



PARKS, ARTS, AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Meeting of September 20, 2001
400 University Avenue/ Shoup Park
Los Altos, California 94022

Commissioners Present: Chairperson Casas, Commissioners Roeder, Charlton, Cooper, Toppel, McGee, Lippe

Approval of Minutes: August 15th minutes approved as written.

Special Item: Chairperson Casas recognized Commissioner Mc Gee's resignation from the PARC. Chairperson Casas praised Commissioner Mc Gee for his service on the Commission particularly highlighting Commissioner Mc Gee's service as Chair of the Commission and his efforts on the Hetch Hetchy right of way project.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment presented to the Commission.

Business:

1. **Playground Equipment Replacement Process Update**

Mr. Dave Brees updated the Commission on the playground replacement process for Shoup Park. Mr. Brees reviewed the diagrams of the existing equipment layout for the preschool playground area of the park. He indicated that the purpose of the diagrams were to determine the perimeters for the new play areas. Mr. Brees presented a rendering of the original playground layout detailing the playground and play elements in the park when it first opened. Included in the presentation was a review of the anticipated time-line for the renovation of the playgrounds.

Mr. Brees gave a brief presentation on playground safety standards. He reviewed materials from the consumer Product Safety Commission and the American Society for Testing and Materials. These two organizations are the recognized authorities on playground safety. Mr. Brees explained the safety issues related to the tunnel structure and explained the City Council's direction to staff.

2. **Public Meeting**

Chairperson Casas opened the public meeting and invited members of the public to give input on any general or specific items related to the playground renovations at Shoup Park.

The following are the comments from the public and Commission:

- ## Although the tunnels were great at one time, they need to be removed (6)
- ## The overall beautification of the park be considered as well as the painting of the buildings/bathrooms.
- ## The newly acquired area of the park should be incorporated into the design.
- ## Keep boundaries clear as not to intrude on the neighbors.
- ## If a water element is included in the design that it is away from the regular area.
- ## A catch basin for clean up/off of the sand from the water element should be installed near the bathrooms. (2)
- ## That the water area be gated.
- ## Age appropriate play equipment should be in both areas.
- ## The older play area needed more challenging apparatus. (2)
- ## The equipment could be several different pieces.
- ## The natural color should be favored over the bright colors.
- ## The picnic benches should be green.
- ## A fence or barrier should be considered at the creek drop off.
- ## Bicycle racks should be added in the park.
- ## Consider fundraising including the sale of bricks or tiles for an area in the park to help off set the cost of the playground renovations.
- ## A gazebo should be put in the park.

Audience members who spoke:

Kiersten Ligeti- 650 Yerba Buena Pl.
Keith Gutierrez- 482 University Ave
Lois Baer- 55 Pepper Drive
Michael Shorts- 915 Stagi Ct.
Rob Ligeti- 650 Yerba Buena Pl.
Sandy Pakaski- 1623 Corte Via

After Chairperson Casas closed the Public Meeting, Commission discussion followed. The Commissioner's comments are summarized below:

Commissioner Toppel was interested in fundraising for the park and the ideas associated with this.
Commissioner Roeder expressed concern with the water play area noted it should be separated or set apart from the playground area
Commissioner Cooper would also like a clean up area near the restrooms.
Commissioner Lippe reminded the commission about the butterfly garden request.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm

Dave Brees, Recreation Director
Liaison to the Parks, Art and Recreation Commission