

MINUTES
RANCHO SIMI RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT
OAK-PARK RECREATION AND PARK PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
OAK PARK COMMUNITY CENTER & GARDENS
1000 N. KANAN ROAD, OAK PARK, CA 91377
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2013
7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

ITEM

- I. CALL TO ORDER/
INTRODUCTIONS The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm

Committee Members

Present: Wendy Bani, Michael Green, Derek Ross, Michael Sklar, Chad Skopp,

Others Present: District Board Member Mark Johnson
District staff members Doug Gale, Eugene Molnar,
Wayne Nakaoka and Renee Peace, Larry Peterson

Guests Present: Sylvie Belmond, Susanne Coie, Peter Coopersmith,
Harry Medved

Action: Vice Chair Chad Skopp made a motion to move Item E after Item F, Committee Member and MAC Representative Michael Green seconded the motion, motion carried.

- II. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Resident of Oak Park Harry Medved addressed improper placement of a trail sign at Medea Creek on Oak Hills Drive and Kanan. He suggested establishing the trail leading up to the brush clearance or constructing a bridge over the creek section to lead to the trail. In addition, Mr. Medved suggesting changing the name of Medea Park to Medea Natural Park due to

the fact that the park lacks playground equipment. Finally, Mr. Medved asked for Rancho Simi's assistance in campaigning with the Municipal Advisory Committee (MAC) to add crosswalks through the Medea Creek bike path, specifically on Conifer. After discussion it was determined to add discussion of this to a meeting agenda.

Action: Vice Chair Skopp made a motion to add a discussion of this item to a future agenda, Committee Member Sklar seconded the motion. Motion carried.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Meeting of July 11, 2013

ACTION: Vice Chair Skopp moved to approve the Minutes from the July 11 2013, meeting; Chair Ross seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IV. CONTINUED BUSINESS

NONE

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Report on Planning and Development Issues in Oak Park

Director of Planning and Acting Director of Maintenance Wayne Nakaoka presented his written report on the Park District sign installation and replacement program. Staff identified nine proposed installation sites. Of the nine proposed, staff recommended that signs be installed at locations 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 9. After discussion, the committee voted to omit site 5 and add site 7. Staff reported signs will be installed sometime in December.

ACTION: Committee Member Green made a motion to approve signs at locations 1,2,3,6,7 and 9, Committee Member Michael Sklar seconded the motion. Motion carried.

District Manger Peterson indicated he would not place his recommendation to dissolve the Committee onto a board meeting agenda without first placing a discussion of it onto a MAC agenda, and also placing notice of a public hearing on the subject in the local paper, and stated that he is open to any suggestions to improve the efficiency of the Committee's operation.

E. Review and Discussion Regarding an Extension of the Committee Member Term Length From Two Years to Four Years.

ACTION: Committee Member Sklar made a motion to table discussion to a future meeting. Committee Member Green seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

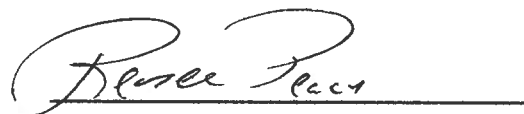
Chair Ross discussed email correspondence with a former preschool parent and requested an update from District staff. District Manager Peterson provided a summary of the circumstances.

VII. ITEMS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Vice Chair Skopp addressed a resident complaint regarding compliance with the County noise ordinance in relation to sports field use in Oak Park. Staff will undertake a review of the circumstances.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Ross declared the meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.



Renee Peace
Recreation Supervisor – Oak Park
(attachment)

Date: October 8, 2013
To: Oak Park Recreation and Park Planning Committee
From: Committee Vice Chair
Subject: Statement Regarding Proposed Dissolution of Oak Park Recreation and Park Planning Committee (The "Oak Park Committee")

As indicated in the operation guidelines for Oak Park's Park and Recreation Planning Committee, the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) and Oak Park Civic Association requested that the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District (RSRPD) Board create the "Oak Park Committee." The Board then established the Committee in 1976, not only to provide input into park construction matters, but also to advise RSRPD's Board "of local concerns related to park and recreation activities within the Oak Park area," presumably on an ongoing basis. This is a vitally-important function. Its value is not undermined by the number of public attendees at this committee's quarterly meetings, despite a recent argument to the contrary. Rather, the Oak Park community delegates to their volunteer committee representatives the task of voicing their concerns, hopes, and interests to the RSRPD Board. In fact, as is evident in tonight's agenda, community members continue to forward matters of concern to this committee. While public participation certainly is appreciated, ultimately, it is the Committee members' attendance, as community representatives, that is relevant to this committee's purpose. And on that point, there have not been any quorum issues during my tenure.

Further, it has been suggested to this committee that its role is unnecessary given that community members may seek to express their concerns to District staff, directly by email or via RSRPD's website, for instance. Despite the best of intentions, there's no guarantee that future District management will be as accessible as the current administration. Fortunately, this committee formalizes regular access to members of District staff and the RSRPD Board; it permits discussion and debate about matters of relevance and concern to our community; and it facilitates the flow of information in both directions. The Committee doesn't just keep District staff apprised of concerns or community goals, but also the *District* keeps Oak Park informed, via the Committee, about activities, projects, and expenditures. As such, this committee serves the people of Oak Park in the important role envisioned by the MAC and Oak Park Civic Association when they successfully requested the RSRPD Board to create it.

Chad Skopp, Ph.D.
Vice Chair
Oak Park Recreation and Park Planning Committee



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October 8, 2013

Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District Board of Directors
c/o Larry Peterson, District Manager
1692 Sycamore Dr.
Simi Valley, CA 93065

Dear Park District Board,

I would like to express my strong preference that you not dissolve the Oak Park Recreation and Park Planning Committee. The Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District is a major resource to thousands of residents in Oak Park who use their parks every day, and the District is deeply appreciated by everyone. The most direct form of representation Oak Park residents have in District decisions is to have their neighbors serving on the elected Oak Park Recreation and Park Planning Committee. I feel that it would be a loss to democracy and Oak Park representation to eliminate their official participation.

Your Board's contributions to the quality of life in Oak Park are much appreciated. I hope the District will choose to preserve the opportunities for public participation offered by the Oak Park Recreation and Park Planning Committee.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this request.

Linda Parks
Supervisor, District 2