

Date: Dec. 1, 2009

Item No. 16 & 17  
File No. 09073

## SUNSHINE ORDINANCE TASK FORCE

### AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST\*

- Anmarie Mabbutt v Clerk of the Board (090717)**
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Completed by: Chris Rustom

Date: Nov. 24, 2009

**\*This list reflects the explanatory documents provided**

~ Late Agenda Items (documents received too late for distribution to the Task Force Members)

\*\* The document this form replaces exceeds 25 pages and will therefore not be copied for the packet. The original document is in the file kept by the Administrator, and may be viewed in its entirety by the Task Force, or any member of the public upon request at City Hall, Room 244.



<complaints@sfgov.org>

10/23/2009 05:31 PM

To <soff@sfgov.org>

cc

bcc

Subject Sunshine Complaint

To:soff@sfgov.orgEmail:complaints@sfgov.orgDEPARTMENT:Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

CONTACTED:Angela Calvillo

PUBLIC\_RECORDS\_VIOLATION:Yes

PUBLIC\_MEETING\_VIOLATION:Yes

MEETING\_DATE:6/24/9, 6/30/9, 7/7/9

SECTIONS\_VIOLATED:67.7(a), 67.7(b) and possibly others

DESCRIPTION:The short title description of Ordinance #090717 appears to be a clear violation of numerous sections of the Sunshine Ordinance. Ordinance #090717 clarified and in the case of summer usage, decreased by 62%, the cost for adults who rent public athletic fields to conduct for profit youth athletic programs, clinics, camps, etc.activities. Thus, to describe Ordinance #090717 as an ordinance "to increase the fees for the use of Athletic Fields" is completely misleading and totally inaccurate. This description is neither clear nor meaningful and does not in any way alert a person of average intelligence and education whose interests might be affected. Having posted an entirely inaccurate and misleading short title description of Ordinance #090717, the Clerk's Office of the Board of Supervisors posted agendas in violation of Sections 67.7(a) and 67.7(b) of the Sunshine Ordinance. Please contact me as soon as the hearing date is known. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Sincerely, Anmarie Mabbutt  
The short title description of Ordinance #080756 is neither clear nor meaningful

HEARING:Yes

PRE-HEARING:No

DATE:10/23/9

NAME:anmarie mabbutt

ADDRESS:

CITY:san francisco

ZIP:

PHONE:

CONTACT\_EMAIL: [REDACTED]@yahoo.com

ANONYMOUS:

CONFIDENTIALITY\_REQUESTED:Yes



Anmarie Mabbutt  
<tenniselement@yahoo.com>

11/23/2009 03:43 PM

To SOTF@sfgov.org

cc

bcc

Subject EXHIBIT #1 - COMPLAINT #09073 - 12/1/9 HEARING

Dear SOTF,

Please consider the signed copy of Ordinance #090717 as Exhibit #1 for Complaint #09073 scheduled for a full hearing on December 1st, 2009. Here is a direct link to the document:  
<http://www.sfbos.org/ftp/uploadedfiles/bdsupvrs/ordinances09/o0164-09.pdf>

Please review this Ordinance in conjunction with the Recreation & Park Department staff report by Dr. Terry Schwartz, then Superintendent of Citywide Services, dated April 27, 2009 and the testimony given by Dana Ketcham, the Recreation & Park Department's Permits & Reservations Manager, in support of Ordinance #090717 at the May, 2009 Recreation & Park Commission meeting. I will provide links to these items as Exhibit #2 and Exhibit #3.

In his staff report and in her testimony, both Dr. Schwartz and Dana Ketcham affirm an historical and established fee of \$65/hour for adults to rent the public athletic fields for the purpose of conducting for profit youth programs, clinics, camps, etc.. The \$65/hour applied year round! No distinction existed for summer programs!

Thus, as legislation that simply codified and left unchanged the fees for the spring, fall and winter seasons for the rental of the public athletic fields for the purpose of conducting for profit youth programs but for the summer season was a 62% decrease in the fees for the rental of the public athletic fields, Ordinance #0909717 is clearly not legislation to "INCREASE THE FEES FOR USE OF ATHLETIC FIELDS."

This completely inaccurate and misleading short title description of Ordinance #090717 is clearly in violation of the Sunshine Ordinance and other public records disclosure laws.

I respectfully request that, after a careful review of the facts and evidence presented, the SOTF issue a written Order of Determination finding the short-title description of Ordinance #090717 as listed on all official Board of Supervisors' Notices, Agendas, etc. is clearly in violation of the Sunshine Ordinance including but not necessarily limited to Sections 67.7(a) and 67.7(b).

Please be sure to include this in the agenda item packet for Complaint #09073 scheduled for a full hearing on December 1, 2009.

Thank you,

Anna Mabbutt

[Recreation and Park Department – Athletic Field Fees.]

Ordinance amending San Francisco Park Code, Article 12, by amending Section 12.36 to increase the fees for use of Athletic Fields and making environmental findings.

NOTE: Additions are single-underline italics Times New Roman; deletions are ~~strike-through italics Times New Roman~~. Board amendment additions are double-underlined; Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough-normal~~.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. Findings.

The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this Ordinance are in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 090717 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. The San Francisco Park Code is hereby amended by amending Section 12.36, to read as follows:

Section 2. SEC. 12.36. ATHLETIC FIELD FEES ~~FOR ADULTS~~.

(a) Fees for Adults

(1) Facility Fee Per Hour:

S.F. Residents . . .	\$25.00
Non-resident . . .	\$65.00
Not-for-Profit . . .	\$25.00
Profit . . .	\$65.00

(b) Additional Charges:

Lighted, per hour . . .	\$10.00
-------------------------	---------

1	Exclusive Use/Tournaments, per day . . .	\$45.00
2	Baselines: Softball, Baseball, per booking . . .	\$ 60.00
3	Fieldlines: Soccer, Football, Rugby, Lacrosse, per booking . . .	\$120.00
4	Gaelic Football, per booking . . .	\$180.00
5	Football (5 yards), per booking . . .	\$160.00

(e3) Not for Profit Fees are available to organized programs that serve San Francisco residents, and that do not generate income or compensation to the organizers and/or sponsors. The Commission shall establish criteria for the determination of organizations eligible for this fee. Organizations shall pay an application fee of \$250.00 for certification for eligibility for Not For Profit Fees.

(d4) For Profit Fees apply to organized programs, that generate income or compensation to organizers, fundraisers or subsidies to other programs. The Commission shall establish criteria for the determination of organizations subject to this fee.

(b) Fees for For-Profit Youth Programs and Camps

(1) For Profit Fees in Section 12.36.(a)(1) apply to any youth program that does not meet the standard for Not For Profit Fees in Section 12.36.(a)(3).

(2) S.F. Resident Fees will apply to any youth summer camp or vacation camp except that any camp charging less than \$3 per hour per child will pay no fee.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

By:   
VIRGINIA DARIO ELIZONDO  
Deputy City Attorney



# City and County of San Francisco

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

## Tails Ordinance

**File Number:** 090717

**Date Passed:**

Ordinance amending San Francisco Park Code, Article 12, by amending Section 12.36 to increase the fees for use of Athletic Fields and making environmental findings.

June 30, 2009 Board of Supervisors — PASSED ON FIRST READING

Ayes: 9 - Alioto-Pier, Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Dufty, Elsbernd, Mar, Maxwell

Noes: 2 - Daly, Mirkarimi

July 7, 2009 Board of Supervisors — FINALLY PASSED

Ayes: 9 - Alioto-Pier, Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Dufty, Elsbernd, Mar, Maxwell

Noes: 2 - Daly, Mirkarimi

File No. 090717

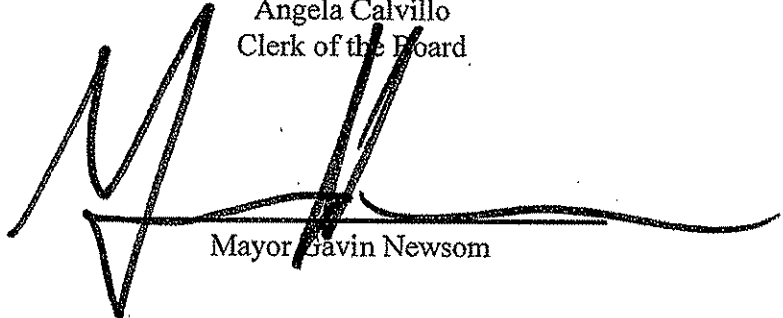
I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance  
was **FINALLY PASSED** on July 7, 2009 by  
the Board of Supervisors of the City and  
County of San Francisco.



Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

7/15/2009

Date Approved



Mayor Gavin Newsom



Anmarie Mabbutt  
<tenniselement@yahoo.com>

11/23/2009 04:05 PM

To SOTF@sfgov.org

cc

bcc

Subject EXHIBIT #2 - COMPLAINT #09073 - 12/1/9 HEARING

Dear SOTF,

**Please consider the Recreation & Park Department staff report by Dr. Terry Schwartz, then Superintendent of Citywide Services, dated 4/27/9 that was submitted to the Recreation & Park Commission for its May 7th, 2009 meeting in support of the proposal that ultimately became Ordinance #090717 as EXHIBIT #2 for Complaint #09073.**

**Here is a direct link to the document:**

**[http://www.parks.sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/recpark/meetings/Recreation and Park Commission/supporting/2009/item6ForProfitYouthFees050709.pdf](http://www.parks.sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/recpark/meetings/Recreation%20and%20Park%20Commission/supporting/2009/item6ForProfitYouthFees050709.pdf)**

Please review this document carefully. Please note the date of the document - April 27, 2009 and then note on page two of the report, Dr. Schwartz references a public hearing that was held on May 6, 2009! Does Dr. Schwartz possess the ability to travel forward in time and then come back to report on it? If nothing else, this report should have been a clear red flag to the Recreation & Park Commissioners to investigate more carefully the circumstances surrounding the proposal that ultimately became Ordinance #090717!

Based on documents supplied to me by the Department's Director of Finance, Katie Petrucione, the language for Ordinance #090717 was originally drafted by the Recreation & Park Department's new Permits & Reservations Manager, Dana Ketcham. Although Ms. Ketcham is a Harvard Law graduate and an inactive California attorney, it nonetheless seems unusual, if not improper, for a Recreation & Parks Department Permits & Reservations Manager to be drafting legislation.

Please be sure to include this as part of the agenda item packet for Complaint #09073 scheduled for a full hearing on December 1, 2009.

Thank you,

Anmarie Mabbutt





April 27, 2009

TO: Recreation and Park Commission

BY: Terry Schwartz, Superintendent of Citywide Services *TS*

RE: Approval of For Profit Youth Program Fees for use of Facilities with the Recreation and Park Department

**Agenda Item Wording**

Discussion and possible action to recommend to the Board of Supervisors the adoption of revisions to Article 12, FEES of the Park Code to approve For Profit Youth Program Fees for athletic fields.

**Background**

The Recreation and Park Department proposes to clarify the fees to use athletic fields to offer for-profit programs serving children.

Last year the Commission adopted a non-profit and for-profit fee schedule for athletic field use for league play (Park Code 12.48 Athletic Leagues). This proposal seeks to further clarify the fees charged to use athletic fields for non-league play; *i.e.*, athletic and other programs serving children.

1. **For-Profit Youth Programs:** Historically staff has assessed these programs under Code Section 12.36(a) and charged a For-Profit Fee since the program was benefiting the adult who administered it and rented the field. This proposal creates a For-Profit Youth Program Fee of \$65 per hour. This fee would not apply to our volunteer-based youth leagues as they all meet the eligible Not-for-Profit Program standard. This fee structure reflects historical practices by Permits and Reservations.
2. **Summer and Vacation Camps:** In applying the eligible Not-for-Profit Programs standard to summer camps, it has been difficult to determine which ones were commercially operated as several are administered by paid staff at schools or by other not-for-profit entities. In addition, camps are essential services for families when kids are out of school and provide job opportunities for teenagers. It is important to not make them cost-prohibitive by applying a \$65 per hour fee; however, the Department should receive some compensation for the use and maintenance of our facilities by programs that charge fees. This proposal charges all camps (except as described below) a fee of \$25 per hour for up to 25 children (\$1 per hour per child). However, any camp that is offered for no fee or a nominal fee of less than \$3 per hour to communities would pay no fee. This fee structure reflects historical practices by Permits and Reservations.



**Proposed Fee Structure**

**For Profit Youth Programs Fees:** Any youth program that is not eligible for Not-for-Profit Fees shall pay the following rates:

1. Summer and Vacation Camps: \$25 per hour for up to 25 children except any camp serving underserved communities and charging a total fee of less than \$3 per hour shall pay no fee.
2. Other Programs: \$65 per hour for-profit fee

A public hearing on the Fee Proposal was held on April 7, 2009 at 6:30 P.M. at the Bernal Heights Recreation Center and on May 6, 2009 at the County Fair Building.

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends approval of the fee structure for rental of athletic fields.



Anmarie Mabbutt  
<tenniselement@yahoo.com>

11/23/2009 05:06 PM

To SOTF@sfgov.org

cc

bcc

Subject EXHIBIT #3 - DANA KETCHAM TESTIMONY AT 5/7/9  
RECPARK MEETING - COMPLAINT #09073 - 12/1/9  
HEARING

Dear SOTF,

Please consider the testimony offered by Dana Ketcham, the Department's Permits & Reservations Manager, at the Recreation & Park Commission meeting held on May 7, 2009 in support of Ordinance #090717 as EXHIBIT #3 for Complaint #09073 scheduled for a hearing on December 1, 2009.

Here is a direct link to the minutes from the May 7, 2009 meeting:

[http://www.parks.sfgov.org/site/recpark\\_page.asp?id=113669](http://www.parks.sfgov.org/site/recpark_page.asp?id=113669)

**Ms. Ketcham testimony regarding this proposal is contained in the entries for Resolution #0907-005. Please review it carefully.** Her testimony regarding this proposal is confusing. It seem as if the public will be charged this fee when in fact the fee is being charged to individuals and organizations who are running highly lucrative summer youth programming on the public athletic fields.

The proposal that ultimately became Ordinance #090717 has absolutely nothing to do with general public use fees and everything to do with offering an inexplicable and completely inappropriate, especially given this time of severe budget crisis for the city, reduction in fees to individuals and organizations who are running extremely profitable businesses on the public athletic fields. These are the very same individuals, organizations and programs that are accelerating the layoffs of so many hard-working, longtime employees of the Recreation & Park Department.

One of the very first permits issued after Ms. Ketcham became Permits & Reservations Mananger on February 9, 2009 was to Viking Soccer, an organization with which Ms. Ketcham has been intimately involved for years as a volunteer, coach and VP Scheduling. As recently as Fall 2009, on pg. 29 of its program for Viking Soccer's Annual Golden Gate Invitational Soccer tournament held this past September, Ms. Ketcham is listed as Tournament Staff for Scheduling.

Under Permit #9100, dated Februaay 17, 2009, the Permits & Reservations Division charged Ms. Rappolt and Viking Soccer \$25/hour for up to 25 kids served to conduct summer for profit youth programs at four seperate pitches at South Sunset Playground for a total of 720 hours during August 2009. This fee was 62% less than the then current Section 12.36 of the Park Code required. The fee should have been \$65/hour. The apparent total loss to the taxpayers in the form of undercharged fees for this permit alone - \$28,800!

Please be sure to include this in the agenda item packet for Complaint #09073 scheduled for a full hearing on December 1, 2009.

Thank you,

Anna Mabbutt

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## May 07, 2009 Special Meeting

### Gavin Newsom, Mayor

Recreation and Park Commission

Minutes

May 7, 2009

**Commissioner Lazarus** called the meeting of the Recreation and Park Commission to order on May 7, 2009 at 12:58 p.m.

#### Present

Jim Lazarus  
Tom Harrison  
Gloria Bonilla  
David Lee  
Meagan Levitan  
Larry Martin  
Michael Sullivan

**President Lazarus** announced that Item 11 had been removed from calendar.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

**Nancy Wuerfel:** Nancy Wuerfel. I would like the Commission to carefully consider the message that the Department is sending to the public by proposing an analysis of transferring Sharpe Park to the GGNRA or the State. It tells the public that the Recreation and Park Department cannot resolve an issue involving endangered species in our parks with just our city resources. The city must immediately consider giving away the land on which the species resides. That's like giving away a child in your family because you're having a hard time caring for it right now. It tells the family to fear our natural areas because they might attract an endangered species which might in turn cause that land to be given away. It tells the public that Recreation and Park should not be entrusted with our city's open space because it lacks the commitment to preserve it within the city's ownership. It sends a mixed message about the purpose of the revised Open Space element when Recreation and Park would even consider not owning and managing 400 beautiful acres of land under its current control. Why has the Commission been silent? Please consider the message that you, Commissioners, and send the public. That you do not value our input to your decision-making process or respect your obligation for transparency. There has been no word from you about the Supervisor's ordinance that amends the park code. This is your code. I also understand that the contingency fund will be used for the analysis of Sharp Park. When will this item be agendized for your approval as the policy requires. Lastly, the General Manager promised the supervisors that the new study would provide profession analysis for alternative for Sharp Park. I do not believe the Department or the Controller's office has this level of expertise to provide a comprehensive and unbiased report. The Controller's Office responded to Supervisor's Elsbernd's request for an accounting of the entire Golf Fund by xeroxing the Department's reports instead of producing their own independent work. This Commission would be making history by deciding what to do with Sharpe Park. I'd like for you to consider the legacy that you will be proud of. I've very concerned about this.

**Sally Stephens:** Sally Stevens, S.F. Dog: The natural programs areas EIR is coming up for discussion. What we're learned from the experience at Sharpe Park is that when threatened or endangered species are introduced into any of our city parks we loose local control of the parks. We become beholden to the Federal Government, we become the subject of threats and lawsuits. They've done it once, they'll do it again. The Natural Areas program recently released Mission Blue butterflies at Twin Peaks. How long will it be before we hear we have to close trails and restrict public access there to protect public access there or else the city will be sued? I'd like for you to suggest you consider the banning of the introduction of threatened or endangered species into any natural area in the city. At the very least consider severe restrictions on where it can be done. Many of us have been saying that the Natural Areas program takes parkland away from the people. It restricts access to our neighborhood backyards. It takes land that people use and turns it into places that people cannot go. The Sharpe Park experience proves that we were right to be worried. Do not allow the introduction of threatened and endangered species in natural areas where they're not there already. Do not place our city's parkland at risk. **Eliaz Mooja:** I'm here on behalf of a group of people that are very concerned about the proposal that is being proposed for the Strybing Arboretum. We would like to express our concern to you and ask you to consider to keep the Arboretum fee. We would like to stop the privatization of public spaces. We would like to keep San Francisco's public

resources free for all. The proposal to charge entry fees for the Strybing Arboretum has caused great concern for many San Francisco residents as it follows a pattern of turning public resources into paid attractions and drawing down on already limited free public spaces. While this proposal has been brought forth at a time of shrinking budgets for many city Departments including Recreation and Park. It is in essence a development plan, a plan that transforms the Arboretum into a revenue producing facility and tourist attraction. Most importantly it is likely to radically change visitor patterns at the Arboretum and limit access to many who depend on it daily. To the open and free nature of the garden will be changed as gates and guards will be posted to limit admission and collect fees almost certainly discouraging locals who make up the overwhelming majority of visitors. Since its inception 68 years ago the Arboretum has been supported and maintained as a free common space. Taxpayer dollars, generous support, and hard work from many people and volunteers have sustained this wonderful landmark. Most recently the Recreation and Park Department has modified the proposal to charge a fee only to non-resident visitors. While certainly Recreation and Parks management views this as an attractive compromise unfortunately it does not mitigate the consequences of introducing controls and gates that change the character of the Arboretum as an open, lively, community areas. The history and heritage of this open to all garden will be lost forever. Charging any fee at all will set the stage for future fees to residents as the infrastructure will be in place and the temptation to do so already exists. We would like to ask for three things--more transparency in the process, we don't know what's going on. We would like to know what the next step is, when will it occur and what is the process for you to make a decision on this matter because a great many people care about it. We would like to get a copy of the business plan for this fee proposal and understand how it makes sense and see the underlying assumptions. We would like the stand alone process for this decision, is it going to be part of a budget plan that we'll go through or will it be debated on its merits alone. And also most importantly we need more community meetings. Not enough people know about this and they care about it.

**Brigid Herron:** As Eliaz said we really need more public input on this drastic change. In our own efforts at public outreach we've encountered enormous public concern about the proposed changes. In just three days of standing in front of the Arboretum and collecting signatures we have over 73 pages of signatures of people who are dramatically opposed to this and I feel like most people don't even know about it until we talk to them. We want the decision-making process to be transparent, we want to know what is going to happen and when it's going to happen and how we as the public are going to be kept informed so that our voices could be heard. **Nancy McNally:** Nancy McNally. I'm a native of San Francisco and raised two children. The Arboretum, the aquarium, the museum, they were all free. I could no longer raise children in San Francisco at this time. We would like as this committee came here today that there be more time scheduled for public input about this very important issue. We feel that not enough people in San Francisco have any idea that this is even under consideration. So in that light we would like you to provide more opportunity for the community to come to meetings and that you would be able to hear what the people of San Francisco feel about this. **David Eldred:** I'm David Eldred. Thank you for your time and listening. I know you've been involved already today. I'm also here to voice our concern about the Arboretum fees and I personally have stood out there up to 7 hours at a time and people just come up to me and say what's going on, so it's not known. Basically everyone is being crunched. We just really want to be a part of how we can understand the process and just kind of know how the money is being spent, we have no clue. We see improvements going on in the park and they seem to cost millions of dollars and yet at the same time we might be denied access so we say can we use the funds that are available because that's what it's going to come down to in the end. There's only going to be so much money and how is it being used. So we want to find a balance with that. It's a wonderful place, they do a great job there, it is a unique place, it's a place of solace and sustenance and a real place of refuge for people in this time and we need it. So aside from the dollars and sense stuff which I know you guys have to operate with we really would like to be part of the process and included and that's our disconnect right now. And part of this is knowing. I don't know how you bring this to the public but most people don't know and I just know that from standing there and having people come up and saying what's going on. Thank you very much and I appreciate your consideration and I have great admiration for all you do and I can't even begin to know the intricacies of this but it's nice to be able to speak and see you today, thank you.

**Commissioner Sullivan:** I just wanted to respond to the public comment about the Arboretum. I know we took action on that a few months ago and I've heard through unofficial sources that that Department's thinking has been evolving on that and I think this might be a good time to hear from staff about where the current thinking of the Department is.

**Jared Blumenfeld:** The current thinking is--so, we've had a very--and I think some of our Commissioners, Lazarus and others, were at the meeting that we had in the Hall of Flowers. A very large number of people came, a lot of intense community interest in this issue and the way that we're looking at it at the moment is to start by charging non-residents and not charging residents and it would be a system analogous to Harding Park where you get a differentiated fee, in this case there would be one fee which would just be a fee for non-residents. There's a huge number of people coming through the park to the California Academy of Sciences and DeYoung, a huge number of tourists that just go into the park generally and so the revenue projections that we're developing is still pretty healthy even if you just have it for non-residents. One of the tangential benefits of doing that would be that we would get more people into our system because you would have to get a Recreation and Park card which you guys approved in order to show that you were a resident, so to help us bring people into the Recreation and Park system is a way of getting that benefit. If you were a San Francisco resident and didn't have any way to show your Recreation and Park card you would be charged the non-resident fee.

**Commissioner Sullivan:** So the revenue projects--there will be revenue, then there's also costs to put this all in place and if we're not going to be charging residents then the revenue comes down. Are we going to get another chance to look at the balance and decide whether the revenue through this new system?

**Jared Blumenfeld:** Yes, Commissioner Sullivan, anything from parking to any of the measures that we would bring would go to you first and then would go the Board of Supervisors probably as part of our budget. So yes you will get another opportunity to

hear from us, but that's our current thinking. And when and if that evolves between now and when we bring it to you we'll update you.

**Commissioner Lazarus:** And we're confronted with a 25% reduction in general fund support next fiscal year?

**Jared Blumenfeld:** I can talk to that now or in my comments but it appears from the Mayor's budget projections--and yesterday Katie and I were there for the nine-month report that the controller provided that because of property tax, sales tax, hotel and other revenues all being significantly down that we actually need to go beyond that, as a city we need to go beyond that 25% and at the moment Recreation and Park is meeting with the Mayor's office to work out what that means. We're pretty solid that for us can't mean any more layoffs. My basic position and staff's position is that we have cut to the bone, there is no further to go and that other things that could be looked at would be more parking, for instance in Golden Gate Park, increasing the amount of parking that we have could increase the revenue I think significantly. We're looking at lots that we have, [unintelligible] surplus property, we've talked about those before, but putting those back on the table, so selling some of the vacant lots that we have that are in between buildings right now and don't have any recreational value. So we're looking at all those solutions but really are committed to not put anything on the table that requires any other layoffs because there isn't really any that we could make.

**Commissioner Lee:** With regards to the Arboretum. When first the ID cards that you are going to require residents, are they going to be the same cards that are currently used at Harding? So right now you go to the Treasurer's office and you purchase a card by showing proof of residency. Is that going to be the same card?

**Jared Blumenfeld:** The same or similar. We want to make sure there's some harmonization between all the multiplicity that we now had--the San Francisco ID card--but it would have to be something that was approved through a city agency like the Treasurer. If you had one of those there would be a list of things that counted and that would be one.

**Commissioner Lee:** I'd like to get a report on that. I'd hate to see us have 3 or 4 different cards and it's a burden on the public as it just to get them into the Treasurer's Office and get the golf card that people use. So if you can streamline that and make it as clear a process as possible.

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

**Jared Blumenfeld:** When you come into an interim position you kind of remember the things that you're hit on the head with first. On the first day that I started North Beach Pool was closed because I think I reported at the time within one day 4 feet of water was missing. So after \$300,000 and finding three leaks all the entire air duct system had to be replaced because it wasn't galvanized properly and so it had all corroded to such a point that the Health Department said it was a public nuisance. We updated all the water controls and air control so that now the water will actually be cleaner and the air better to breath and more efficient. Today, North Beach Pool is opening.

**Commissioner Levitan** Jared, who pays for that?

**Jared Blumenfeld:** The Recreation and Park Department pays for it. I basically made a decision that we had to go after the contractor so we're going after recovering that money but in the meantime we either did nothing and left the pool which was a 9 million dollar asset sit closed, so they're going in parallel tract, we're going after the contractor. The contractor actually did some of that work for us and so one path is taking legal and other action to recover the money, but we just needed to make sure it got done. We have new pool hours, that was a big issue that came up at the last meeting. We basically reverted to old pool hours with the exception that we're going to have more pools open than ever before so when Hamilton open we'll basically have all 9 of our pools open at the same time. The new pools that we have built require more staff which is probably something that we should look at when we design new projects in the future, looking at the staff requirement. Hamilton pool has slides and other features which are great, requires more staff. So we have 41 FTE dedicated to swimming pools and those will be spread thinner, while we haven't cut any aquatic staff the number of hours across the board will diminish a little bit. The number of people devoted to them will remain the same. We implemented the shift bid which caused a little bit of confusion among the public because they were used to seeing their rec director. The rec directors all moved around the system. I think that's worked out fairly well and will work out even better as time goes on. The Board of Supervisors yesterday held a hearing on DCYF money allocations at which I presented. We were actually asked to present before DCYF themselves at the DCYF budget, which I think is a testament to everyone on this Commission and the public. Basically the issue that I presented was that when Prop D in 2000 was passed to create the children's baseline and Children's Fund there was a lot--it was a relatively good financial time for the city, Recreation and Park wasn't cutting positions, and so the idea of supplanting staff really was intended so that we didn't basically take money that voters approved and backfill into general fund positions but rather we expanded the number of services offered to children and their families in the city. Now that isn't the case, we've have to cut permanent civil servants and so I think the point that we tried to make was that our preference from the staff and Commission was to make sure that CBOs did not supplant permanent civic service, they could be there to supplement, which is a word that I used. It's great to have them supplement what we have, we have our baseline, but when our baseline is cut 78 employees we need to make sure that money comes back to us. So we'll see how that progresses but I think it was something the budget committee was interested in learning more about, so we're going to talk to them about that. The days for our budget have been set in front of the board. The first reading will be the 17<sup>th</sup> of June and the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading will be the 24<sup>th</sup> of June. One more thing to say, President Lazarus asked us to come up with ideas of broad policy initiatives that we'd like to see. You'll see that today we actually have two but the one that we put on the agenda was

community gardens. Next meeting that we have time we will be dealing with disabilities in the parks and looking at how disabled communities use the park system. But the first one will be agenda Item 9, community gardens. And per PROSAC, the parks and recreations advisory committee by their creation is required to give regular updates to you and so today we have Nancy Wuerfel who sits on PROSAC to present her findings to us.

**Nancy Wuerfel:** I am reading a report prepared by our chair Jean McKenny. PROSAC's monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The meeting was attended by 16 appointees from the various supervisorial districts, members of the RPD staff and members of the public. In light of the recent developments PROSAC focused much of the meeting about Sharp Park and the ordinance passed by the Board of Supervisors earlier on Tuesday. Dawn Kamalanathan provided a summary of the ordinance and the proposed timetable for RPD to comply with it. Although PROSAC members are still learning about this complex issue and communicating with San Francisco citizens to hear their thoughts, a number of themes emerged. One, we are concerned about the proposed transfer of control of city open space to the GGNRA without adequate review of all the legal, environment, recreational, financial, and liability issues. Two, San Francisco residents have consistently expressed unhappiness about the lack of open space and recreational opportunities for all residents. Three, RPD has already devoted a tremendous amount of resources to the studies at Sharpe Park and intends to fund additional analysis ordered by the Board of Supervisors. We hope the quality of the analysis is high enough to be useful. Throughout the process RPD should be sensitive to the fact that public policy on open space and park will play a major role in how the property is ultimately handled. PROSAC is planning a site visit to Sharpe Park in the next few weeks to better understand how the current uses of the park affect endangered species. We believe it is essential that the Commission hear from the public on this issue and that we will be providing additional feedback to the Commission in the June meeting. In addition to discussion Sharp Park PROSAC heard from Karen Monty-Brodeck and Lisa Wayne on the progress in creating a selection process for trail improvements using bond funds. PROSAC provided feedback to them on a number of issues including the need to keep the ADA accessibility in mind when renovating trails and the need to maximize use of volunteers in trail restoration. Please feel free to contact PROSAC with any suggestions. RPD Commissioners are always welcome at PROSAC meetings. So as Vice Chair I'm happy to present that report. **Sally Stephens:** Sally Stephens, S.F. Dog. I'm a little surprised Jared that you didn't mention the Sharp Park ordinance because that was two meetings in the past week about it. Supervisor Mirkarimi's Sharp Park ordinance is truly amazingly bad. It's not needed, the frogs and snakes are already being protected. Golf courses and endangered species can do coexist. There's no need for radical change. Having one radical change at Sharpe Park through threats and intimidation and those behind this will come back will come back and demand similar changes at other city parks, so be prepared. What's truly amazing however is the Commission's role in all this, or lack thereof. The Sharpe Park ordinance changes the park code without any public input from you. The Department is supposed to be synthesizing all the various reports on Sharpe Park they've collected over the years for the Board of Supervisors yet the Department is not the one writing the new scope of work for the Tetrattech contract, Tetrattech itself is writing it. The Department is not telling Tetrattech how much to spend on the new analysis, Tetrattech is telling the Department how much it will cost. They're writing their own check. All this is being done without an input or oversight from you. It's possible that you discussed all of this at the closed session of the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting and that you gave you okay at that time. If so you made a major policy decision to consider giving up all local control of the San Francisco park to the federal government in secret. The public was not allowed to see your deliberations to hear the reasons why you chose to take such radical action. Why so secret? During the government audit and oversight committee hearing last week the Mayor of Pacifica and others asked for a task force of stake holders to discuss golf and frogs at Sharpe Park. Jared said that when you have a lot of different stakeholders discussing an issue you only get gridlock. Therefore he wants to study the alternative to golf in-house, in secret, then he'll present the completed analysis to the public. In typical Recreation and Park style the only chance the public will get to comment on this is two minutes at a public meeting. Why so secret? What is the Department afraid. If I'm wrong and the Commission did not discuss this in closed session then you have been complete ignored. The people pushing this intentionally bypassed you. They do not respect you or your authority over parks. Major changes and expenses have been made without your input. You the Commission have been made irrelevant.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

On motion by **Commissioner Levitan** and duly seconded, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

**RES. NO. 0907-001**

**RESOLVED**, That this Commission does approve the following animal transactions for the San Francisco Zoological Society which were processed under Resolution No. 13572.

EXCHANGE TO:	7.3	Chilean flamingo	PRICE NIL
Phoenix Zoo 455 N. Galvin Parkway Phoenix, AZ 85008 USDA # 86-C-0001		( <i>Phoenicopterus chilensis</i> )	
Safari West	1.0	Reticulated giraffe	\$5000
value 3115 Porter Creek Road Santa Rosa, CA 95404 USDA # 93-C-0579		( <i>Giraffa camelopardalis reticulata</i> )	trade



DONATION TO: Akron Zoological Park 500 Edgewood Ave. Akron, OH 44307 USDA # 31-C-0001	3.0	Sumatran tiger <i>(Panthera tigris sumatrae)</i>	NIL	
DONATION FROM: Lee Richardson Zoo Finnup Drive Garden City, KS 67846 USDA # 48-C-006	0.1	Lion-tailed macaque <i>(Macaca silenus)</i>	NIL – change from loan	312
EXCHANGE FROM: Phoenix Zoo 455 N. Galvin Parkway Phoenix, AZ 85008 USDA # 86-C-0001	3.7	Chilean flamingo <i>(Phoenicopteris chilensis)</i>	NIL	

**RES. NO. 0907-002**

**RESOLVED**, That this Commission does approve a resolution to apply for a Land and Water Conservation Grant and to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to accept and expend a Land and Water Conservation Grant in the amount of \$107,500 for the Buena Vista Park Phase II Project.

**RES. NO. 0907-003**

**RESOLVED**, That this Commission does recommend to the Board of Supervisors to accept and expend a gift-in-place valued at \$54,000 from the Visitacion Valley Greenway Project, a community organization, to enhance the Visitacion Valley Greenway Agricultural Lot.

**RES. NO. 0907-004**

**RESOLVED**, That this Commission does: 1) accept the gift of a donor acknowledgement plaque for the TPL Gift in Place renovation of Visitacion Valley Community Garden of the Visitacion Valley, 2) approve the placement of the plaque and 3) authorize the general manager to approve the wording on the plaque.

**YOUTH PROGRAM FEES**

**Dana Ketchum**, Manager, Permits and Reservations Division presented this item to the Commission. I'm here to propose the discussion and possible action to recommend to the Board of Supervisors the adoption of revisions to fees for youth programs for profit youth programs. Just a little bit of background just to remind everybody. About two years ago you adopted the approved not for profit program where we looked at different programs and leagues to see whether they were rendering--whether they met two standards, one, were they serving 90 % resident and two, were they generating profit to any individual. For adults if they met the standard they paid \$25 an hour and \$65 an hour if they don't. For youth it's no fee. The purpose of this proposal is to clarify what happens when the youth don't meet the standard. Staff has been basically looking at it as these are for-profit organizations that are benefiting the adult that is running the program and so they've charged the adult fee. We would like to clarify that in the code and make it clear that this is a for-profit youth program fee. Basically these are programs run by usually paid coaches and we charge the fee and this has been historical practice for a number of years, so that's the first item. The next piece that was difficult with this is that we have summer camps and it's very hard sometimes to figure out where the summer camps fall when we apply this standard. And just so you know when we apply this standard we had 32 entities who are approved under it and 22 were either withdrawn or didn't need it. But summer camps are sort of tricky, you've got two things going on. A lot of them are run by school administrators or schools and they provide a really valuable service to our citizens. We have kids, they need something to do all summer and yet the program director often was making a substantial salary and it was really too hard, they were very short-term, very hard for us to administer so we would like to have clarity and we looked at a number of things. We said \$65 an hour for a camp that goes 1 hours, that's really cost prohibitive on families and so the approach we went to is basically a dollar an hour a child. And historically staff has always charged camps for summer camp space and we just wanted to make is consistent. We have a lot of camps operating in Golden Gate Park, some of them with 100 kids in them and it's sort of an impact fee of having all these parents drop off their kids and have them there. And so we've started down this process of applying these fees and we would like to have clarification that we are doing them under this section. We did notice that there are some camps that clearly should be accepted. Originally we looked at any camp that didn't charge any fee and said if you're free then we're not going to charge you because we have a lot of underserved neighborhoods where there are programs that go in and offer camps and certainly we're not charging those programs for these fees for those children. And then as we looked at it we have a few camps, Cameron House was one of them, that charge a very nominal fee to kids and so after discussion and public meetings we came up with that if the camp charges less than \$3 an hour we would not charge anything for that camp. We've had two meetings on it, at both meeting the public was supportive and we are proposing our for-profit to amend the park code to add a for-profit youth program fee of 25 for summer camps and summer camps of \$25 an hour for up to 25 children except if they are serving underserved communities and charging a fee of less than \$3 per hour and for other programs that don't meet our standard it's \$65 per hour.

On motion by **Commissioner Lee** and duly seconded, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

**RES. NO. 0907-005**

**RESOLVED**, That this Commission does approve For-Profit Youth Program Fees for athletic fields.

#### **KEZAR PAVILION**

**Denny Kern**, Director of Operations presented this item to the Commission. This item is discussion and possible to approve a request from World Combat sports challenge to sell alcohol at their permitted events in Kezar Pavilion on May 30 and July 18 of this year. World Combat challenge is a group that produces events of mixed martial arts sports, things such as Thai boxing and other martial arts, and they have previously two events in Kezar Pavilion last year. They have received permits to do two events this year on the dates you have but they've not requested they sell alcohol and since Kezar Pavilion and the whole Kezar complex is park code section 4.10 as facilities and parks where you cannot have alcohol except as permitted by the Department that then brings the request to the Commission. Their schedule as you have here Saturday on May 30<sup>th</sup>, the events if from 5:00 to 11:00 with alcohol sales ending at 9:30 and then the same schedule for their Saturday July 18 event. The applicant has met with the Police Department and the police are in agreement with the proposal, especially with the protocols that they have put in place as you see there in the memo. The sales will be an established food court, beer garden area behind the pavilion. They will have protocols in effects, carding or banding so there cannot be alcohol sold to minors. As stated the event goes to 11:00 but they will shut off alcohol sales at 9:30 p.m. and they are hiring police officers as well as two Park Patrol officers plus 15 event security so both park station, San Francisco Police Department and the Department is satisfied that they've put the proper security measures in place. They expect up to 3000 people at these events and the fees are included in the attached fee worksheet and the staff recommendation is approval.

**Commissioner Levitan:** Denny, I remember one of the first times we talked about--I don't know if it was the very first time we arranged to do drinking in the pavilion, I can't remember the exact event. Lacrosse, that's right. I apologize, I don't have the documentation in front of me that I know that a very active and important in that area, Friend of Kezar?

**Denny Kern:** Kezar Advisory committee.

**Commissioner Levitan:** Right, okay, so had they participated in this?

**Denny Kern:** They are aware of it. The Kezar Advisory committee charter is the Kezar Stadium, not the Pavilion. And the Lacrosse situation they were involved because the lacrosse was in the stadium and their proposed alcohol sales were in the pavilion but it's associated with the--

**Commissioner Levitan:** That was the compromise.

**Denny Kern:** This is all within the pavilion itself so it doesn't strictly fit within their purview but they are knowledgeable of this particular event.

**Commissioner Levitan:** And they are not opposed?

**Denny Kern:** We have not heard any opposition.

**Commissioner Levitan:** Kind of related follow up question Denny, has there been any history with any other neighborhood groups about alcohol in that facility in connection with other events, has there been any concern? I don't know what outreach we did to the neighborhood on this particular matter but maybe they've considered it in the past.

**Denny Kern:** I don't have any information on that.

**Commissioner Levitan:** My other question is if--are we getting any additional revenue? If we're going from no alcohol to alcohol sales I see that we get 5% of the Commissions is that--in these times of tight dollars is there an opportunity for us to share in the upside if we're allowing alcohol sales?

**Denny Kern:** The 5% of the Commission is where we would get our take in that.

**Commissioner Levitan:** You're satisfied that's as good as we can do?

**Denny Kern:** Yes. These are increased fees and would have been without the alcohol sales.

**Commissioner Bonilla:** I was on the Commission when we had that event, the lacrosse event and if I recall we did not experience any kind of difficulties with that, is that correct?

**Denny Kern:** That's correct.

On motion by **Commissioner Levitan** and duly seconded, the following resolution was unanimously

adopted:

**RES. NO.0907-006**

**RESOLVED**, That this Commission does approve a request from the World Combat Sports Challenge to sell alcohol at their permitted events in Kezar Pavilion on May 30, 2009 and July 18, 2009.

#### **RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT**

**Dawn Kamalanathan**, Planning Director presented this item to the Commission. I'd like to introduce my colleague Sarah Dennis from City Planning. And Sarah Dennis and Sue Cline who recently had a baby last week have been working with out staff, Karen Edwards and our other planners, to work on the update of the recreation and open space element over the past year. We have a draft to distribute that we will be able to come back and discuss with you in more detail and answer more questions but this is essentially to share the draft and talk a little bit more about the highlights.

**Sarah Dennis:** Sarah Dennis with the Planning Department. I'm a senior planner at the Planning Department and one of my roles there is to manage the general plan. So what I'm here to talk to you about today is an update to the Recreation and open space element of our general plan. I believe Susan Cline has spoken to you about this before so I'm continuing on a conversation that she began. We just handed out to a package which includes the presentation that I'm going to give you today and the products that we're introducing today with than presentation. I apologize, we were not aware that there would be laptops so I'm doing this low-tech on the overhead, but it will be exactly what you have before you. The city has been working on an open space framework for about a year and a half. It's been an inter-agency effort between the planning Department the Recreation and Park Department, the Mayor's office on greening, and we also work closely with our neighborhood partners at the Neighborhood Parks Council. There's been a number of facets of the work we've been doing over the last year and a half. It began with the Mayor's open space task force which began with bi-monthly meetings about a year and a half ago for a full year where we met with community representatives from every end of the spectrum, whether they represented open space groups, neighborhood groups and community members, landscape architects, people who work in the public sphere, really brainstorm ideas about where we need to go with open space. We also held a series of city roundtables on open space where we met with all the agencies and you know there's many, besides the Recreation and Park, the PUC, the unified school district, and numerous city agencies to get up to speed on what everyone was doing and what possibilities were out there for the future. We held a number of working committees that really focused on a number of targeted items. Finance, planning and programming, policy and implementation, natural areas, and then pedestrian and bicycle access as well. Then we moved into our community outreach stage which was pretty extensive and was led by a neighborhood's park council. 21 workshops across the city where we got a significant amount of response and we also supplemented that with a survey which was posted on planning website, NPC's website and distributed to people at workshops and mailed out to our citizens. We received a number of responses to that as well. With all of that input from all of those aspects of the outreach over the last year and a half we have been working towards an open space framework which has two primary components the drafts of which we're releasing to you today. The first is a vision for open space. This is really intended as a broad overview, a kind of 100 year vision of where we want to go, want do we want our city to look like over the long term. Not that necessarily that everything is achievable in the short term or something that we expect to happen within the next 20 years, but if we are to dream big and think about what we want our city to look like in terms of open space what is that vision. And the second piece is the recreation and open space element of the general plan. The city's general plan is kind of it's bible. It's not just planning, it's documents, all the city's documents, all agencies are beholden to it, decision makers, the Board of Supervisors, and the Mayor are beholden to its policies so we wanted to update that as our 20 year framework or what has to happen within the city over the next 20 years and that's the second piece that we'll be giving you today. There is a third element to this open space framework which we'll be working on over the next 6 months and that is an action plan, that's meant to put forward some specific steps, actions that we can take in the next 5 years or in the next 10 years to start to achieve the goals of the open space vision and to implement the policies that are contained in the recreation and open space element.

Probably the first things I'd like to give you an overview of very quickly is the long-term vision of open space, this 100 year vision, and this is the second component of your packet. It's a large format 11 X 17 map. Which really illustrates a number of primary principals and I'll kind of enunciate those for you. The first is making sure that we have a high-performing open space system. That means that our open spaces are they just don't exist but they contain as much activity, they serve as many people, they function as highly as they can. It's kind of making the most of what we have. The second major component is adding new space to meet the long-terms needs of the city. One of the areas we really honed in are we're calling high-needs areas, areas that are particularly dense, have a number of long income children, seniors, people who use open space significantly and that's really where we're focusing our new open space. We're looking at improving access and connectivity to open space throughout the city through a series of green streets that you'll see on the map, trails, connections along the waterfront, so there really is a network that moves across the city. We're looking at improving biodiversity within all those spaces, the connections and networks allowing not just people but wild life, birds, etc, to move through that network of open space. And then we're looking at a number of destination open space, those are shown as asterisks on the map. There are a number of signature open spaces that are underway right now, I think you just had a hearing talking about Sue Bierman park and you're aware that there's efforts at looking at combing that with all the Embarcadero open space to create kind of a true gathering space for our city as well as a number of open spaces along the southeastern waterfront where we have a lot of opportunity. So that's kind of big broad overview of what that map represents and there's detail attached to the page explained in text. We'll be back to you over coming months. This is just a preliminary draft, so that's to explain to you what's in front of you.

The next piece I'd like to talk about briefly is the general plan element and what are the components of that and so I'll start with our first objective within the open space element which is really looking at a high-performing open space system. What that's about--programming, recreational opportunities, not just space outdoors but what can people do in it and it might be in a building,

it might be cultural, etc. Activating the open spaces that are most utilized. We've honed in on a couple of those through our workshop efforts--McLaren, Ocean Beach and its connections to the Zoo, and the waterfront is another opportunity area we can do a lot with. We've highlighted a number of parks that really need renovation, most of those are most highly used or in high growth areas so they're seeing significant impacts from more and more people using them and needing them. And then another component of high-performing open space is really making sure that people know what they have to access. One thing we've found through our workshops is that a lot of people don't even know the opportunities that are near them. If they want to play tennis they don't know where the nearest tennis court is. Same with swimming, or when those hours are. So how can we promote or connect people to the resources that we're already offering so they can link into that easily.

The next major objective is about acquiring new open spaces and where we want to focus our efforts. As we are all aware, funding is an issue which obviously constrains how much new open space we can provide. Also, just our city's geography, we're 7 square miles, we're a dense built-out city. So we really need to focus our efforts and look for new types of opportunities. As I mentioned we're focusing our acquisition efforts in what we're calling high-needs areas, those are areas that are high density, have a significant population of seniors, of youth meaning children above the age of 10 and of young children who might need playgrounds. We're also looking at opportunities along the shoreline, particularly the southeastern waterfront, the Embarcadero and a number of port sites offer opportunities there. We're looking to make sure that new open space is provided wherever new growth is planned. Treasure Island and Yerba Buena Islands, Candlestick and Hunter's Point where we have major planning efforts underway. And then where do we have opportunities for open space. We're highlighted on a couple of key city resources. The first is public land, obviously. That's the first place to look. Schoolyards and the greening of schoolyards programs that's been underway as a pilot program is another thing that we're looking to expand and continue. Looking at PUC properties and where we can expand access and include open space opportunities there. And then also at our privately owned open space which as commonly called popos. A lot of work has been done by a lot of entities outside of the city including Neighborhood Parks Council, Rebar, Spur, are looking at the opportunities that those open spaces provide, how can we open them up, how can we let more people have access to them, know about them, and actually use them as true open spaces.

The third objective of this open space element is a new one and something that I think is very critical to urban areas throughout the country right now, that's actually realizing the importance of our public realms and the connectivity between open spaces. One of the biggest resources that the city has in its hand is our public realms of space between buildings that is owned by the city. A lot of that is dedicated to cars right now and that presents a lot of opportunity that's untapped. Our Better Streets plan which you may be familiar with comes up with a number of street typologies from green connectors all the way to living alleys where people actually move and play within streets. Temporary or even permanent street closure where people can use our public streets as places to walk, to play, to grow things. Temporary closures along with Sunday streets is something that we're very interested in promoting and seeing how we can use even spaces that do have to be dedicated to cars some of the time towards open spaces for elements of time. And then another big aspect of connectivity that we're promoting in this open space element is our recreational trail system. The ridge trail is something that already exists and can be improved and enhanced. We're looking at the creation of a new cross town trail that links a number of spaces from the Presidio to the southern end of the city. And we're looking to connect all the gaps that exist in the Bay Trail. Part of the Bay Trail is there, it's in good shape, but there are a number of places where we really need to make that connection seamless so that you can move along the city's waterfront in one fell swoop.

The 4<sup>th</sup> objective of the open space element focuses on biodiversity. A number of things that are encompassed within that. I'm just going to try to summarize briefly. Looking at our natural areas and how we can manage them. They're not all owned by the Recreation and Park Department, a number of other agencies, even regional agencies own those, are there coordinated management strategies that we can explore to make sure that we're having a consistent operations strategy to those. Can we implement principles like water conservation, energy, food production, using planting such as native plants or drought tolerant plants, those are the types of policies that the element promotes.

Our 5<sup>th</sup> objective focuses on engaging the community and this is really an untapped resource that we heard a lot about through out open space task force and workshops. San Francisco has a wealth of resources out there in our community members, people who not only use our parks but want to work in them, want to support them, have in many instances created their own open spaces, along streets through the DPW street parks program, etc. So what are the things we can do to tap into that resource and help them in the work that they're already doing. Community initiated open spaces is something that we're looking to promote like the community gardens and the street parks that a number of communities have already done in their neighborhoods. We're looking at what kind of tools the city can provide them, it might be technical knowledge on how to get through the city's process or to get materials for parks. It might be lending libraries that offer tools for working in parks, lawnmowers, planting tools, etc. Providing linkages to nurseries so we can have plantings and then even funding where possible. The community challenge grant is a great opportunity and where we can see more things like that that's something that we would like to enhance.

One last thing I'll mention that's near to me at the planning Department is reducing red tape barriers. Portland did a city ordinance where they actually tried to remove as much of the process as possible to allow communities to take over their intersections within their communities and turn those into public open space. We sometimes in our goals to be thorough within the city process and make sure all the agencies are online we probably put in a lot of barriers and looking strategically to see where we can remove those, remove fees, remove permitting process, just let people go out and do things that are part of the public good.

Then the last objective that I'll mention is on governance and maintenance. This is an obvious one. This is how we function. Inter agency coordination is obviously a huge one. Public-private partnerships is a new strategy that we're looking to explore. Again

I'm going to mention Portland as a model. They recently had a 10 for 10 program where they tried to link corporate sponsors with a 10-year maintenance plan for a neighborhood park. Especially as we're strapped for cash long term things like that are opportunities that we think we should be looking into. Inter-agency partnerships is also something that we need to explore with the other city agencies and even private partners and non-profits out there that are working on parks so that we're all working together and not cross-purposes. And then funding and maintenance mechanisms and there's a number that the plan calls out. I'm sure you have discussed the city-wide impact fee for open space before, a Nexus study has been completed and it's something that we would like to further and put in place so new development contributes towards new open spaces. Looking at park improvement districts as a way to support the maintenance of that park. Park improvements where if property owners voters-- again, it does rely on a vote of property voters--they could provide additional assessments to support the maintenance of a park which they live nearby. Voluntary contributions is an option where people can just check off a contribution to open space on utility tax bills. And even looking at tax revenue options. Some cities have adopted additional property or parcel taxes for open space. I agree it's probably a long-shot here but it's something that we at least need to put on the table as we look towards our long term vision.

With that I'd like to explain to you where we're going from here. As I mentioned, this is the preliminary draft. You are the first ones to see it and I apologize we didn't give it to you in advance but it's fresh off the printer. This will be located on our web site. Our partner will be linked to it from the Neighborhood Parks Council site as well and hopefully you can get to it from the Recreation and Park Department website. We'll have copies available for public view for anyone who is interested and we're looking at the next 6 months or so to receive public comment on the draft, see what needs to change, have additional hearings if we need to have more talk about it. Have additional hearing with you once you've had a chance to read it and see what needs to change and get added to make this the most robust open space vision we can. So that's where we're headed. We will be working on the action plan over that same time-frame as well and looking to do an environment review on the document. I'm available if you have any questions.

**Commissioner Lee:** I was curious how this map overlays with the natural areas program? It would be helpful to see an overlay of the natural areas program with the open space to see what areas are designated as natural areas because I recall the last map I saw there's quite a bit of overlap particularly in the middle. It would be helpful to have that overlay.

**Sarah Dennis:** Sure, I think that would be a great appendix map to include to show the natural areas and how they related to the rest of the open spaces.

**Commissioner Lee:** I assume you've incorporated that into your plan because obviously you're not going to have a trail go through a natural areas program or a bike trail.

**Sarah Dennis:** We're working on those issues right now. I think within the [unintelligible] itself you'll see proposals for several I shouldn't say new trail networks because they exist but they haven't been formalized and I think organized in a way that's easily accessible to the public, but they are largely I think complimentary to the natural areas rather than intrusive to them.

**Commissioner Sullivan:** This is a question for Sue. You mentioned a couple times in your comments Portland and what they're doing there. I know they have a reputation for being very progressive and effective with their parks. I wonder if there are a couple of things that come to mind in terms of things they're doing that we could think about.

**Sarah Dennis:** Probably the biggest one is they have a model ordinance that really has streamlined the process for community open space but also required that anybody who is doing community initiated open space gets sign off from all the people in the neighborhood. I think that's a big one towards supporting community doing their own work. I think they're working corporate sponsorship, while controversial, provides a very interesting model. They have for example they had a partnership with Nike that repaved all of their basketball courts across the city, I think there was 82, free of charge in exchange for a logo on some of the basketball hoops. So it's the kind of thing that in some places, some people might take issue with it. I think we need to explore and talk about it but it's certainly improved a lot of spaces there.

**Commissioner Bonilla:** On the governance and maintenance aspect of this element you talked a little bit about inter-agency coordination and cooperation and so what I wanted to ask you are there going to be parallel tracks in terms of a process with other agency Departments. Are we going to be sharing the same baseline information and be involved in the same process? How is this going to be done?

**Sarah Dennis:** We've been trying to take the first steps towards that through this city roundtable so I think probably every agency that deals with open space or has space that people access in any sort of recreational way has met with us at least 3 or 4 times during the last year and a half in terms of this process. So they're pretty aware of what's in front of you in terms of policies. Our next step though which I think you're getting at and I think is the real critical thing is coming up with action steps that each agency takes. So the development of our action plan will definitely be a much more robust version of that city roundtable where we actually come up with tasks for each other for the next 5 to 10 years together.

**Commissioner Bonilla:** So it will be a parallel track with all the other Departments. I know that was an initial concern a few years ago that not any one Department try to come up with a definitive vision and statement on doing the open space plan but different Departments are or the fee Departments dealing with open space issues that they work together.

**Sarah Dennis:** I will mention a real asset that we've had that hasn't been there in the past is the Mayor's office in greening which actually puts a little bit of the weight of the Mayor's office beyond forcing all the agencies to come together which has been a real positive.

**Commissioner Bonilla:** I think that round table was a good thing.

**Commissioner Harrison:** In your meetings have you included the Gardener's Union Local 261 and some of the other unions regarding the maintenance and the volunteer issues because there are things that they might be concerned about.

**Commissioner Bonilla:** We're trying to be very sensitive to those and our work with Dawn has acknowledged that. We have not met specifically with those because at this point we're just at the policy level where we're trying to promote the concept and we haven't come up with specific strategies or what volunteer groups could do but I think you raise a good point and it's something we need to continue to further as we development the actual action steps that tells what we're trying to do.

**Commissioner Harrison:** It's best to do it early on so you don't have issues later.

**Sarah Dennis:** One thing I'll mention out the outreach. I'm sorry, I tried to keep my presentation brief so I omitted this. I did mention that we had the complete series of workshops and survey which was very capably handled by Neighborhood Parks Council. Isabel Wade is here also with a summary of that which we're going to be posting on our web site and I don't know if she had anything add.

**Isabel Wade:** Neighborhood Parks Council was please to orchestrate the public meetings around the open space task force the topic of open space but really to help city planning to get a lot of public feedback and Recreation and Park and thank you those of you Commissioners who attended some of the meetings. There were 29 in all, 8 focus groups and 21 community meetings all across the city. Generally it was about an hour and a half in length just a discussion about open space. And I just wanted to highlight some of the topics because its very clear that the people's ideas about the use of open space has changed today as where it was 20 or 30 years ago and I think it's important for the Commission and Department to know. So one of things that came out in almost every meeting in every part of the city interestingly was using parkland for food production, that was a big topic for a lot of people. Of course our scope ended up being how to have a greener neighborhood because some neighborhoods don't have parks and Playgrounds as you know and we might have been off of park land talking about food production schoolyards for example. But people are very interested in that. I think it's safe to say there's a lot more environmental awareness today and the value of our green space as an environmental asset. But also people are very savvy about the fact that parks draw visitors, that they also can have features and aspects that bring people out to get them to spend money in our city even if it's we the residents. And so thinking more about them as an economic tool I think it more than where we used to be where it was just fun and games. Also, the whole aspect of health and the importance of using these spaces which when you think about it is the free place all of us have to go and exercise. People are very aware that these spaces are very important and therefor want to make sure they have them. So that leads into filling the gaps. Sarah mentioned that's an ongoing need, especially in the eastern neighborhoods and in some neighborhoods without and we're all aware of the limitations of funding but some fairly radical ideas came out of the discussions. And again it was looking at models in other cities. In Seattle and I visited this park neighborhood parks are considered such a priority and they've done such detailed gap analysis that they go out and they actively purchase property whether it has structures on it or not that are in gap areas to make parks. The next time you're up there I suggest you visit Homer Park in Seattle. If you happen to go to Victoria this summer you can go to Rutledge park and both of these parks were sites of three houses, torn down, specifically to make a park. So I think we can think about that in terms of achieving equity in some neighborhoods. We can't wait until we have vacant land because frankly that's becoming really a scarce commodity and really in the new areas that we're developing we can't just offer developers and let them off the hook getting balconies and rooftop gardens. That's not a park. That's not where you're going to play frisbee with the kid or walk that dog. This is not real. So we have to be more aggressive and thinking of more radical solutions about acquisition. Sarah mentioned a lot about connectivity, diversity or uses. One of the exercises we did is we asked people what was their idea of a successful park in their neighborhood and you can go to our web site and see our list. Kind of the touching part is frankly just about every park is on it and I really appreciate that because people really care about their park but there were some distinguishing features. One of them the sites having diversity of use, that people really appreciated if there were multiple things that they could do at a park because there's a lot of needs and so that's I think an important thing to think about when we're designing and I think we do that generally. People want it to be green and beautiful, there's no doubt about that. Putting a circle around Jackson Playground that's primarily playfields doesn't cut it as a neighborhood park. So we have to be aware that neighborhood parks are places that can be used for different things and they have to be green and attractive. Then accessibility. The main thing for people success really was could they get to it and it is our city policy that we try to have a park within a 10 minute walk of everyone. We have a ways to go in meeting that but I think overall the feedback we were getting was positive. I think what people felt though is that it was very important in our park system was civic engagement, public participation at these sites and Sarah mentioned there was a lot of discussion at every single meeting about the roadblocks that are put up to both volunteering, to participating and trying to do a small or even large capital improvement. There's a long ways to go in this area and it was really highlighted as these meetings, the frustration of people trying to help their city and not being able to do so. Commissioner Sullivan asked about examples in other cities. We sent around the Commissioner President, Jared and others the example from Sacramento where their approach to volunteers is very proactive. You apply, you are certified, and you're allowed to go out once you're certified and help during the week which we do very little of here and at a park of your choice or you select from there are an array of park projects to do. But

we need to be doing more of this. We're not going to be getting a lot more staff in maintenance and the critical aspect of a successful park to getting people to use it is the maintenance has to be kept and that's an essential thing that we really have to be trying even in this hard economic time. So if I can answer any questions.

**Commissioner Lazarus:** I was going to ask both of you out of these meetings and staff work, just quickly looking at this, it's a lot of big picture but have you gotten down into not only the generic need of open space, does that also include the finding of what we need in terms of active versus passive, what we need in terms of rec centers versus tennis courts, etc. Is that going to be part of that process?

**Isabel Wade:** In an hour and a half you don't have time to get down to that but actually we got down to a lot of nitty gritty details about what people felt was needed about open space in the future. The action plan that we will put forward with the whole coalition of folks working on this I think will have some very practical ideas some of which I just mentioned to you as thoughts about new directions, how to secure open space, and how to deal with maintenance for example, how to deal with funding. Sarah you can elaborate more on that.

**Sarah Dennis:** I will emphasize what Isabel says, the notes from the workshop will--when you try to talk to people about big picture stuff they inevitably focus down on actually what their needs are in the neighborhood so we did hear a lot about what specific neighborhood needs are through those workshops. What we tried to do through the update of the element that you'll see before you is on a high-level kind of look at the walking distance that people had towards three categories of open space and I believe it's on page 17 of the open space element. We looked at whether people--the researchers found that when people are going to play sports or do something active they'll walk about a half-mile. So we looked at how many parts of the city actually had sports fields or active uses within about a half-mile of where they live. Things like passive uses, picnicking, hanging out in a green space, people will walk a little bit longer too especially if it's a sunny day in San Francisco. So we tried to look at how many neighborhoods actually had that within a half-mile. Then we looked at Playgrounds which particularly because of the constraints of small children has a much smaller radius and tried to look at neighborhoods that actually had walking distance to that. This only gives us a high-level of where we need to focus our needs and where some of those high-needs areas. And so the idea with the action plan that Isabel was mentioning in the next step is to look at some of those targeted neighborhoods, Chinatown is a big one that comes to mind as a high-need area and work with the community to figure out the exact specifics of the open space that would best meet their needs like a community garden, tennis court, etc. It's the kind of thing that the open space element won't do on a detailed level but it provides the framework for us to go into a community and work with them to make those decisions through the action plan.

**Commissioner Lazarus:** Except it does have a lot of examples of trails and other more detailed findings of where we have need. Does it go into say we have too many golf courses and not enough soccer fields or we need five more regulation baseball diamonds and three more Little League diamonds for the amount of growth we expect in those age populations? That level?

**Sarah Dennis:** The thing that gets tricky especially when we're talking about sports fields what we found especially through our outreach is that people are travelling to play sports because a lot of the sports fields and reserved people are only half the time actually using the sports fields that's within walking distance to them simply because they might have the time to walk to it is not when they actually is open for their use. So it's pretty difficult to do a big assessment like that, like we need 3 more baseball fields just to meet the growth of the need. So what we're looking at through the action plan is a more targeted neighborhood talking to people and what's missing.

**Commissioner Lazarus:** You didn't look at the broader issue of for instance our numerous club sports, teams, how we accommodate not just the walkup need of a resident but the needs of all our participants who are signing up for those facilities, for their Viking soccer league or the attorney's league softball or whatever.

**Sarah Dennis:** Not on a policy level. Again, the goal of the action plan which is more the action steps is to look at each of those parks and which ones are over-subscribed and what they're over-subscribed in to try to figure out how to meet the demand there on the spot.

**Isabel Wade:** I have one other thought related to what you're saying. I mean, the Department got a study, a very thorough study and we're having more studies, but the study in 2004 that Leon Younger did really laid this all out and it basically sits in a drawer somewhere. I don't know what we have to do but it does seem to me to be the job of the Commission to then say what is the process to get from A to Z. We have recommendations from a national expert, he did the studies, he has the data, so how do we meet the soccer field needs, is anybody looking at that?

**Jared Blumenfeld:** I don't want to get into now but the city fields foundation has spent hundreds of hours calculating--  
[unintelligible]

**Isabel Wade:** But that's the key, getting these recommendations into implementable form and whatever the topic is because otherwise it's just ideas.

**Commissioner Martin:** I'm looking at all this and I'm really concerned. I've been talking for 8 years and I still don't understand why you guys don't have it on here. When you're talking open space and parks, Brooks park sitting out there is the highest park in this city that has open space where you can see the bridge and everything from it and got a school sitting right



there and won't fix it so the kids of the school can go to that park and see something and have some place to play. I've been talking to this place for 8 years. They fixed the wall but they still haven't fixed the park. Why don't you guys have it on here? It's the most fixed up place that needs to be in this town.

**Sarah Dennis** I think that's a great point that we'll down for the action plan. Again, what we're distributing to you today is a 100 year vision and policy statement, so we don't do things like mention specific parks or opportunity areas but we will jot that down for our action plan.

**Jared Blumenfeld:** The San Mateo/San Francisco county line. We spent a lot of time linking the west side of the city to the north side to the east side but very little about how you get from Hunter's Point to Ocean Beach. Most look at a perimeter and we've kind of just done an N or U depending on which way we're looking at it, that was point one and you don't need to respond to any of these. Point two is that the bay itself I would say is open space. We're surrounded on 3 sides by water, there's a lot of recreational activities, we have a Marina, places like Seattle have done a huge amount to open up a view of what we think of as open space, so for me the water and activities and another thing that isn't on here but hopefully will be soon, on the maps. Treasure Island has a lot of open space [unintelligible] just the water aspect. At the beginning you kind of tally the total number of acres of open space which I think is 5250 which ends up at .0006 acres per person. Is there a goal? Is there a number that we want to achieve that we can work towards and what is that number? And most of the other things that we do like water use we know gallons per water per day or energy or anything. I just don't know what the national standards are on open space or could be. And then the final element relates to climate change, what will climate change do for our open space. Will it create more of a burden for water, what does that mean? The final point is that a lot of these are like what would you--and I guess this does require a follow up--if this is printed, today's it's draft, if it's finalized by the Board of Supervisors tomorrow how would the world look differently, what would change as a result of this happening, would this require further implementation in order to actually change the face of open space.

**Sarah Dennis** It absolutely does require further implementation. What we have before you is a vision and set of policies. Policies the way they're implemented to the city mean that actions that the city is taking have to be consistent with those policies but the policies themselves don't direct anybody to do anything. So that's why the action plan is such a critical component of this.

**Commissioner Bonilla:** Well of course as you said we haven't had a chance to read this document but I certainly hope that one of the major planning assumptions in this whole planning process is that we really look what you mentioned earlier and that is how people, be it youth, adults, whomever, how San Franciscans are able to access our facilities by walking. I think that is so critical. When I was growing up we did everything walking. I think to the extent that we can encourage that and make that a major part of this planning process and not have this reliance on parents driving kids to their activities after school especially when the parents are not available to do so. The more that we work on really targeting the accessibility of our venues to kids after school I think that would be a very beneficial thing for us to do because I really do not feel that we have done as much as we could in terms of the after school population and so I'm happy that you're saying that maybe one of the cornerstones may be how you get to a park or a rec center or whatever by walking. I'm glad about that and think it needs to be the focus.

This item was discussion only.

## COMMUNITY GARDENS

**Marvin Yee,** with the Capital Division presented this item to the Commission. I'm with the Recreation and Park Department and one of my functions is as the program manager for the community gardens program. Just briefly, the community gardens program started in the early 1990s. In the early years it was managed by an outside entity through a city contract but in 2005 the Recreation and Park Department took direct management of those gardens. So the outline for my presentation today includes giving you a brief program overview, then we'll talk about some of the benefits of the community gardens program to the gardeners, to the city, to the Department and also to the earth. We'll talk about the growing demand and what are the possibilities for expansion potential in order to meet those demands. The first thing I'd like to go over is what is a community garden. In the current policies that guide the community gardens program a community garden is a site operated and maintained by community volunteers. What is grown in the community garden is for non commercial use. In other words, the gardeners are growing things for their own personal consumption. They could also share in those good but they cannot be compensated by selling those items. These things are grown through garden plots. Instructional gardening may be offered at these sites and common expenses are covered through self imposed garden fees. This type of program is different from other type of communal gardening in the Department in that this program the community garden sites are subdivided into allotments which are then assigned to a person or entity to maintain on a day to day basis.

The community garden program contains 35 community gardens. These gardens are self managed and maintained by the gardeners themselves who are considered volunteers. These gardens are located on city property, most of them are on Recreation and Park property but some are on other city agencies including the PUC and the Department of Public Works. This program is funded through \$150,000 annually in Prop C funds which was passed in the year 2000. Through the passage of Prop C the funds are available for the next 30 years, up to 2030, with a minimum budget of \$150,000 and in 2006 the Commission did approve a policy which does guide the management of the gardens. In this map here it locates all of the gardens in the program, all 35 gardens. The ones shown in red dots are those on park property, the ones in yellow dots are shown on other city agency properties and you can see they're kind of clustered in a part of the city where you would expect to find community gardens, essentially east of twin peaks where there's a higher density of population, where people don't have already their own private



gardens and also it's in a warmer part of the city. But in the past couple of years I have definitely notice a request for community gardens throughout the city and not just in the sunnier warmer parts of the city.

In this program the gardeners are largely responsible for the day to day maintenance. That includes the gardens plots themselves, that includes the public areas within the gardens. Again, I mentioned that what they grow is only for personal consumption. They self imposed gardens dues which is determined by the membership. Not all gardens charge gardens dues, it depends on what their common expense needs are. The gardeners are also responsible for maintaining a wait list and offering vacant plots on the list. The community gardens are oftentimes fences and even gated and locked. Because these gardens are located on public property they are to be publicly accessible. This doesn't mean that the gardens have to be available at all hours of the day, it means that the gardeners need to provide a program of public access and that could mean that they have posted hours for the garden in advance, maybe there are regular hours and regular days of the month when the garden is open or they can be public events that are available to anyone to come in as long as that event is posted in advance. And lastly the gardeners because they are volunteers do have to sign a waiver just like any other volunteer activity that's done on park land.

The city however is still involved in the gardens although they are self-managed by the gardeners themselves. What the city provides are deferred maintenance, particularly for those items that are structural in nature or that are regulated by the building code. The Department also provides capital improvements and we also renovate gardens and that would be an opportunity for the Department to increase the capacity, that is adding more plots into the gardens, and also to provide for wheelchair access. The Department also supports the gardeners in enforcing the policies and to carry out the program elements of the Commission approved policies including bulletin boards. That was one of the items that was mentioned in the policies that we're currently rolling out. And lastly the Department updates the webpage that is part of the Department's website. Interestingly it does get the 9<sup>th</sup> most hits of any page on the site right behind the Commissions web page.

The gardens provide beautification on public land. These are garden like environments in public spaces. They also provide and add to the variety of the recreational uses available in our parks. They also promote community in that a lot of the gardeners live within walking distance of the garden and the gardeners have to manage themselves, promoting that sense of community. And of course the gardeners are growing things for themselves and maybe for others, promoting self-sufficiency. It's good for the environment. In policies the gardeners are required to practice organic based practices, so we're not using pesticides, herbicides in these gardens. And lastly because the program is set up so that it is intended to be kind of a self-sustaining program it doesn't take away Departmental resources, operational resources that could otherwise goes to needs in our park system. So with all these wonderful benefits it's really not a surprise this there's a growing demand for community gardens. Early indications of this demand could be found in the 2004 survey that the Department conducted which indicated that 47% of the households have indicated a need for more community gardens which is the third highest ranked item in that category. The survey also found that community gardens fell in the top 5 most important facilities out of 21 facilities options within that category. This is also confirmed when an inventory was done in June, 2008, where we inventoried and found that we do have 1038 garden plots available throughout the city and that's only under the Department's managed gardens. At the same time we did have 110 people on the wait list. So with this growing demand what are the possibilities for expanding the program to try to meet this growing demand? One way is to renovate the existing garden. There is the potential to add more plots as we have done in Arkansas Friendship garden. You can see in the overhead that we have a before and after photo. In this particular garden we did increase the number of plots from 9 to 14 so we've added 6 plots. If we did this to all the existing community gardens then we'd have a potential of increasing the number of plots by 217 which would potentially take care of half the people on the wait list.

The other possibility of expanding the program is to convert under-utilized parks into community gardens. This list that I've provided has in no way been vetted by the Department. This is really an initial list based on my observations. On perhaps on where a new community gardens could be set up. Of course, in order to do this would require capital investment. That concludes my presentation.

**Nancy Wuerfel:** I want to thank the General Manager for bringing this to our attention. This has got to be one of the top interests in my serving on PROSAC was to be supportive of community gardens. I love them. I think that this is just the best thing that can be done for the public. I was impressed with our article which lots of people have here today in the Examiner that talks about the curiosity of a Garden Grows. It also identifies what Marvin has said about the needs. I want to make a very clear statement. Prop C has awarded \$150,000 to this in 2000 when that was the baseline that was to be updated. It's 10 years later, it's only \$150,000 for this program. Something is wrong. The after school program, volunteers, natural areas and urban forestry all go their due just deserts and upgrades. This is the only program out of Prop C that has never once been given a thin dime more than that original baseline mandated in the voters approval. So let's start right now today and understand that they are way behind the scenes. Somebody is going to have to say gee I'm going to give up extra pencils or crayons because this program has been totally under-funded. Two, when we talk about the fact that we have all these people on the waiting list, I think this is a serious issue. We have people that want to participate in their level in our parks, we want to grow food, flowers, or whatever they want. I think this is fabulous. Whatever they want. I think this is fabulous. I'd like to even suggest that we even think of Sharpe Park as a beautiful community gardens only because it used to be a commercial agricultural setting. So the land is there, the weather is there, we ought to think about that as one of the proposed uses when they're doing alternatives. I think we need to look very clearly at the transparency with the selection of who gets to have a community garden. I'd like as usual to hear more about the money. I'd like to see an interplay between what's going to cost to have an improvement on the capital level and what it going to mean if we do get more money at an operational level to help Marvin and his works and I want to know what's going on

with the money that's contributed for those people that are actually paying for the common expenses. To me there's a nexus here that's not clear. We've got people paying, we've got the Prop C paying and now we have some other capital needs. So let's put all of this on the table. I like numbers, I really think that helps us focus on what we can to achieve the goal of not being front and center with a lot of red ink on this paper. So let's hear it for community gardens. I think they're wonderful and they do good things for all of us, thank you.

**Martha Arnaud:** Martha Arnaud. I was excited to see this on the agenda and took the day off from work to come and talk to you just to express my support for this program very much and I'm working with a group that is interested in getting a community garden on one of those plots that Marvin mentioned. It's the Geneva strip. I live in Mission Terrace and it's out near the Balboa Park BART station and it's a piece of land owned by Recreation and Park that's across San Jose from the BART station and just across Geneva from the Geneva office building and it was a garden for about 25 years. It's been overgrown for the past 15 and we'd really like to turn it into a community garden now. So our understanding of the process is first we do our community outreach and at this point we've got the support of all the local neighborhood associations for this project. There's a Cuyhuga, Mission Terrace, the Outer Mission, and the Excelsior, and as well we've got about 80 residents from the neighborhood that have signed their personal support for our project so once we get the letter assembled we'll be coming to you hopefully for the approval to go ahead and apply for grants. And then once we get grant funding secured we come back and apply for inclusion into the community garden program. So thanks for the opportunity to let me mention out little project and I look forward to working with you to make this happen.

**Jared Blumenfeld:** I was out there with Supervisor Aviloso and you can see it's fenced in and you can actually see the remnants of the community gardens. How much would it cost to convert that land which at the moment has no use into a productive community gardens?

**Martha Arnaud:** I don't actually have a number yet.

**Marvin Yee:** I've also been out there to the site. It is a sloping site so it's going to need a bit more development than let's say a site that's on flat ground. The Arkansas Friendship garden that was recently completed was done at about \$35 per square foot but that site was again a fairly level site. I would imagine that the Geneva Strip site would need a little bit more than that. Just off the top of my head I would say between \$35 and \$50 a square foot.

**Linda D'Avirro:** Linda D'Avirro, District 11 Council, and I also do want to support the mini strip and have it move up to a higher level. It actually was planned as part of the plans for the Balboa area revitalization and we do want to put this land to use so that if the conversation somehow gets awry someone doesn't build a parking lot on there on a landing strip or onramp or something. So we'd like it moved up on the list because if you want to use the Crocker-Amazon LaGrande garden as an example we have a waiting list and I think you probably know better than I Marvin but it's more than 26 people and probably more than that as of today. So we really do need community gardens. The one thing I do want to leave you with that on that subject though is a good community garden is a well-managed community garden and Marvin has actually stepped up in the case of the LaGrande community garden at Crocker which is not in very good shape and really needs renovation for a number of reasons. But one reason that our group got involved was some time in 2006 the park folks came to us and said they were getting a lot of complaints about that waiting list and about the condition of the park and just in general how it's managed. My request would be perhaps to have the park people who are actually resident NSAs be involved in the community garden and also involve the community groups that are there as the watch people because we really don't have a way to get involved with community gardens because it's a stand-alone autonomous organization that unless you are a community gardens you have nothing to say about it. And unfortunately Jared didn't get a chance to see it because he was riding all over town that day but you should have taken a look at it. It's sad because there's about 11 or 15 plots that are fallow and it's just a bad example of a community garden but because Marvin has taken up that issue and hopefully we'll see some movement on that I would like to see the park people themselves involved because the rec manager gets the complaints, the park gardeners get the complaints and they can do nothing about it because it just sits there as a little island so I really think the organizational structure should include the park people and particularly the NSA park managers that are there.

**Jared Blumenfeld:** Since I'm desperate to get back on my bike since I don't get to get anywhere, let's set it up for next week, I will come out.

**Steve Currier:** Steve Currier, Outer Mission merchants and residents association, also Crocker Amazon. And Jared I'd love to meet with you because everything that Linda said was absolutely correct. All the rules that Marvin had laid out, none of the rules of this community garden was followed, none whatsoever, and they even used pesticides and herbicides on their beds which I think is really nasty. They used to also have running water which I don't know where it's at now because the spigot was shut off. And one day I happened to be in the park doing something around a time that I'm normally not there which was like around 11:00 or 12:00 noon and believe it or not one of the gardeners was an older Asian lady outside the fence pulling down a Camilla tree because she thought it was in the way of the sun hitting her plants and I absolutely went ballistic because there are no rules in that community garden. Commissioner Martin, you mentioned Brookes Park. They did a fantastic job on their community garden and it is accessible to the public. This particular community garden in the Crocker is not accessible to the public, it's locked up and if you want to get in there's no way, you're not going to be allowed in. The other thing they did at one time and I spoke I think it was Larry McNesby or Denny Kern is that somebody came out and put pavers on the side of the community gardens and I have no idea when they did that. Of course the pavers are removed now but I think Linda is right, there needs to be a little bit ownership within the community and the community gardeners so there's a conversation, there's something that needs to be done. If there

needs to be structural maintenance or more dirt or whatnot there can be than conversation or leadership for the community garden where there is not now. But this is really excited and we do support the Geneva Strip. Like I said it's about ¾ of a block in length and probably about 200 to 300 feet wide so I think it would be a fantastic accomplishment to clean up that piece of property on Geneva Avenue.

**Commissioner Harrison:** A couple of questions. Could this be considered open space, part of the open space plan?

**Marvin Yee:** It actually is mentioned in the open space element. It certainly is.

**Commissioner Harrison:** Is there criteria for these acquisitions of property for these community gardens, is there some kind of criteria for it?

**Marvin Yee:** Not that I know of. The only item that I think is similar to that in the earlier versions of the open space element is that there was a goal of creating 200 more community gardens. Other than that, but the definition of community gardens in the element of that plan was very broad. It could have been allotment gardens. It could have been a communal managed gardens. So it really encompasses all that, to get the community involved in gardening.

**Commissioner Harrison:** What I'm getting at here is on the corner of Lombard and Pierce there was a Standard station there, a Chevron Station, it's been vacant for like 3 or 4 years now, and I think that would, in that neighborhood, would be huge.

**Commissioner Lazarus:** That's because the city has rejected the development plan for the site. The planning Commission or the Board of Supervisors--the restaurant site, the old Chevron station, that whole thing is on hold for many years now as to what the city wants and what the developer land owner wants.

**Commissioner Harrison:** A perfect use, nobody would be hurt and we would have a park greenway and open space.

**Jared Blumenfeld:** I just wanted to thank Marvin who does an absolutely fantastic job. Most people when the San Francisco league of urban gardeners disappeared nobody really knew what institution would take over. He has done an incredible job. This is only half his job and he continues to be a planner and a capital division doing large projects. So the fact that he can do this in half his time is really remarkable. So thank you Marvin.

This item was discussion only.

#### **PARK SCAN**

**Isabel Wade:** Happy to be here to give you an update about Park Scan. Some interesting and I think very helpful developments. I think you're all aware the project is about 5 years old and we recently made some updates to the website, listening to the community and also to Recreation and Park about ease of use. I don't know if we can see-- It gives you an idea, that's the new website which has been I think modified in a way to make it very easy to figure out what to do and just wanted to tell you what some of the changes are. First of all, one of the most notable is that we require an email now from participants and there were a variety of reasons for that be we think it's a good way for both us to get back to the participants and also for the Department staff to get back to the participants which they indicated they want. The main thing people want to do is either send an observation which you can do for any park in the city and some of them not Recreation and Park parks, they're whatever parks we could get in the system we could put in, and you can make special reports. In terms of sending an observation you won't really be able to see this but the blank line is a very easy way for you to figure out what park, actually before this page there's a Google map, so if you don't even have a clue the name of the park, wherever you are in the city, you can just hit a bubble on the map and it will take you to that park. But if you put in a park and here it shows a map of the park and a big change--and I must say I really pushed this, I have a big park and when I take the time to go around and make my park scans and I want to file a report I didn't want to do one report for every observation. So now you see there's a red button, that's my first report I make up at the Children's Playground and then I do my second one, and you keep doing reports, and you write down in the bottom in the square what your comments are about your particular observations. So you can do all of your observations regardless of feature all at once now when you take the time to go to your park. So that's especially helpfully in any park but especially the bigger parks. So I wanted to show you how you actually make an observation search. You probably can't read any of this but one of the things we did was condense categories and that makes a big difference because it's pretty easy to see if it's trees or graffiti or whatever you want and when you go to make a search of the results you can either search by the park or you can search by the feature. Let's say you want to have all the graffiti citywide you can have that. If you want all the graffiti just in your park, Buena Vista, you can get that. And you can drill down and get all this information in whatever format you want. We also make it by districts even though Recreation and Park doesn't use those districts but elected officials are very interested in what's in their district. So if they want to see all the graffiti in district 3 they can get that. We have behind the scenes in the backend of this the NSA districts and we've looped that for the Recreation and Park staff but the public doesn't know what the NSA districts are, they only know the supervisorial ones. So this is a streamlined function and we think it makes it pretty easy to use Park Scan now.

Along the same lines of evolution the Department told us once 311 came in they didn't want to be getting source from two streams of data, they just wanted to get the 311 data. Nancy El Faro in the 311 shop have really been great in working with us and generally working with the community. They already have a relationship with the Bike Coalition as well. We work together very closely so now all these Park Scan reports are actually linked on the backend to 311. 311 sends them in the way that they

normally send them to Recreation and Park and we still send to NSA managers anything that comes through Park Scan our way and they can respond to those or not. Now why do that? Because some of the NSA managers are actually people oriented and they want to be in touch directly with people who have commented on things in the park under their supervision, so they actually want to know who sent them and be able to respond. So it can work both ways. We're actually very happy with 311, this just started on May 1<sup>st</sup>, but what we're happy about is we have the clout of the Mayor's office behind us in getting these reports closed out so from the public's perspective it's really, really good. So what is the added value of Park Scan? Well, the added value is the reporting function and the transparency. Once it's closed out of 311 that's the end of it, you don't see it anymore. Normally, if you're just tracking on 311 you only see your observation, you don't see anything else about other observations for your parks, other observations in the city, so for those of our park advocacy community they're really active about using the data to improve the park and their own stewardship group and to lobby and to help the city retain gardeners, they can go and show look we had all this graffiti last year. If we don't have these painters our parks are going to be horrible.

I think you all got the Park Scan annual report. That's I think one of the big plusses and added values of our Park Scan system. I think Jared the General Manager and the previous General Manager has used our data to make the case at budget hearing time about what is needed and it's things that in the past weren't so obvious. You know there's graffiti in the park, you know there's garbage in the park. And you know that sometimes there's a lot of other capital related projects that you have to be able to make a case for too. So we think that this report is useful for the Department. We certainly use it. All the Board of Supervisors we give them a report, we take them on a walk every year, we notify them on the phone whenever there's something special in their district so we think it's been very useful in that regard because all of this ultimately is how do we keep up our parks.

There's a few other things I wanted to mention that are linked with this. For us the other aspect of Park Scan that's important is it's gotten people involved and engaged in their park. They get sometimes then further involved and join a park group or even make a park group. This is what it's all about in the long run, we have to have people feeling ownership of these spaces and ideally participating as volunteers. To make that happen there's certain features that would improve park maintenance. One of them would be having an information kiosk in every park. NPC has promoted this for some time. We've installed a few thanks to the Mayor's challenge fund. We've been able to put 6 of them in now but it really should be a standard feature of any capital project beyond a certain size because people want to post the information if they're having a work day in the park or if they're having pug day in the park. This is how you build communities and this is how you keep your parks in better shape. There's an adage now in the maintenance work of good users drive out bad use and that's why we want to get all the users in the parks, that's what Park Scan is all about. The last but not least thing is that we're about to launch next Monday Park Scan in Portland, Oregon. So San Francisco is on the ground floor but we hope to be taking this to a number of other cities in America and we hope that doing that will pay for a person in San Francisco and some additional outreach because we'd like to be advertising, I think that would drive more use. We don't have that kind of a budget right now. I'm happy to answer questions about this program.

**Commissioner Lazarus:** I have one question. I was under the impression that obviously you get this information into the Department, a trashcan is overflowing or there's graffiti on something but I look through the report and I gather an item is closed when it gets moved over to our work order system.

**Isabel Wade:** No.

**Commissioner Lazarus:** I saw a lot of examples in here. District 1, slide is very corroded at joints, may soon wear all the way through to the slide bed. Status closed. Long standing problem has been inspected and added to work order system. That may be 5 years before that slide is true.

**Isabel Wade:** That's true. That's one of the things we've gone back and forth about, trying to get a different response when things can't be addressed, usually they're capital projects. From the public's perspective anyway we don't consider it closed until it gets fixed but Recreation and Park staff are the ones who decide whether something is closed or not. One of the advantages of 311, and I think Recreation and Park will be changing it's designations because of that, people can keep calling back and 311 will keep on a Department if there's no satisfaction from their customers. So we have to have a pending status and that's what we've been recommending because capital projects are a long-term effort and you can't close a lot of them until you have the money. But nothing else is closed theoretically until the work is done.

**Commissioner Lazarus:** Another one here was a lawn that someone had driven on. It said closed, thank you. Does that mean the lawn was resodded or on the list to be resodded some time?

**Isabel Wade:** Or that the gardener didn't think it was relevant and just blew it off. We can't control the responses of the staff and the way we hear about it is if the person who scanned it is mad about that response and says look the big rut is still there, we'll get it again. But this time we get a phone call and then we'll call up the NSA manager and says what gives. Which by the way is something else 311 doesn't do.

**Commissioner Sullivan:** This is probably obvious to a lot of people in the room but can you just keep me through from the moment I sent an email through Park Scan, what human being gets it and how does that get conveyed to a person on staff to do something and how does it come back.

**Isabel Wade:** That's a great question. So for Park Scan it comes to us electronically and is electronically transferred now to

311. It used to be just going directly to Recreation and Park when they told us to send the related observation. So an email now goes from us to 311. A 311 staff person enters the details of the observation into the 311 system and they generate a case number and we also have a case number and then they notify the appropriate city agency. That's a speed up of the past because in the past Recreation and Park had to say oh, it's not us it's DPW or the Art Commission or whatever. This way 311 knows all these things and so they send them appropriately. After it goes into the 311 system the 311 person sends Park Scan an email with the case details. When we get the email from 311 our system automatically processes the email and updates the status of the observation and we know now it's part of the work order system. We add the 311 case ID to ours including the expected time that this is supposed to be fixed and that Recreation and Park has provided to 311. And then the Recreation and Park NSA managers then get their email notifications from us as well. So they're either seeing that, want to respond to it, or want to wait until 311 gets there. They can add their own responses to the 311 system like this is a capital project or this we're taking care of right away or whatever. The Park Scan users who are emailed as soon as anything is done either by 311 or if the NSA manager has responded and then when the observation has been completely addressed it will be closed within the 311 system and then in turn on a periodic basis are updating the park system. So next year the annual report will have all the data from 311 and Park Scan that has come through for the entire year. So you all will have a complete record of all public commentary on parks that will come in through both avenues.

**Commissioner Sullivan:** Thank you, that's really helpful.

**Nancy Wuerfel:** I just have one question that I'd like to put out that isn't going to be answered today but I'd like to the relationship of Park Scan to the improved survey from the Controller's office for the parks, things have improved. So I'd like to suggest that there should be some causal relationship as assessed that if this is positively influencing work at Recreation and Park and therefore the Controller's office goes out and does it's audit and they recognize themselves that they see the results of better performance by Recreation and Park employees can we make a cause and effect so that we can at least give credit where credit is due and recognize how that influences the work in the Structural maintenance division, the gardening division, the NSA supervision. How does this work in terms of a collaborative arrangement to better the parks vis-à-vis the impartiality of the Controller's office. Thanks.

**Linda D'Avirro:** I just wanted to first of all thank Commissioner Martin for attending a meeting and I wanted you to know that we were very fortunate to have our Supervisor Avalos hold a meeting for the McLaren Park, Crocker-Amazon, Herz and all those, the second largest park in the city, and thanks to the community's input John convened the meeting and it was very well-attended, it was packed to the gills with about 70-plus people and 15 different entities that have interest in that park and all of the things going on from anything from bike trails to natural areas to trying to put entertainment in the Jerry Garcia Amphitheater. I just want again to thank you and invite you to the future meetings which John has promised to hold. I'm sure you know this but McLaren Park resides in three different supervisorial districts, so he chaired it and we had representatives from both districts 9 and 10. And the result of that Larry just so you know is that I've gotten a lot of phone calls and emails saying that they very much appreciated having the attention paid to this part of town and I think it very well demonstrates that for years we've been underserved and something like this having a Commissioner come to a meeting was very, very special and welcomed and hopefully you got something out of it or at least you saw a lot of issues that we have to work with with the parks, but I did want to thank you.

**Commissioner Martin:** I enjoyed it.

#### COMMISSIONERS' MATTERS

**Commissioner Lazarus:** we have no further meetings scheduled in May.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The Special meeting of the Recreation and Park Commission was adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margaret A. McArthur  
Commission Liaison



Anmarie Mabbutt  
<tenniselement@yahoo.com>

11/23/2009 09:08 PM

To SOTF@sfgov.org

cc

bcc

Subject #7 - RECPARK DEFINITION OF RESIDENT FEES -  
COMPLAINT #090717 - 12/1/9 HEARING

Dear SOTF,

As further evidence of the apparent improprieties surrounding the drafting, introduction and passing of Ordinance #090717, please consider the Recreation & Park Department's own stated policy and terms regarding Resident Fees as evidenced in the Recreation & Park staff report by Dr. Terry Schwartz dated May 10, 2007 and the minutes of the Recreation & Park Commission May 17, 2007 meeting.

Here is a direct link to the May 17, 2007 Recreation & Park Commission meeting minutes:

[http://www.parks.sfgov.org/wcm\\_recpark/RPC\\_Minutes/051707.pdf](http://www.parks.sfgov.org/wcm_recpark/RPC_Minutes/051707.pdf)

The definition of Resident Fees is contained in the entries for Resolution #0705-009.

Resident Fees are clearly defined as "intended to be available for individual residents for occasional use (not to exceed four hours per month). These fees are not intended to be applicable to leagues or organizations and are only available for booking through the walk-up window."

Thus, as you can see, the application of Resident Fees to private individuals and organizations to conduct for profit youth summer activities for dozens if not hundreds of hours/week is not only improper but is in clear violation of the Recreation & Park Department's own stated policy regarding Resident Fees.

Please include this item in the agenda item packet for Complaint #09070.

Thank you,

Anmarie Mabbutt

**Gavin Newsom, Mayor**  
**Recreation and Park Commission**  
**Minutes**  
**May 17, 2007**

**President Martin** called the regular meeting of the Recreation and Park Commission to order on Thursday, May 17, 2007 at 2:08 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present  
Gloria Bonilla  
Tom Harrison  
David Lee  
Meagan Levitan  
Larry Martin

Absent  
Jim Lazarus

**President Martin** announced that items 10 and 11 were removed from calendar.

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Agunbiade gave an update on the Capital Planning Committee meeting.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

On motion by **Commissioner Levitan** and duly seconded that following resolution was unanimously adopted:

**RES. NO. 0705-005**

**RESOLVED**, That this Commission does approve the minutes from the Special meeting of January 31, 2007.

**GENERAL CALENDAR**

**NOE COURTS PLAYGROUND – AWARD OF CONTRACT**

**Staff Report**

Noe Courts Playground is located at 24<sup>th</sup> and Elizabeth Streets in Noe Valley. In April 2005, the Recreation and Park Commission approved a conceptual plan to renovate the children's play area.

The Recreation and Park Department advertised a bid package for competitive bids. Three bids were received that ranged from \$292,220 to \$338,000. The average bid is \$309,845, which is higher than the engineer's estimate of \$269,098. The apparent lowest responsible bid was submitted by Valetta Construction in the amount of \$292,220.

Valetta Construction is an LBE firm located in San Francisco. It has performed on City sewer projects in the past, and recently as a sub-contractor on the Little Hollywood Phase 1 project. Award of contract is also pending HRC review and approval.

**Source of Funds and Amounts**

General Fund 05/06	\$15,220
General Fund 06/06	\$225,000
General Fund ADA	<u>\$52,000</u>
Total	\$292,220

On motion by **Commissioner Levitan** and duly seconded the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

**RES. NO. 0705-006**

**RESOLVED**, That this Commission does award a construction contract to Valletta Construction in the base bid amount of \$292,220 to renovate the children's play area at Noe Courts Playground.

**GOLDEN GATE PARK – AMENDMENT FOR PERMIT FOR PUSHCARTS**

**Staff Report**

On May 30, 2006, the Commission approved (Resolution 0605-005) awarding a permit for the operation of pushcart vending in Golden Gate Park to Loyals, Inc. Since beginning operations in July 2006 Loyals, Inc. has operated pushcarts at all four permitted locations in Golden Gate Park. One of the permitted locations, the Big Rec Ballfield location, has unfortunately proven to produce insufficient foot traffic to sustain pushcart food vending.

**Proposal:**

The Permittee desires to modify the permit to exchange the Big Rec Ballfield location for an alternate location in the Ocean Beach parking lot between Fulton Street and John F Kennedy Drive. Staff is recommending substituting the location in the Ocean Beach parking lot between Fulton Street and John F Kennedy Drive for Big Rec Ballfield location effective May 1, 2007.

This amendment will also serve to discourage unauthorized food vendors from coming into that location of the parking lot at Ocean Beach.

**Financial Impact/Source of Funds:**

The current Monthly Guarantee will not be reduced as a result of this amendment. The annual revenue received from Happy Belly under their current Permit is \$94,000.

**Pros:** By relocating to Ocean Beach the public in that area will be better served. The additional foot traffic will also give Permittee the opportunity to generate increased revenue from the new location to be able to maintain the rental payment schedule.

**Cons:** None at this time.

On motion by **Commissioner Harrison** and duly seconded the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

**RES. NO. 0705-007**

**RESOLVED**, That this Commission does approve the First Amendment to the existing Permit for Pushcarts in Golden Gate Park to change one Site Location from the Big Rec Ballfield (in Golden Gate Park), to the Great Highway between Fulton Street and John F. Kennedy Drive.

**RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT – FACILITY USE FEE STRUCTURE AND SFREC ONLINE (CLASS) ADMINISTRATIVE FEES**

**Staff Report**

As the Recreation and Park Department (RPD) implements the sfRecOnline (Class) system, it has identified several changes to department business practices to improve efficiency and maximize the effectiveness of Class. Among these changes are revisions to the department's fee structure.

The Department's current fee structure for wedding sites and recreation facilities is not compatible with the sfRecOnline (Class) system. Under the existing structure the hourly rate changes after the second hour of rental. The internal logic of Class requires, among other things, that the hourly rate be consistent. The proposed changes are designed to make the fees more rational and workable in Class. The proposal also includes a slight increase to the rental rates which were last raised in 2003.

In addition to modifying the facility rental fee structure, staff proposes the creation of several fees to facilitate administration of the sfRecOnline system. The fees, which will include charges for actions such as



withdrawal from a program and cancellation of a facility reservation, are designed to capture administrative costs and make the department's business run more smoothly.

**Proposal**

**Wedding Sites**

The Department divides its wedding sites into two groups depending on capacity and desirability. Staff proposes to change the fee structure from one in which the first two hours cost one rate and the succeeding hours cost another rate. The new structure would include both a mandatory reservation fee and a standard hourly rate. All sites require a two hour minimum reservation. Fees would be increased by either 10 or 20 percent, depending on the site. Fees for wedding sites were last increased in spring of 2003. The following table illustrates the new fee structure for each of the department's eight wedding sites.

Weddings Site	Proposed Fees			Current	
	Reservation Fee	Hourly Rate	Total Fee	Fee	% Increase
Chain of Lakes (Middle Lake)	200	50	300	250	20%
Fuschia Garden	200	50	300	250	20%
Portals of the Past/Lloyd's Lake	200	50	300	250	20%
Rose Garden	200	50	300	250	20%
Chinese Pavilion	350	100	550	500	10%
Queen Wilhelmina Garden	350	100	550	500	10%
Shakespeare Garden	350	100	550	500	10%
Palace of Fine Arts Rotunda	350	100	550	500	10%
All sites have a two hour minimum rental					

**Recreation Facilities**

Recreation facility rental rates differ depending on the type of facility. The Trocadero Clubhouse at Stern Grove is a premiere site, as are the newly renovated clubhouses at Julius Kahn and West Portal playgrounds. Staff proposes to change the recreation facility rental fee structure to mirror the proposed structure for weddings. All sites would have a mandatory reservation fee with a standard hourly rate and a minimum rental period. Fees would be increased between 12 and 18 percent depending on the facility. Fees for recreation facility rentals were last increased in spring 2003. The following table illustrates the new fee structure for recreation facilities.

Recreation Facilities	Proposed Fees		Reservation			Current	
	Fee	Hourly Rate	Total Fee	Fee	% Increase		
Stern Grove (Trocadero)							
Monday - Thursday	40	110	700	600	17%		
Friday - Sunday	150	115	840	750	12%		
Legal Holidays	150	115	840	750	12%		
Six hour minimum rental							
Julius Kahn Clubhouse	15	65	145	125	16%		

West Portal Clubhouse	15	65	145	125	16%
Two hour minimum rental					
Class A Recreation Center	5	40	85	75	13%
Class B Large Clubhouse	5	30	65	55	18%
Class C Small Clubhouse	5	20	45	40	13%
Two hour minimum rental					

**sfRecOnline (Class) Administrative Fees**

Efficient implementation of the sfRecOnline system requires the creation of several administrative fees. These fees are designed to capture administrative costs, drive customer behavior and encourage smoother business processes. Implementation of administrative fees is unlikely to generate any significant revenue due to the relatively small amount being charged and the relative infrequency of their use.

Refund processing fee: \$10 or 20% of the fee, whichever is greater. This fee would apply whenever a customer requests a refund. The fee captures a portion of the administrative time associated with processing a refund. It also encourages customers to leave a credit within the sfRecOnline system to apply to another program at a later date.

Program withdrawal/cancellation processing fee: \$10 or 20% of the fee, whichever is greater. This fee would apply whenever a customer wishes withdraw from a program. It will capture a portion of the administrative time needed to make changes to program enrollment. Additionally the fee discourages customers from enrolling in multiple overlapping programs and withdrawing just prior to the start of the programs.

Facility Use Cancellation fee: \$20 or 20% of the rental fee, whichever is higher. This fee would apply to cancellation of facility rental reservations. The fee would help to capture revenue lost when potential customers have been turned away when a site is booked but then cancelled.

**Pros:**

These changes to the Department’s fee structure will allow the department to run a more efficient business renting its facilities and maximize the potential of the sfRecOnline system. In addition the enhanced fee structure is expected to generate between \$50,000 and \$100,000 in additional revenue for the department in the next fiscal year.

**Cons:**

Slightly increased fees may result in a reduction in facility rentals.

Chloe Good commended the Department on changing the fees and supported the reasonable increase. She also stated that in the future Neighborhood Parks Council would recommend a bit more outreach to the community.

On motion by **Commissioner Levitan** and duly seconded the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

**RES. NO. 0705-008**

**RESOLVED**, That this Commission does approve changes to the facility use fee structure for wedding venues, recreation centers and clubhouses as well as discussion and possible action to add new administrative fees for the sfRecOnline system.

**RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT- ATHLETIC FIELD USE POLICIES AND FEES  
Staff Report**

With the implementation of CLASS recreation management software, the Department has undertaken a redesign of the permit and reservation system used to manage the allocation of athletic fields to users. As a part of this process it was imperative for the staff to conduct a study of the current use of City managed fields. The study analyzed the existing supply of the fields and the subsequent demand from users.

A combination of the CLASS implementation and the results of the field use study require the need to change the existing field use process. This Agenda Item addresses some of those policies that are needed to standardize the use and distribution of the fields and to clarify the fees that are to be administered when individuals, groups and organizations rent these athletic facilities.

Issues that are important to users are:

To have a level of confidence that the fields that are rented are administered in a fashion that is transparent to the users. To feel that when they secure a contract for the use of a field, they have the confidence that the field will be in suitable condition and properly prepared for their activity.

To have a clear understanding of the costs to reserve the athletic facilities managed by the city Permits and Reservations Division. (The last time fees were altered was the fall of 2005)

Field Use Transparency

Exhibit A reflects the current fee schedule for the department. You will note the complexity of the options as you review the exhibit. With this schedule the consumer has no idea what the costs will be when they submit their reservation interests. In addition, the current structure is cumbersome.

**Exhibit A**

Hourly Rates for Fees	RESIDENTS	NON-RESIDENTS	PROFIT BUSINESS
<b>SINGLE USE RESERVATION</b>			
SOFTBALL LIGHTED (1.5 hours)	\$35.00	\$65.00	\$85.00
SOFTBALL NON-LIGHTED (1.5 hours)	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$70.00
BB/GS LIGHTED (2 hours)	\$50.00	\$70.00	\$90.00
BB/GS NON-LIGHTED (2 hours)	\$40.00	\$60.00	\$80.00
BB/GS LIGHTED (3 hours)	\$75.00	\$85.00	\$95.00
BB/GS NON-LIGHTED (3 hours)	\$65.00	\$75.00	\$85.00
TWILIGHT (April - September)	\$30.00	\$40.00	\$80.00
<b>MULTIPLE USE RESERVATIONS</b>			
SOFTBALL LIGHTED (1.5 hours)	\$40.00	\$70.00	\$100.00
SOFTBALL NON-LIGHTED (1.5 hours)	\$28.00	\$55.00	\$90.00
BB/GS LIGHTED (2 hours)	\$55.00	\$75.00	\$120.00
BB/GS NON-LIGHTED (2 hours)	\$45.00	\$65.00	\$110.00
BB/GS LIGHTED (3 hours)	\$80.00	\$90.00	\$140.00
BB/GS NON-LIGHTED (3 hours)	\$70.00	\$80.00	\$130.00
<b>WINTER RESERVATIONS (November -March)</b>			
LIGHTED - SINGLE (1 hour)	\$25.00	\$30.00	\$70.00
INDIRECT LIGHT - SINGLE (1 hour)	\$20.00	\$25.00	\$40.00
LIGHTED - MULTIPLE (per hour)	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$75.00
INDIRECT LIGHT - MULTIPLE (per hour)	\$25.00	\$30.00	\$45.00
<b>THE FOLLOWING ASSOCIATED FEES APPLY TO RESIDENTS, NON-RESIDENTS &amp; PROFIT BUSINESS</b>			
EXCLUSIVE USE	\$45.00		
WEEKEND EVENING - After 5:00PM (3 hour minimum)	\$80.00 + Staff		

SOFTBALL/BASEBALL LINES	\$20.00		
BASE LINES AND BATTERS BOX	\$40.00		
SOCCER/LACROSSE/RUGBY/FOOTBALL #1	\$80.00		
GAELIC FOOTBALL (Twice the size of soccer)	\$160.00		
FOOTBALL #2 (Every 5 yards)	\$120.00		
SCHEDULING FEE (Over 25 reservations)	\$10.00		
ENVIRONMENTAL FEE (Applied to leagues weekly)	\$100.00		

Exhibit B reflects that our current structure (Exhibit A) ranges from \$16.70 per hour to \$66.70 per hour with a variety of ranges in between. For instance the cost of renting a soccer field for 2 hours versus 3 hours for a resident is \$20 per hour increasing to \$21.70 per hour but the cost for a For Profit enterprise reduces from \$40 to \$28 per hour. In addition there are a variety of fees that users find confusing.

**Exhibit B**

Current Scenarios	Current Unit	Price Current Structure			Cost Per Hour		
		In Hours	Resident	Non Res	Profit	Resident	Non Res
Softball Non-Lighted	1.5	\$25	\$50	\$70	\$ 16.67	\$ 33.33	\$ 46.67
Softball Lighted	1.5	\$35	\$65	\$85	\$ 23.33	\$ 43.33	\$ 56.67
BB/GS Non-Lighted	2	\$40	\$60	\$80	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00
BB/GS Lighted	2	\$50	\$70	\$90	\$ 25.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00
BB/GS Non-Lighted	3	\$65	\$75	\$85	\$ 21.67	\$ 25.00	\$ 28.33
BB/GS Lighted	3	\$75	\$85	\$95	\$ 25.00	\$ 28.33	\$ 31.67

Current Scenarios	Current Unit	Price Current Structure			Cost Per Hour		
		In Hours	Resident	Non Res	Profit	Resident	Non Res
Multiple Use Reservation	In Hours	Resident	Non Res	Profit	Resident	Non Res	Profit
Softball Non-Lighted	1.5	\$28	\$55	\$90	\$ 18.70	\$ 36.67	\$ 60.00
Softball Lighted	1.5	\$40	\$70	\$100	\$ 26.67	\$ 46.67	\$ 66.67
BB/GS Non-Lighted	2	\$45	\$65	\$110	\$ 22.50	\$ 32.50	\$ 55.00
BB/GS Lighted	2	\$55	\$75	\$120	\$ 27.50	\$ 37.50	\$ 60.00
BB/GS Non-Lighted	3	\$70	\$80	\$130	\$ 23.33	\$ 26.67	\$ 43.33
BB/GS Lighted	3	\$80	\$90	\$140	\$ 26.67	\$ 30.00	\$ 46.67

The intent of the proposed new schedule is to make the process simple enough so that a person who wants to rent the outdoor athletic facilities can go to the categories that apply to them, determine fees based on a simplified schedule. It is also designed to improve fee consistency.

**Field Suitability**

One element of frustration field users have is the inconsistency of the field conditions when they are given a permit. When we allocate fields, we need to create a funding stream to ensure a field will be in good condition. Field condition can be separated into two considerations; proper seasonal conditioning and game day preparation.

Field conditioning is a cost that is incurred by the City and would cover the general care and maintenance of the field prior to the beginning of the season. These preparations might include gopher remediation, the repair of ruts and holes in the turf resulting from the gopher population, annual aeration and seeding, turf replacement and backfilling cinder on the infield of softball and baseball fields. These practices have not kept pace with the increase in field use given the shortage of gardener staff. Increasing the number of gardeners who work in these areas to improve the condition of our fields is highly desirable.

Field preparation costs are associated with the appearance of the fields on the day of the game. Many times permit users elect to have the fields marked for the games. The revenues to support these costs are to be generated from the permit holder if they elect to have the service completed. In the ideal world, the employee costs to complete these cosmetic and game day services are recovered from these fees. This is a line of

business that can be capitalized on if the department can ensure high quality and consistency when completing the work. This would play a significant role when increasing our credibility among users.

**Exhibit C**

		Current Price New Structure	New Fees	Change
Facility Fees	Unit			
Resident	Per Hour	\$20	\$25	\$5
Non Resident	Per Hour	\$30	\$65	\$35
Non Profit	Per Hour	\$20	\$25	\$5
Profit	Per Hour	\$50	\$65	\$15
Extra Fees/Additional Charges				
Multiple Use/Hour (after 1sthr)	Per Hour	\$5	\$0	-\$5
Lighted	Per Hour	\$5	\$10	\$5
Exclusive User/Booking/Tournamants/leagues	Per Day	\$45	\$45	\$0
Off Hours (After 5 Weekend)	Per Hour	Staff/ \$50 + \$80/ booking	Staff / \$50 + \$80/ booking	Staff/ \$50 + \$80/ booking
Base Lines Softball/Baseball	Per Booking	\$20/60	\$60	\$40/0
Soccer/Lacro/Rugby/Football	Per Booking	\$80	\$120	\$40
Gaelic Football	Per Booking	\$160	\$180	\$20
Football (5 Yards)	Per Booking	\$120	\$160	\$40

Exhibit C represents the rates that are recommended for the Fiscal Year 2007/2008. The first column labeled Current Price New Structure reflects the need in Class to have a single hourly rate structure and a melding of the current rates to as closely as possible match existing rates. The New Fees reflects changes to this New Structure. The essential recommendations of the New Fees are:

- To eliminate the Multiple Use Fee, Environmental Fee and Scheduling Fee
- To offset the elimination of the multiple use and Environmental Fee by raising fees for Residents and Non-Profits by \$5
- To increase fee for Non-Resident to same fee paid as the For Profit
- To apply the Exclusive Use fee to tournaments and weekend leagues as a one time per day charge for the exclusive use of the fields
- To increase fees for lights to \$10 per hour

Exhibit D illustrates the percentage each of these groups will experience from the recommended changes.

**Exhibit D**

Single Use	Current Hours	Change Per Hour from Current Fees				% Change from Current Fees			
		Resident	Non Res	NonProfit	Profit	Resident	Non Res	NonProfit	Profit
Softball Non-Lighted	1.5	\$ 8.33	\$ 31.67	\$ 8.33	\$ 18.33	50%	95%	50%	39%
Softball Lighted	1.5	\$ 11.67	\$ 31.67	\$ 11.67	\$ 18.33	50%	73%	50%	32%
BB/GS Non-Lighted	2	\$ 5.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 25.00	25%	117%	25%	63%
BB/GS Lighted	2	\$ 10.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 30.00	40%	114%	40%	67%
BB/GS Non-Lighted	3	\$ 3.33	\$ 40.00	\$ 3.33	\$ 36.67	15%	160%	15%	129%
BB/GS Lighted	3	\$ 10.00	\$ 46.67	\$ 10.00	\$ 43.33	40%	165%	40%	137%

Multiple Use	Current Hours	Change Per Hour from Current Fees				% Change from Current Fees			
		Resident	Non Res	NonProfit	Profit	Resident	Non Res	NonProfit	Profit

Softball Non-Lighted	1.5	\$ 6.33	\$ 28.33	\$ 6.33	\$ 5.00	34%	77%	34%	8%
Softball Lighted	1.5	\$ 8.33	\$ 28.33	\$ 8.33	\$ 8.33	31%	61%	31%	13%
BB/GS Non-Lighted	2	\$ 2.50	\$ 32.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 10.00	11%	100%	11%	18%
BB/GS Lighted	2	\$ 7.50	\$ 37.50	\$ 7.50	\$ 15.00	27%	100%	27%	25%
BB/GS Non-Lighted	3	\$ 1.67	\$ 38.33	\$ 1.67	\$ 21.67	7%	144%	7%	50%
BB/GS Lighted	3	\$ 8.33	\$ 45.00	\$ 8.33	\$ 28.33	31%	150%	31%	61%

BB=Ball Fields  
GS=Ground Sports

While the percentage is an interesting number to review it is important to know that the change is relatively small except for the non-resident groups.

Definition of Renters

One area of continuing confusion has been the lack of definitions for our renters so that it is clearly defined who is eligible for which category of fees. We are asking the Commission to approve the following categories:

- Resident Fees: Resident fees are intended to be available for individual residents for occasional use (not to exceed 4 hours per month). These fees are not intended to be applicable to leagues or organizations and are only available for booking through the walk-up window.
- Not For Profit Fees: Not For Profit fees are available for programs administered by Approved Not For Profit Organizations. These organizations provide organized access to fields for San Francisco residents and are not used to generate income to organizers or sponsors. In order to determine who is eligible for these fees, the Department intends to have groups file applications for approval to ensure that these groups are meeting these requirements (as described below).
- For Profit Fees: For Profit Fees are intended to apply to any renter who is generating income from the use of the field including compensation to organizers, fundraisers or subsidies to other programs.
- Non-Resident Fees: Nonresident fees are intended to apply to any user of fields by nonresidents.
- School Use: SFRP does not charge San Francisco schools for fields used for PE programs during the school days (before 3 pm) or for school leagues for grades 6 and up who use the fields before after school on weekdays.
- Youth Leagues: The Department does not charge ANFP's serving San Francisco youth with after school and weekend programs.
- SFRPD Programs: Programs offered by the Department receive access to fields at no cost.
- Regional, State, National, International Sporting Events: The fee for these events will be determined using the ANFP criteria and must be approved by the Commission.

Approved Not for Profits

The Department seeks approval for authority for the Staff to create an application and approval process to determine if an organization is an Approved Not for Profit.

Definitions of Approved Not For Profits

- Volunteer-based or obtain funding from independent fundraising sources.
- Provide programs priced at or near the direct cost-recovery level to San Francisco residents.
- Department has learned that some organizations run programs that have paid large salaries to sponsors or administrators or generated profits that have been used to fund other organizational operations or to make charitable donations. Approved Not For Profits must demonstrate that they are not using their operations for these purposes or they will have to pay the For Profit Fees.

Application Process - The Staff will finalize the application process but it will include at a minimum:

- Annual application and fee of up to \$250 per year
- Must be 501 c3 or serve fewer than 125 participants

- Must provide financials statements and details of fees and expenses as well as Budget
- Board of Directors certify no officer, director, or administrator is benefiting financially directly or indirectly from this program except as disclosed in detail O Evidence that they are serving San Francisco residents
- Due to field limitations, new ANFP applicants will only be permitted if they are meeting a need not covered by other groups

Approval Conditions - The Staff will finalize the approval conditions but they will focus on two elements:

- Not Generating Income: Organizations must demonstrate that the programs are not generate income to pay salaries to sponsors or coordinators or generating profits that are used to fund other aspects of the organizations' operations or to make charitable donations.
- Who is receiving compensation in connection with the program? Are directors and officers all volunteers? Programs administered or coordinated by paid coaches will be presumed not to meet this standard. Is the program operating at a relative breakeven and what is the program doing with any excess revenues?
- Has the program in the past followed SFRPD requirements including those regarding field clean-up, recognizing rainout closures, returning unused fields in a timely manner?
- Is the program open to all in San Francisco and does it provide scholarships for those who can not afford to pay? Is there a nonbiased method for determining who will participate (first come, first serve, lottery)?

Serving Residents: At least 90% of the participants in each program must be San Francisco residents. If the program also uses fields outside San Francisco in a proportion at least equal to the percentage of non San Francisco residents, the program will be eligible for the not for profit rate.

#### Policy

In concert with these recommended adjustments, we continue to review the policies that are associated with the operations of the Permits and Reservations Division. Some of the policies that we assess and will offer recommendations for in the future include:

20% Rule- This rule was created to prevent the fields from being reserved 100% of the time in any given week. 20% of the available fields in any given week were held back and distributed each Tuesday morning. The intent would be that these fields would be available for individual occasional users. While the rule was a good one in theory, in practice it was abused frequently by organizations that could not get enough fields to conduct their leagues. Every Tuesday morning the league representatives waited in line to attempt to get as many bookings as they needed to conduct their respective league. In addition, it allowed for profit groups to rent at lower rates. We will recommend a reduction in the percentage holdback to improve this condition.

#### Priority Guidelines for Field Allocations

The priority guidelines for how fields are allocated will be refined. The most difficult times for the distribution of fields is between 3:30 and 7:30 on weekdays and weekends in the fall and spring. We will be looking at how the fields will be allocated among several groups including recreation and park programs, an increase in the number of fields that need to be allocated for recreation and park girls programs, public and private schools, youth group leagues, not for profit groups, and private organizations.

#### Tightening of Schedules

There needs to be guidelines as to when people are scheduling their programs to comply more closely with the recreation and park department seasonal schedule (4-13 week program cycles).

#### Punitive Measures

There are a number of individuals who are openly ignoring the policies of the reservation system. Measures will need to be determined to discipline individuals and organizations that attempt to circumvent or ignore the established policies for field reservations.

#### Monitoring Use

We need to establish a system that monitors the use of facilities and the revenues that are generated by revenue type. We also need to set up the system for the no pays (schools, youths etc), no one can be a no pay unless they are in the system as an approved no pay. Then at the end of the year you could look at the total subsidy to that group. In addition, we want to ensure that fields that are reserved are actually utilized. For the no pay group, there is currently no incentive to return unused fields.

**Financial Impact:** It is unknown what the financial impact of these recommendations will be in relationship with previous operations. One purpose of the CLASS software is to provide the Department with a tool that will allow us to begin to measure the results of these decisions. In the future we will be able to provide detailed financial history of each revenue line that is used to collect fees.

**Pros:**

- The fee schedule is proposed to simplify and clarify the fees that are charged to permit holders for the use of the fields.
- The policies that are under consideration will help to standardize the administration of the use of the fields.
- Fees have not been increased for two years. This schedule is intended to keep up with the cost of operations and improve field operations.

**Cons:**

- Fee increases and policy changes may promote users who use our facilities to object to these changes and may cause push back.
- The new system will have the potential to influence some users in a negative way.

Chloe Good stated that the Neighborhood Parks Council was impressed with the thoughtful, sophisticated and transparent product, the process that this product has undergone and that they were looking forward to seeing the results in two years.

On motion by **Commissioner Harrison** and duly seconded, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

**RES. NO. 0705-009**

**RESOLVED**, That this Commission does: 1) approve the Athletic Field Use Policies and 2) recommend that the Board of Supervisors approves changes to the Athletic Field Fees for the administration of the use of the athletic fields managed by the Recreation and Park Department.

**RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT – ARTICLE 12 – FEES OF THE PARK CODE  
Staff Report**

RPD currently has over 440 different types of fees including program fees. Annually the Recreation and Park Department (RPD) considers modifications to the Park Code Article 12, FEES to update the Code to incorporate changes to existing fees and to consider addition of new fees. Proposed fee changes are reviewed by the Recreation and Park Commission and recommended to the Board of Supervisors for consideration within the context of the RPD budget.

Under the current business model, the Department's planned expansion of programming will increase the number and variety of program fees and would add additional complexity to the current fee structure, in addition, new recreation programs will be created throughout the course of the fiscal year in response to residents' changing demand for new programs that may require associated program fees. The current policy and annual program fee approval process significantly reduces program planning and development flexibility; hinders RPD responsiveness to changing trends and residents' demands; and is inconsistent with current industry practices.

The 2006 Management Audit conducted by the Board of Supervisors Budget Analyst validated recommendations of the 2004 Recreation Assessment and recommended RPD review, simplify, consolidate and standardize the Department's fee structure. The Audit also recommended standardizing existing program content and increasing the number and variety of program offerings to meet the needs of the City's population.



The Recreation Assessment also found that the pricing of recreation services needed to be done with more consistency and legibility and recommended that recreation programs be priced based on the cost of services and a subsidy considered appropriate for the program based on the level of benefit received and community values supported.

Expanding priorities for limited City financial resources and increasing operation costs necessitate that RPD consider generating program revenues to offset program expenses, increase program quality and potential reductions in General Fund support. General Fund support for the RPD recreation programs has decreased for five fiscal years resulting in a 10% reduction in recreation staff; over 20% budget reduction for program related materials and services to support program effort; and an overall net reduction in program offerings.

Currently Neighborhood Service Area budgets for recreation supplies and program related contractual services average between \$12,000 and \$15,000 per year and total only \$100,000 to \$120,000 annually for the Neighborhood Services Division. There are over 130 recreation program staff in the Neighborhood Services Division. On the average, each staff member has a program budget of less than \$1,000 annually for up to 1,560 contact hours of programming. This amounts to less than \$0.65 per contact hour for program expenses. Clearly this funding level can be a significant deterrent to program quality and content.

RPD currently charges for some specialty programs such as Latch Key and Tiny-Tots at neighborhood facilities and for intermediate/advanced and advance programs offered at citywide facilities like the Randall Museum and Sharon Art Studios. RPD can increase program revenues and enhance program quality by expanding the number and variety of program opportunities and by charging activity fees on new programs.

The Recreation and Park Department (RPD) is proposing revisions to subsections of Article 12, of the Park Code, to be applied to future new programs to support improvements to the quality, consistency and variety of existing recreation programming. The proposal would create a new simple single program fee structure that could eventually be used for recreation programs department-wide.

This strategy involves recovering a portion of the direct program expenses through activity fees charged program participants. Activity fees could be charged for new intermediate, advanced/intermediate and advanced programs consistent with general public agency standards and industry program practices. No fees are recommended for existing free beginning and intermediate programs. The adopted Departmental Scholarship Program would defray 50% of program fees for eligible participants. The change would be implemented effective September 2007, in concert with full implementation of CLASS program registration which would include an expanded catalog of new programs currently under development.

#### Proposed Fee Structure

Newly developed programming standards will require Recreation Directors to provide an average six (6) contact program hours of every eight (8) hour day (equals 30 program hours per week). Under this proposal, each Recreation Director will be developing new beginning, intermediate, advanced / intermediate and/or advanced program levels. Each staff has been directed to create the equivalent of one contact hour per day (five contact hours per week) in fee generating programs within one of the program levels.

Under this proposal each new program would be evaluated for its revenue generating potential based upon direct program costs such as travel, instructional services, materials and supplies, equipment rental identified in the each program proposal. This proposal does not include a component to recover staff wages and benefits which are estimated to comprise 80% or more of program delivery costs.

The development of each new program will require staff preparation of a program proposal which details program content, schedule, and costs. Proposals will be reviewed by the Neighborhood Service Area Manager and the Superintendent. If appropriate, the new program would be approved as a revenue program and a fee would be determined based upon direct costs. The program would be assigned to a program experience level on a new program fee schedule.

The proposed Program Fee Schedule would have four levels; beginning, intermediate, advanced / intermediate and/or advanced base upon program content. Each fee schedule band will have a range of five (5) price points. Fees will be set at a price-point within the band based upon consideration of program content and duration, direct program costs and fees for similar programs. A copy of the proposed Program Fee Schedule is attached as Exhibit A.

The Program Fee Schedule would be defined in Section 12 of the Park Code and reviewed by the Recreation and Parks Commission and the Board of Supervisors annually, as necessary during the budget process. Program fees will be used to offset reductions in General Fund support and to defray activity expenses for materials, supplies and other services directly associated with the activity.

#### Program Fee Examples

The following are examples of how the Program Fee Schedule would be used to calculate a program fee:

##### Program A Example

- A new beginning program with a fee set at Beginning Level, Step 3 (\$0.50/contact hour) meeting fifteen (15) hours per week for eight (8) weeks (120 program hours) would result in a total fee of \$60.00 per eight (8) week session for each participant.
- That same program with 12 participants would then generate \$720.00 per session in gross revenue.

##### Program B Example

- A new intermediate program with a fee set at Intermediate Level, Step 1 (\$1.25/contact hour) meeting three (3) hours per week for eight (8) weeks (24 program hours) would result in a total fee of \$30.00 per eight (8) week session for each participant.
- That same program with 12 participants would then generate \$360.00 per session in gross revenue.

##### Program C Example

- A new advanced intermediate program with a fee set at Advanced Intermediate, Step 1 (\$3.00/contact hour) meeting five (5) hours per week for eight (8) weeks (40 program hours) and would result in a total fee of \$120.00 per eight (8) week session per participant.
- Program C with 12 participants would generate \$1440.00 per session in gross revenue.

#### Fiscal Impact

The Department conservatively estimates \$50,000 in new revenue to the General Fund from this proposal in the first year of operation based on approximately 42,000 participant hours created by 131 FTE Recreation Director and Assistant Recreation Director positions.

The impact to participants could be mitigated by the adopted Departmental Scholarship Program which could defray 50% of program fees for eligible participants.

Chloe Good with the Neighborhood Parks Council stated that the proposal reflected analysis and they were encouraged by the fair and equitable fee structure. However, they encouraged more public outreach when the programs were more delineated and specific to gain additional feedback.

On motion by **Commissioner Levitan** and duly seconded, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

#### **RES. NO. 0705-010**

**RESOLVED**, That this Commission does recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopts the revision to Article 12. FEES of the Park Code to restructure the recreation program and activity fees schedule to be enacted with the approval of the Fiscal Year 2007/08 Department budget.

#### **NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS MANAGEMENT PLAN - ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS AWARD OF CONTRACT**

This item was removed from calendar.

#### **WASHINGTON SQUARE**

This item was removed from calendar.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Pat Skein with the Pine Lake Park Neighborhood Association addressed the Commission on his concerns of graffiti and the need for improvements to the Pink Lake Field House. He stated that in a few weeks the

Summer Camp was due to open for the season and the building and grounds were in need of repair. He urged the Commission to find the necessary resources to make immediate improvements. Sally Stevens with S.F. Dog spoke on the proposal to allow parking during the Stern Grove Festival on the Pink Lake Meadow. She also stated that in February the Dog Advisory Committee passed a proposal for time use of dog play areas. She commented that although this was passed in February, timed use was not listed under the New Business/Agenda Setting item on the calendar and asked that timed use be heard before the Commission. Ernestine Weiss listed her concerns with Ferry Park: 1) volleyball players, 2) holes in the broken concrete on Block 202 and 3) amplified sound. Steven Worsley gave some history on Coit Tower and stated it should be a respite for people to come and learn about the great depression. Jim Salinas commended the President of this Commissioner as someone he had a great deal of respect for and thanked him for all of his contributions. He also complimented staff members, Rose Dennis and Sandy Lee and asked the Commission to try wherever possible to meet staff and listen to their issues.

The Commission adjourned into Closed Session at 3:50 p.m.  
The Commission reconvened into Open Session at 4:00 p.m.

On motion by **Commissioner Bonilla** and duly seconded, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:  
**RES.NO. 0705-011**  
**RESOLVED**, That this Commission votes not to disclose any or all discussions held in closed session. (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12 (a)).

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Regular meeting of the Recreation and Park Commission was adjourned in memory of Charles Patrick Shea and Carl Poch at 4:17 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. McArthur  
Commission Liaison

