proceed with changing ADA signage to universal (wheelchair) symbol; the latest generation of Master Management Plan will go to public and Commission for study before the regular April 24 meeting, then set a subsequent meeting for review.

- 2. Urban Forester Report** Received and filed.

- 3. Monthly Reports** Received and filed

- 4. Correspondence** None

- 6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** None

- 7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 to next regular meeting of April 24, 1006.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF APRIL 24, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call:**

Present: Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Russell Mills, Tom Barrett, Richard Ober, James Walker, Michael Candela, and David Wood; consultant Petra Unger; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Senior Planner Patrick Murphy, and Administrative Assistant Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of February 9, 2006**

**2. Minutes from Regular Meeting of March 27, 2006**

**3. Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use “Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs” Event, Saturday, May 20, 2006 - Horseshoe Lake**  
This item was removed from Consent Agenda by Commissioner Mills.

**4. Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use of Five Mile Recreation Area for a Youth Day Camp - June 13-15, 2006**  
This item was removed from Consent Agenda by Commissioner Mills.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 1 AND 2 OF CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

**a. Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use “Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs” Event, Saturday, May 20, 2006 - Horseshoe Lake**

Commissioners Mills suggested one of the conditions on the permit for delivering fish should read use “approved route” instead of “off road”. He



would add that availability of shuttles be a condition of the permit and would promote the use of bikes.

Commissioner Ober asked about the response to BPPC's request last year that no lead sinkers be used. Bob Even, coordinator of the event, said that everything was changed to steel last year.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE PERMIT WITH CONDITIONS 1) CHANGE THAT FISH DELIVERY TO BE ON APPROVED ROUTE, 2) PROVIDE SHUTTLES AND 3) PROMOTE USE OF BIKES. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**b. Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use of Five Mile Recreation Area for a Youth Day Camp - June 13-15, 2006**

Since this is a new event, Commissioner Mills wants to establish a baseline. Is there a fee, is it a public or a private event? Arlene Ward, of the Machoopda Tribe, said it is a private day camp with three learning stations in the morning and a group meeting in the afternoon. There will be about 50 in attendance. She wants to discuss paying a fee with GSD Beardsley.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE PERMIT WITH THE ADDITION THAT IT IS A TRIBAL EVENT WITH TYPICAL ACTIVITIES. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**2. Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

Commissioners received copies of the April 2006 draft document, six items of supplemental information from staff for their consideration, and email from Randy Abbott with suggested revisions. They agreed on five of the items and discussed the Fence Line Trail status.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO DESIGNATE THE FENCE LINE TRAIL AN OFFICIAL TRAIL. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-3. YES: CANDELA, WOOD, LUCAS AND WALKER. NO: MILLS, BARRETT AND OBER.

Chair Lucas asked the public to provide only editing errors at this time. Randy Abbott and Paul Lehman spoke.

Commissioners agreed to Mr. Abbot's changes and provided amendments of their own.

Break from 8:30 to 8:40

All Commissioners returned and completed amendments to clarify meaning, substitute or strike certain words, make capitalization consistent, make colors consistent on graphics, and other editing changes.

**3. Report from Master Plan Committee Meeting of April 17, 2006**

**Review and Discussion of Accessibility in Bidwell Park**

Commissioner Candela said committee is brain-storming ideas on this issue and will have something to report at the next meeting. They are looking at a variety of uses to accommodate a variety of people in the Park.

From the public: Randy Abbott asked if replacing ADA non-accessible areas with similar facilities would satisfy the city's legal obligation. Commissioner Mills said restricting auto traffic on a road applies to everyone so is not a barrier to any one group.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- 1. **Director's Report** received and filed
- 2. **Urban Foresters Report** received and filed
- 3. **Correspondence** none

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Commissioner Barrett said voluntary compliance is not working at the disc golf course. Many people are playing when the trails and course are closed and the Community Access channel is still running a PSA for it. The Rod and Gun Club was spraying herbicides without displaying the proper information to the public.

A Master Management Plan meeting was set for May beginning at 6:30 p.m. Each Commissioner will submit his choice of three items from the draft to discuss further.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. to the next regular meeting of May 8, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MEETING OF MAY 8, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Russell Mills, Tom Barrett, Richard Ober, Michael Candela, Jim Walker, and David Wood; Consultant Petra Unger; Staff - General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Assistant City Attorney Alicia Rock??. Senior Planner Patrick Murphy, and Administrative Assistant Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comment**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**                      None

**3. PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**Review and Consideration of the Draft Bidwell Park Master Management Plan**

Chair Lucas said that each Commissioner may address up to three items from the draft document for reconsideration and has up to three minutes to present each item. Then, if there is a consensus, BPPC will move forward with discussion.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO CHANGE WORDING TO “EVALUATE THE PROPOSAL TO CLOSE SOUTH PARK DRIVE TO MOTORIZED VEHICLES FROM CEDAR GROVE TO CENTENNIAL DRIVE”. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH FAILED 3-4. YES: MILLS, OBER AND BARRETT. NOES: LUCAS, CANDELA, WALKER AND WOOD.

COMMISSIONER WOOD MOVED TO CHANGE DESIGNATION OF TRAILS FROM “OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL” TO “CHARTED AND UNCHARTED”. THERE WAS NO SECOND.

COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED TO DISCUSS CHANGING THE BULLET “CONSIDER KEEPING BALANCE OF SOUTH PARK DRIVE OPEN TO MOTORIZED VEHICLES” TO AN OBJECTIVE UNDER 3-6. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-2. YES: WOOD, WALKER, CANDELA, LUCAS AND OBER. NOES: MILLS AND BARRETT.

COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED TO MOVE THE BULLET “CONSIDER KEEPING

BALANCE OF SOUTH PARK DRIVE OPEN TO MOTORIZED VEHICLES” TO AN OBJECTIVE UNDER 3-6. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-3. YES: WOOD, WALKER, CANDELA, AND LUCAS. NOES: MILLS, OBER AND BARRETT.

COMMISSIONER OBER MOVED TO ADD THE LANGUAGE COMMISSIONER BARRETT SUBMITTED TO THE PARK-WIDE GOALS SECTION, WHICH WAS AGREED UPON EARLIER. COMMISSIONER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

After completion of the draft EIR, BPPC will meet for discussion during the 45 days allowed for comment, make final recommendations, and forward the document to City Council. Council will look at the plans and comments and make their own determination. BPPC discussion of the disc golf final plan is reserved for after receipt of the EIR.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO CONCEPTUALLY APPROVE THE UPDATED BIDWELL PARK MASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND FORWARD FOR EIR REVIEW AND COUNCIL CONSIDERATION. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

## **5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Randy Abbott said there is separate period for internal administrative review. GSD Beardsley said that management meeting is not public and does not include BPPC.

## **6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. to the next regular meeting of Tuesday, May 30, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MEETING OF MAY 30, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call:**

Present: Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Russell Mills, Michael Candela, Tom Barrett, David Wood, and Jim Walker; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Assistant Janice Heckerson.

Absent: Commissioner Richard Ober.

**2. Public Comments**                      None

After 15 years, this is the last BPPC meeting Urban Forester Chris Boza will attend before leaving City employment. Commissioner Mills and Paul Masden, President of Streamminders, expressed words of appreciation and Chair Lucas presented him with a plaque carved into wood from the original Hooker Oak tree.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of April 26, 2006**

**2. Minutes from Regular Meeting of May 8, 2006**

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.  
COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**                      None

**2. Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use of Bidwell Park for Up High! Productions, July 2 -12, 2006**

Ryan Laine, producer, said the crew is about 6 students from Chico who would be in the park for a short time in non-intrusive areas.

COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION.  
COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**3. Review and Consideration of Establishing a Curfew for City-owned Parks**

Chico Mother's Club has met with Council and Police Department regarding concerns at Children's Playground. Recommendations have been made to make it a better place for public use.

From the public, Bob Evans said he liked the measures suggested by Council but they will not solve the problem. The undesirable people will just move to another area.

It was agreed to send the item to Master Management Plan Committee and put it on the June agenda.

**4. Report From Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of May 10, 2006**

**Review and discussion of accessibility in Bidwell Park**

The Committee recommended eight policies and projects for BPPC to review.

From the public, Susan Mason likes the idea of adding picnic sites between the Fourth Street entrance and Mangrove and in conjunction with the underpass from Annie's Glen.

COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED TO ADOPT THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS, COMBINING #6 AND #8. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

BPPC will look at favorable parking sites during their summer tour.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- 1. Director's Report** Received and filed.  
The Iron Canyon fish ladder is being evaluated to help passage of migratory fish.
- 2. Urban Forester's Report** Received and filed.  
Chris Boza said it was an honor to serve here the last 15 years. He had successes and failures and learned patience in completing projects.
- 3. Volunteer Coordinator Report** Received and filed.  
We are catching up on the job of installing memorial benches.
- 4. Correspondence** None

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Chris Boza introduced the Landscape Inspector, Linda Sheppard.

Commissioner Walker said he appreciates the work Park staff has done in the last several week clearing brush. That is noticed and helps the experience we have in the Park.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm to the next regular meeting of June 26, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF JUNE 26, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Tom Barrett, Richard Ober, Jim Walker, Michael Candela, and David Wood; City staff: Urban Forester Denise Britton, General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, and Administrative Assistant Janice Heckerson.

Absent: Commissioner Russell Mills

**2. Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Minutes from Regular Meeting of May 30, 2006**

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVED THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED.  
COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**                      None

**2. Review and Consideration of a Proposal for Mural in Humboldt  
Neighborhood Park**

Artist Chase Morrow said he had a part in most of the 16 murals done on the underpass and would include the city logo in this mural to show that both skaters and City are part of the park.

Commissioner Barrett would like to see park users do the input on the art instead of having one person's work.

COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE THE DESIGN AS SHOWN.  
COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECOND THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-1. YES:  
WALKER, CANDELA, OBER, WOOD AND LUCAS. NO: BARRETT.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**



**1. Directors Report**

Neighborhood parks: Baroni project approved and construction will start next spring; the engineer report for Ceres Neighborhood Park will go to Council within 90 days; The application for Prop 40 funds for construction of the 1<sup>st</sup> and Verbena Restoration Area has been submitted.

Staff is looking at how to update the reservation system to be more efficient. BPPC's fall tour will identify sites in the revised accessibility appendix in the Master Management Plan.

**2. Monthly Reports**

Upper Park Road has been kept closed this spring but opened up last Saturday. One spot near Salmon Hole has been very wet so drains were put in to get through this year.

**3. Urban Forester Report**

Denice Britton introduced herself and said she will be looking for potential hazards along roads in Bidwell Park to reduce chance of limb failures.

**4. Volunteer Coordinator Report**

GSD Beardsley introduced Volunteer Coordinator Lise Smith-Peters. She gave her background and said she is forming a core group of volunteer workers with different interest to work in the Park.

**5. Correspondence**

Letters from Diana Bishop and Denise Hardy regarding concerns in the One Mile Recreation Area and staff's response.

**6. BUSINESS FROM FLOOR**          None

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 to the next regular meeting of July 31, 1006

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF JULY 31, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Roll Call:**

Present: Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Russell Mills, Richard Ober, Michael Candela, and David Woods; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Denice Britton, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, Assistant Planner Greg Redeker, and Administrative Assistant Janice Heckerson.

Absent: Commissioners Tom Barrett and Jim Walker

**Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 26, 2006**

**2. Request from Earl and Susan Nance for Garden Permit in Lindo Channel**

**3. Permit Application from Ensemble Theatre of Chico - Shakespeare in the Park for June 23, 2007 to July 30, 2007**

This item was removed from Consent Agenda by Commissioner Mills.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 1 AND 2 OF CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Public Hearing Regarding Use Permit 04-41 (Mountain Union) 1928 Manzanita Avenue (Hooker Oak Recreation Area)**

This is a request to authorize the placement of six antenna arrays for wireless telecommunication services atop new light standards at Hooker Oak baseball fields. Telecommunications equipment, including air conditioners and backup generators, will be located in a walled 75' X 100' ground lease area. The area is zoned OS1 Primary Open Space and is part of Bidwell Park leased to CARD.

Greg Redeker, Assistant Planner, reviewed the staff report and answered questions from the Commission.

Alex Goetze spoke for Crown Castle, applicant (formerly Mountain Union). Dr. Jerrold Bushberg, author of the power density study for the project, answered questions regarding the EMF produced by the facility.

From the public: Harold Carlson, Alan Gair, Randy Abbott, Jeff Smith, Karen Kite Montaña, and Leanne Lauth spoke against the project.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED THAT THE BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 06-01, ADOPTING A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND APPROVING USE PERMIT 04-41 (MOUNTAIN UNION), BASED ON THE FINDINGS AND SUBJECT TO THE CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL CONTAINED THEREIN. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 3-2. AYES: MILLS, CANDELA, AND LUCAS. NOES: OBER AND WOOD ABSENT: BARRETT AND WALKER

#### **4. REGULAR AGENDA**

##### **1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

###### **Permit Application from Ensemble Theatre of Chico - Shakespeare in the Park for June 23, 2007 to July 30, 2007**

Jerry Miller, applicant, said the performances would be free of charge, the Ensemble would tear down the sets after every performance, and the dates requested do not conflict with any other application.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE PERMIT. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

##### **2. Report from Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of June 28, 2006 Regarding Park Curfew (Commissioner Candela, Chair, Ober and Lucas)**

City Council recommended BPPC consider having a curfew for all city-owned parks. After meetings and discussions, Committee has asked staff to draft language for such a proposal. It will come to Commission for review and before going back to Council.

From the public: Denise Hardy, a resident of Woodland Avenue, said she hears loud sounds late at night and Police need a tool to get persons to move on.

#### **5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

##### **1. Director's Report** Received and filed.

There have been problems with car break-ins so signs have been posted to heighten public awareness. Police and Rangers are making progress on alleviating the problem.

A map has been posted on the web site to show accessibility to the park

Public may need accommodations to get from lower to middle park during construction of Manzanita corridor, which was recently begun.

- 2. **Monthly Report** Received and filed.
- 3. **Urban Forester Report** Received and filed.
- 4. **Volunteer Coordinator Report** Received and filed.
- 5. **Correspondence** None
- 6. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** None
- 7. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. to the next regular meeting on August 28, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

#### SIGN-IN SHEET

	Name	Address
1.	Harold Carlson	2837 Mariposa Avenue
2.	Alan Gair	6 Summerwood Court
3.	Randy Abbott	1151 East 10 <sup>th</sup> Street
4.	Jeff Smith	1425 Oleander Avenue
5.	Karen Kite Montaña	1468 Mountain View Avenue
6.	Leanne Lutt	4 Summerwood Court
7.	Denise Hardy	Woodland

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF AUGUST 28, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Russell Mills, Tom Barrett, Richard Ober, Michael Candela, Jim Walker, and David Wood; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Denice Britton, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Assistant Janice Heckerson

**2. Special Recognition**

Chair Lucas gave certificates of appreciation to David Ferguson and Delmy Montenegro for community service projects done in Bidwell Park by students in the Upward Bound program.

**3. Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Minutes from Regular Meeting of July 31, 2006**

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.  
COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-2. AYES:  
MILLS, OBER, CANDELA, WOOD AND LUCAS. ABSTAIN: WALKER AND BARRETT.

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**                      None

**2. Iron Canyon Fish Ladder - Upper Bidwell Par**

Several agencies have been working to improve the passage of spring-run Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Trout through the aging ladders in Iron Canyon. In 2002, BPPC conceptually approved a study of a project to improve the ladders. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) prepared a preliminary engineering report in 2002. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) completed a more detailed analysis in May of 2006. That report has been posted on the City's website and given to Commissioners for discussion tonight. All

subsequent reports and EIR's will come back to BPPC for review as well.

Paul Ward, Fishery Biologist for California Department of Fish and Game, and John Icanberry (USFWS) gave additional information and answered questions.

*Commissioner Jim Walker said he supports the goals of the project but has a problem with the scope of the solution. He wants to take a hard look at the impact of construction, which means heavy equipment crossing a sensitive area and maybe a change in Upper Park Road. It is a beautiful and quiet place, but the project impact will be very high.*

From the public, Randy Abbott and Susan Strachan, of the Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance, voiced support for the project.

**3. Report from Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of August 21, 2006 regarding Park Curfew (Commissioners Ober, Walker and Candela, Chair)**

The Committee submitted a proposed policy for consideration, to be designated 12R04.370 Closure of Certain Parks.

City Attorney Rock surveyed 32 cities regarding their curfew policies and determined that a closure for a public place was easier to regulate than a curfew for people. Police Chief Bruce Hagerty answered questions pertaining to law enforcement.

From the Public: Denise Hardy, Dianna Bishop, Bob Evans, Joni German, Henricus Jansen, Jeff Gladstone, and Jane Ettasen spoke in favor of closure. Randy Abbott said closure would effect law-abiding people as well as others.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO PURSUE CLOSURE FOR CERTAIN PARKS ON A TRIAL BASIS. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-2. YES: MILLS, CANDELA, BARRETT, OBER, AND WALKER. NOES: LUCAS AND WOOD.

The Commission discussed each item of the proposed policy for possible changes.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED THAT CLOSURE TIME BE FROM MIDNIGHT TO 5:00 A.M. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**1. Director's Report** Received and filed.

A \$750,000 grant has been approved for First and Verbena neighborhood park. City Plaza construction should be finished by October 15, 2006. A veteran's group will install the memorial wall as a separate project. The art project is completed at Humboldt Skateboard Park. The viewing area at the Observatory is under construction.

**2. Monthly Reports** Received and filed.

The Ranger report thanks the VIPS for their recent work in contacting the public on Upper Park Road

**3. Urban Forester Report** Received and filed.

May be doing contract work on trees in Bidwell Park, especially those overhanging private property on South Park Drive; Awarded landscape work to one contractor instead of three and there is a back log of repairs to get done; Landscape designers are meeting to discuss making areas more attractive.

**4. Volunteer Coordinator Report** Received and filed.

The Volunteers Recognition picnic is set for October 28, 2006 at Wildwood Park.

**5. Correspondence** None

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** None

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m. to the next regular meeting of September 25, 2006.

SIGN-IN FOR MEETING OF AUGUST 28, 2006

1. Randy Abbott 1151 E. 10<sup>th</sup>
2. Denise Hardy
3. Dianna Bishop 658 Vallombrosa Way
4. Bob Evans 12 Lindo Park Drive
5. Joni German 693 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street
6. Henricus Jansen 1087 Woodland Avenue
7. Jeff Lily 1095 Woodland Avenue
8. Jane Ettazen 1423 Laburnum Avenue



BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Russell Mills, Tom Barrett, James Walker, Michael Candela, and David Wood; staff General Services Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Denice Britton, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Assistant Janice Heckerson.

Absent: Commissioner Richard Ober

**2. Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Approval of Revised Minutes from Regular Meeting of July 31, 2006**

**2. Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting of August 28, 2006**  
This item was removed from Consent Agenda by Commissioner Walker.

**3. Approval of Application and Public Event Permit for Park Use from the CSU Chico Department of Kinesiology for Cross Country 5K, 10K and Fun Run November 11, 2006 - Upper Bidwell Park**

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 1 AND 3 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

**Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting of August 28, 2006**  
Commissioner Walker made some comments regarding Iron Canyon fish ladder that he would like to have included for the record.

COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**2. Update on the Nico Cardoza Memorial Park Project in Caper Acres**

BPPC gave conceptual approval of this project at the February 27, 2006 regular meeting. Dave Brobst, of the Nico Project Design Committee, provided a progress report on activities of the committee and showed graphics of the design. Commissioner Mills suggested use of more fall material.

**3. Report from Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of September 14, 2006 (Commissioners Candela, Chair, Ober and Walker)**

**a. Public event permit application from the Fourteen Angels Foundation to conduct dryland dog sled races in Upper Bidwell Park**

A permit application was received requesting use of Upper Park for dog sled races. Committee discussion recommends use of Wildwood Park for staging and, with permission of Butte County, the top of the Sycamore Levy for racing. Staff is still waiting to receive further information from the applicant.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO EXTEND AUTHORIZATION FOR GENERAL SERVICES DIRECTOR BEARDSLEY TO USE HIS DISCRETION IN APPROVING THIS PERMIT FOR ACTIVITY ON THE LEVY OR ON UPPER PARK ROAD AS FAR AS THE GATE AT DIVERSION DAM AND FOR CLOSING THE UPPER PARK ROAD ON SATURDAY. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH FAILED 3-3. AYES: MILLS, WOOD AND LUCAS. NOES: BARRETT, WALKER AND CANDELA.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO EXTEND AUTHORIZATION FOR GENERAL SERVICES DIRECTOR BEARDSLEY TO USE HIS DISCRETION IN APPROVING THIS PERMIT FOR ACTIVITY ON JUST THE LEVY. COMMISSIONER WOODS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-2. AYES: LUCAS, CANDELA, WOODS AND WALKER. NOES: MILLS AND BARRETT

**b. Establishing Chico Municipal Code provisions to remove violators of the park rules from the Humboldt Neighborhood Park and Bidwell Park.**

Two provisions of Municipal Code 12R's currently allow for removal of any person violating park rules in the Sycamore Pool area for a period of 24 hours. The same policy for removal for disruptive or disturbing activity in the all of the park would be useful without resorting to higher levels of enforcement.

Public comment: none

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO MOVE FORWARD WITH PROVIDING A CODE FOR REMOVAL, FOR A PERIOD OF 24 HOURS, OF DISRUPTIVE PERSONS FROM ALL OF THE PARK. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

A second section could prohibit storage of personal property on city-owned parks and greenways. Currently a person is given a 24-hour notice to remove property and then it can be taken to the Police Department.

Public comment: none

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONCEPT OF CONFISCATING, AT STAFF DISCRETION, ITEMS LEFT IN ALL PARKS AND GREENWAYS  
COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**c. Update on the Ringel Park Renovation Project**

This area is no longer a bus stop and needs renovation. GSD Beardsley showed graphics of the project being constructed, showing beautification landscaping and the welcome sign. The area will be fenced except for the restroom. City Council and City Manager thought it was a priority to correct the deterioration of the area and work should be completed by November 1.

Commissioner Walker thought these questions should have come before BPPC in the planning process. Commissioner Mills thinks the Council has a responsibility to address Park matters to BPPC. He would like to have a presentation of how the Commission's role fits into the management of the City.

**4. Review and Consideration of Establishing Ringel Park as a "Drug Free Zone"**

The Municipal Code could be amended to designate Ringel Park a "Drug Free Zone". It would be consistent with other downtown parks and enhance penalties for violations.

Chair Lucas asked if it is still a park or now a downtown project that could be maintained from some downtown funding.

Public comment: none

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE RINGLE PARK AS A DRUG FREE ZONE AND TO REFER TO CITY PLAZA AS CITY PLAZA IN ALL MATTERS.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**5. Appointment of a Commissioner to Selection Panel for City Plaza Heritage Elm Sculpture Project**

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED TO APPROVE RUSSELL MILLS, CHAIR OF THE BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION'S ARTS COMMITTEE, AS REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PANEL. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**1. Director's Report**

**a. City Plaza renovation**

Work on the Veterans' Memorial will begin soon. Commissioner Mills suggested that November 11, Veterans Day, might be a good time for the dedication.

**b. Mountain Union use permit appealed**

City Council has set November 7, 2006, for the hearing on the appeal of Commission's approval of the use permit for a wireless communications facility at Hooker Oak.

**c. Recreation trails grant application**

City Council approved staff's request to submit an application for a \$230,000 grant to rehabilitate and improve trails in the vicinity of Monkey Face. The work would include renovation of one mile of Middle Trail to bring it up to standard.

**d. Council actions/correspondence**

The Internal Affairs Committee made some changes to the viewshed policy and it will come back to BPPC for further review at October's regular meeting.

**2. Monthly Reports** Received and filed

**3. Urban Forester Report**

Urban Forester Britton would like to meet with the Tree/Finance Committee to review the current street tree species list.

**4. Volunteer Coordinator Report**

The Volunteer Recognition picnic is set for Saturday, October 21, at Wildwood. Roteract of Chico will be refurbishing the Vita Course and replacing some of the

stations. Commissioner Walker asked that this item be on the October agenda.

**5. Correspondence**

News releases on Bidwell Ranch and on watering lawns less often to save trees

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Commissioner Walker asked about the progress of the Master Management Plan. The EIR is being drafted now and should be available for review in November or December.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. to the next regular meeting of October 30, 2006.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 30, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Chair Stephen Lucas, Commissioners Richard Ober, Russell Mills, Tom Barrett, James Walker, Michael Candela, and David Wood; staff General Services director Dennis Beardsley, Urban forester Denice Britton, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Assistant Janice Heckerson.

**2. Public Comments**                      None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting of September 25, 2006**

**2. Approval of Application and Public Event Permit for Park Use from DNA-Balls Edge to Hold Concerts in City Plaza on Saturdays from May-October 2007.**

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.  
COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**3. NOTICE PUBLIC HEARINGS**                      None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**                      None

**2. Update on the Proposed New Manzanita Pedestrian Bridge at Big Chico Creek**

Fritz McKinley, Director of Engineering, gave an update on the project and on the pedestrian bridge to be constructed over Big Chico Creek downstream from Manzanita Avenue as part of Phase II.

Public Comment:              None

Commission agreed to put this item on the Trail/Safety Committee agenda.

**3. Discussion of the Park Component of the Meriam Park Development Project**

Meriam Park is 272 acres being developed by New Urban Builders to include residential, commercial, office space and 65 acres of open space. The EIR is completed and available for review. This item is for Commission to review the park component before it is placed on the November 27, 2006 agenda.

From the Public                      None

**4. Review and Discussion Regarding City Council Policy for Acquisition of Greenway and Linear Park Property**

GSD Beardsley said there has long been a policy of “opportunity acquisitions” for purchasing appropriate property along greenways, especially along Little Chico Creek. Chair Lucas said BPPC should be in the process before Council buys the lands and that buying along Little Chico Creek might be more beneficial to the public than buying along Mud Creek, as was just done. Commission could receive a Notice of Intent. Commissioner Mills would like to receive City Council agendas when there is an item that might be a park issue.

From the Public                      None

**5. Review and Consideration of Proposed Viewshed Policy**

This policy has previously been reviewed and revised by BPPC, City Council , and the Internal Affairs Committee. The final proposed form is attached

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE POLICY AS SUGGESTED.  
COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

**6. Review and Consideration of Proposal to Replace the Exercise Course in Lower Bidwell Park**

Commission agreed to move forward with replacing all stations on the Vita Course over the next few years. Funding and work will be solicited from service groups or as memorials.

**7. Report from the Art Committee Meeting of 10-02-06 (Commissioners Mills, Chair, Candela and Walker)**

**Review and Selection of Public Art for the Wall Mural in City Plaza**

Commissioner Mills met with representative of the art community. Under direction from Council, they selected a mural of an actual Chico trolley #60. A

caption will give an historical description. William Henderson is the artist.

## **5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

### **1. Director's Report**

- a. Fourteen Angels Foundation Dryland Dog Sled Race**  
Butte County has approved use of Sycamore Diversion Channel levees for the races.
- b. City Plaza update**  
The fountain is currently running, lights are on all night, and the fence is expected to be removed by November 3. A ribbon cutting ceremony is being considered for the week of November 27.
- c. Ringel Park update**  
The project is expected to be completed by December 1, 2006.
- d. Council Actions/Correspondence**  
Council approved Commission's recommendation to close certain City parks at given hours.  
Council will consider Commission's recommendation to designate Ringel Park as a "Drug Free Zone".  
A letter on behalf of Chico Noon Rotary Club requesting Commission approve a new butterfly garden at Caper Acres as a memorial to Tim Macarthy. The request was sent to Master Management Committee for consideration.

### **2. Monthly Reports**

- a. Parks and Greenways/Street Trees**          Received and filed.
- b. Park Rangers**                  Received and filed.

### **3. Urban Forester Report**

Urban Forester Britton addressed the number of dying street trees planted by developers. She has set a workshop for November 17 on this problem, and is working with developers and the Planning Department to set standards.

- 4. Volunteer Coordinator Report**          Received and filed.

### **5. Correspondence**



Letters from Steve C. Santos and Arlene Ward, of the Mechoopda Indian Tribe, with questions on the use of the deer pen lands, the master management plan, and cell tower construction and the response from Chair Steve Lucas.

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

The old barn at the Nature Center recently burned. Remains have been removed from the site but the ground has not be disturbed, pending any future plans. The cause has not been determined.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 to the next regular meeting of November 28, 2006.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 27, 2006  
7:00 P.M.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1.1. Roll Call**

Commissioners Present: Stephen Lucas, Chair  
Tom Barrett  
Michael Candela  
Russell Mills  
Richard Ober  
James Walker

Commissioners Absent: Dave Wood

Staff Members Present: Dennis Beardsley, General Services Director  
Denice Britton, Urban Forester  
Alicia M. Rock, Assistant City Attorney  
Fritz McKinley, Director of Engineering  
Renee Schreindl, Administrative Assistant

**1.2. Public Comments** None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**2.1. Approval of Minutes from the Regular Meeting of October 30, 2006.**

**COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER OBER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0-1. COMMISSIONER WOOD ABSENT.**

**3. NOTICE PUBLIC HEARINGS** None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**4.1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda** None

**4.2. Review and Consideration of the Park Component and Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Meriam Park Development Project**

John Anderson from New Urban Builders reviewed the Meriam Park Draft Environmental Impact Report which included maps and exhibits of the

neighborhood parks and greenway areas proposed. He addressed questions from the Commission concerning the size of the parks, play equipment, the distribution of parks and greenways throughout the development, establishing a maintenance district, the landscaping of open spaces, and the proposed dog park.

Public Comment: None

The Commissioners provided general comments, but provided no specific recommendations or revisions to the Meriam Park Draft EIR.

**4.3. Report from the Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of 11/06/06 (Commissioners Candela (Chair), Ober, and Walker):**

**a. Review and Consideration of a Request to Place a Plaque in Caper Acres in Memory of Tim Macarthy**

Public Comment: None

**COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO PLACE A PLAQUE IN CAPER ACRES IN MEMORY OF TIM MACARTHY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LUCAS. MOTION PASSED 4-2-1. COMMISSIONERS BARRETT AND MILLS OPPOSED. COMMISSIONER WOOD ABSENT.**

**4.4. Report from the Trails/Safety Committee Meeting of 11/16/06 (Commissioners Wood (Chair), Russell, and Barrett):**

**a. Review and Consideration of the Proposed New Manzanita Pedestrian Bridge at Big Chico Creek**

Fritz McKinley, Director of Engineering, gave an update on the project and reviewed the items for discussion in the staff report and addressed questions from the Commission regarding the items.

Public Comment: None

The Commission, with Commissioner Candela dissenting, recommended that staff proceed with the project as proposed in the staff report, with the additional recommendations as follows:

1. Equestrian mounting blocks be added upstream and downstream.
2. Ensure that the existing pedestrian path underneath the north side of the Manzanita bridge is retained.

**4.5. Report from the Tree/Finance Committee Meeting of 11/20/06  
(Commissioners Barrett (Chair), Walker, and Lucas:**

**(Action Required)**

**a. Revisions for Chico's Recommended List of Tree Species**

Public Comment: None

**COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER OBER, TO APPROVE THE URBAN FORESTER'S PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE STREET TREE LIST AND TO ALSO ADD THE OREGON ASH TREE TO THE LIST. MOTION PASSED 6-0-1. COMMISSIONER WOOD ABSENT.**

**b. Update of Standard Plan Review Process; Review of Proposed Nursery Tree Specification**

Public Comment: None

**COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER OBER, TO APPROVE THE DRAFT LANDSCAPE STANDARD PLANS AS PROPOSED BY STAFF AND REVISED BY THE TRAILS/SAFETY COMMITTEE. MOTION PASSED 6-0-1. COMMISSIONER WOOD ABSENT.**

**c. Grant for Street Tree Inventory and Management Plan Development**

Public Comment: None

**COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WALKER, TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION BY THE TRAILS/SAFETY COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT PRE-PROPOSAL. MOTION PASSED 6-0-1. COMMISSIONER WOOD ABSENT.**

**d. Consideration of Staff's Proposal to Reallocate Propositions 12 and 40 Grant Funds**

Tom Haithcock, Chico Creek Nature Center, expressed that he was happy to have the opportunity to consider options for the nature center project, but is concerned about the imposed deadline of March 2008 to complete the project in order to receive the funds.

**COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CANDELA, TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION BY THE TRAILS/SAFETY COMMITTEE TO APPROVE STAFF'S PROPOSED**

**REALLOCATION OF PROPOSITIONS 12 AND 40 GRANT FUNDS. MOTION PASSED 6-0-1. COMMISSIONER WOOD ABSENT.**

**4.6. Review and Consideration of Proposed Chico Municipal Code Revision Prohibiting Camping on Private and Public Property**

Assistant City Attorney, Alicia Rock, reviewed the proposed Chico Municipal Code Revision prohibiting camping on private and public property, including all exceptions.

The Commission commented that they are in support of what the ordinance is trying to accomplish.

**4.7. Consideration of Rescheduling of the Commissions Regular Meeting Scheduled for December 25, 2006.**

**COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WALKER, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 27, 2006, TO THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 18, 2006. MOTION PASSED 6-0-1. COMMISSIONER WOOD ABSENT.**

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**5.1. Director's Report** Received and filed.

**5.2. Monthly Reports**

**a. Parks and Greenways/Street Trees** Received and filed.

**b. Park Rangers** Received and filed.

**5.3. Urban Forester Report** Received and filed.

**5.4. Volunteer Coordinator Report** Received and filed.

**5.5. Correspondence**

- News Release regarding National Family Volunteer Day which also outlined volunteer projects scheduled in Bidwell Park
- Letter to Paul Lehman from Volunteer Coordinator Lise Smith-Peters regarding the Chico Mountain Bikers' adoption of a trail
- Letter of appreciation to Ed Kimball, President of Chico Rotary from General Services Director Dennis Beardsley regarding Make A Difference Day
- Thank you letter from General Services Director Dennis Beardsley to John and Luisa Murphy for their \$5 donation
- Response letter from Chair Stephen Lucas to Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico

Rancheria concerning the former deer pen lands within Bidwell Park

6. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**                      None
7. **ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. to the next regular meeting of December 18, 2006.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 18, 2006  
7:00 P.M.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1.1 Roll Call**

Commissioners Present: Stephen Lucas, Chair  
Michael Candela  
David Wood  
Jim Walker

Commissioners Absent: Tom Barrett  
Richard Ober  
Russell Mills

Staff Members Present: Dennis Beardsley, General Services Director  
Denice Britton, Urban Forester  
Alicia M. Rock, Assistant City Attorney  
Janice Heckerson, Administrative Assistant

**1.2 Public Comments** None

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**2.1 Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting of November 27, 2006**

Commissioner Candela removed this item from Consent Agenda.

**3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS** None

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**4.1 Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

**Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting of November 27, 2006**

Commissioner Candela would change Item 4.4 to show he did not agree with the recommendation to proceed with the Manzanita Pedestrian Bridge project as presented.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED.  
COMMISSIONER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-0-3.

**4.2 Report from the Preservation/Stream Committee Meeting of 12/11/06**  
Commissioners Barrett, Ober and Wood

**Review and Consideration Of 2007 Vegetation Management Plan**

Commissioner Wood said that the Committee is setting priorities on what plants to target for eradication and are asking neighbors to participate.

From the public:

Howard Carnahan has been trying to eradicate star thistle and puncture vine at Hooker Oak for a long time. He has to return to the area weekly to win the battle. Susan Mason drew attention to the Invasive Plant Management spreadsheet she prepared for Bidwell Park.

Lise Smith-Peters, Volunteer Coordinator, said it was wonderful to meet with the volunteers and learn more about what is being done for this problem.

COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED TO PROCEED WITH THE 2007 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER WOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-0-3.

**4.3 Consideration of a Request from Butte County Department of Public Health to Waive Public Event Permit Fees for a Walk/Run in Bidwell Park on April 28, 2007 and Proposed Chico Municipal Code Revisions Regarding Fee Waivers.**

**a. Approve waiving \$239 public event permit fees for the “Growing Healthy Children Walk/Run”.**

From the public:

Steve Naiman, representative for the Walk/Run, said the event is to promote exercise and good nutrition for children and is open to everyone, especially those who cannot pay.

COMMISSIONER WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE THE FEE WAIVER FOR THIS ONE EVENT. COMMISSIONER CANDELA SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-0-3.

**b. Recommend City Council approve amending Chico Municipal Code to authorize Park Director to waive permit fees for public events held by public or non-profit agencies.**

Commission directed staff to send this issue to Master Management Committee for further consideration.



**4.4 Request from Nico Cardoza Project Design Committee to Approve the Purchase of the Pirate Ship Playground Equipment.**

The Committee can purchase the equipment now at a savings if the City will store it until the final plan is completed in February.

From the public:

Jane Hazen said that she takes her day care children to the Park and thought the design was for a more natural theme that would promote nature activities.

COMMISSIONER CANDELA MOVED TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF THE PLAY SHIP EQUIPMENT. COMMISSIONER WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-0-3.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**5.1 Director's Report** Received and filed

- a. **City Plaza update**
- b. **Nico Cardoza Caper Acres project update**
- c. **Propositions 84 and 1C**
- d. **General Services Department - Park and Street Tree Divisions move**
- e. **Chico Rod and Gun**  
Commission authorized the Chico Rod & Gun Club to proceed with the plans for renovation.
- f. **Weekly updates**  
City Manager's weekly updates on City activities will be e-mailed to BPPC members.
- g. **Council Actions/Correspondence** none

**5.2 Monthly Reports** Received and filed

**5.3 Urban Forester Report**

Urban Forester Britton would fly our "Tree City USA" flag on Arbor Day, March 7. Arborist Dan Gibson has volunteered to bolt a tree at Cohasset and Eaton Roads and Commissioners accepted.

**5.4 Volunteer Coordinator Report** Received and filed

**5.5 Correspondence** None

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Howard Carnahan asked about the plan for weed removal at Baroni Park now that neighbors are paying for maintenance. General Services Director Beardsley said that construction will start this spring and weeds will be taken care of. Volunteers will work on a strip designated for native plants.

Chair Lucas and Commissioner Walker thanked all who participated in park-related matters during the four years they served on the Commission.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. to the next regular meeting of January 29, 2007.