

MINUTES OF THE PARK COMMITTEE

JANUARY 25, 2018

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. The members present were Mike Guadagnino, Steve Saliani, Lee Haymon, Nancy Larkin and Sandra Coira. Absent – Councilman Robert Knapp, liaison

2. Salute to the Flag and the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Mike read the meeting announcement:

This meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, duly announced, advertised and posted in the municipal building.

No one wished to speak at Open Session

4. **Reorganization of the Committee:**

A motion was made by Steve, seconded by Lee, to nominate Mike as Chairman. All members present voted in favor.

A motion was made by Mike, seconded by Steve, to nominate Lee as Vice-Chairman. All members present voted in favor.

A motion was made by Mike, seconded by Lee, to nominate Sandra as Secretary. All members present voted in favor.

Committee officers for 2018:

Mike Guadagnino – Chairman

Lee Haymon – Vice Chairman

Sandra Coira – Secretary

5. **Dog Park Subcommittee Discussion:**

Greg was present at the meeting. He is a member of the Dog Park Subcommittee and runs J & B pet shop in Oakland.

Thomas “Chopper” Russo was present. He is a member of the Dog Park Subcommittee.

Ryan Schwartfeger was present. He is a member of the Dog Park Subcommittee.

Charlie, a local realtor was present. He is a member of the Dog Park Subcommittee.

Greg’s concern is the cash handling procedures for raising money. A discussion about the cash handling procedures ensued. The money that is raised for the Dog Park is to be deposited in the general bank account for the Sports Association of Oakland (“SAO”) and earmarked for the Dog Park. The SAO will hold and track all of the funds in their general account and provide any information regarding balances as needed.

The members of the Dog Park Committee raised issues regarding environmental approvals required for the Dog Park. The members asked what would happen to the funds that are raised if the Dog Park is unable to be built. Mike explained that the SAO has recommended that a disclaimer be accompanied with all fundraising endeavors informing individuals who donate that any and all money raised be earmarked for the Dog Park but if the Dog Park is unable to be built that the money would be earmarked for the Great Oak Park.

The members of the Dog Park Committee discussed that they are structuring the Committee more formally and will be adopting official by-laws. They will abide by the Open Public Meetings Act when they begin running formal meetings and all meetings will be advertised and open to the public.

The members discussed that the DEP approvals are still pending and that they plan to run a few fundraisers during this year in order to keep the momentum going.

Steve Saliani will be the liaison for the Dog Park Subcommittee.

6. **Work Session**

1. **Great lawn** work will begin Tuesday, January 30, 2018. Tom Vanderbeck will be working on the area of the great lawn. He will leave untouched the trees that the Shade Tree Commission recommended should remain. The area that will become the great lawn will be cleared and then topsoil will be added and seeds will be put down. The work is expected to be completed by the end of

February of 2018. Over time, various trees will be donated and planted throughout the area.

2. The **band shell** will be installed this year and the driveway is also to be addressed in the near future. The committee hopes to raise the funds to match two grants that have already been awarded. The band shell will require electricity which is expected to be installed. Orange and Rockland Electric will install electricity when needed.
3. **Bird Houses** are expected to be installed in the future.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m. The next meeting will be held March 7, 2018 in the Danny D'Elia building at 8:00 p.m.