

**JOINT MEETING OF  
PARKS, RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION  
SENIOR AFFAIRS COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2009**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

<b>Parks, Recreation &amp; Community Services Commission</b>	<b>Senior Affairs Commission</b>
Chairperson White, Commissioners Joseph-Hover, Lynch, Truscelli, Slusser, Swope, Truscelli, and Wright	Chairperson Kinsella, Commissioners Britschgi, Cooperman, Simon, and Truscelli

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:**

<b>Parks, Recreation &amp; Community Services Commission</b>	<b>Senior Affairs Commission</b>
None	Commissioner Jones

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Lauren Livingston of The Sports Management Group, and other guests

**STAFF PRESENT:** Director Corinne Centeno, Superintendents Chris Beth and Gary Hover, Community Services Manager Bruce Utecht, Administrative Assistant Denise Monroe

The joint meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services and Senior Affairs Commissions was called to order at 7:03pm by Senior Affairs Chairperson Joe Kinsella in Room 1 of the Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Avenue Redwood City, California.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**M/S Swope/Truscelli: To approve the minutes of July 22 meeting as mailed. Motion passed.**

**M/S Wright/Truscelli: To approve the minutes of the August 6 joint Commission meeting as mailed. Motion passed.**

Chairperson Kinsella requested a correction of August 6 joint Commission meeting; on page 2, comment #13, the word "life" should be replaced with "appeal".

**M/S Simon/Cooperman: To approve the minutes of the August 6 joint commission meeting as corrected. Motion passed.**

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None

The following items were taken out of order:

## **ITEM 2 – STAFF UPDATES, BUDGET UPDATE**

Director Centeno spoke about the City's current budget situation and reported the City Manager is currently developing a list of recommended budget reductions that will be considered by the City Council at their September 14 meeting. She explained the State will be "borrowing" \$2.9 million under Proposition 1A and \$900,000 of that total will be reductions to our department. The State may possibly take up to \$4 million from Redevelopment and Superintendent Beth reported that our staff will be discussing the impact of potential cuts with the City's Redevelopment staff. Director Centeno said she will report back the results of the City Council meeting at the September Commission meeting.

## **ITEM 1 – SCOPING STUDY REVIEW OF VETERANS MEMORIAL SENIOR CENTER**

Superintendent Hover spoke about the subcommittee consisting of staff and members of the Senior Affairs Commission who have been researching the possibility of replacing the current Veterans Memorial Senior Center (VMSC) with a state of the art facility. The current facility is over 50 years old and has been well used by the community. He introduced Lauren Livingston of The Sports Management Group who has been working with the subcommittee and has developed a draft scoping study for the project.

Ms. Livingston gave an overview of the project and spoke about the draft vision and goals developed by the subcommittee. She spoke about the inventory of current department facilities and programming on the Red Morton Park campus; preparing a needs assessment; identifying components and square footage needed for a new facility; site context, and the approach for determining outreach process and community demographics.

Ms. Livingston presented a Power Point presentation and discussed the various aspects of a multi-generational facility to replace the current VMSC. She discussed a list of recommendations as well as next steps for the process, and asked the Commissioners for their comments.

1. Wants true senior center component; are social services included?
2. Is it a multi-generational community center with some senior services?
3. Younger generation of seniors does not like "senior"; use another name
4. Like multi-generational concept; less division among ages
5. Love idea of larger aquatics center; current pool meets only specific needs
6. Need work on traffic on Madison Avenue; less impact on neighbors
7. Competition for space if multi-generational facility; will be happy to share
8. Need special area for "honored" citizens
9. Need sufficient space for large group banquets, weddings, etc.
10. Understand different needs for different ages
11. Interim issues for pools and spaces. What programming will continue?
12. Integrate some classes, not all of them
13. Daycare/childcare on site
14. Space for volleyball, basketball
15. Area for pets

16. Not getting multi-generational feeling; need to draw for both youth and old; draw to park/café
17. Factor in that skate park location is close to senior center
18. Shelf Appeal
19. Facility changing; character is not necessarily welcoming for seniors. What are we preserving uniquely for seniors? Preserve and distinguish senior character
20. Concern of seniors – want to be safe and secure
21. Gym – young (spandex) next to old (non-spandex)
22. Preserve programs through the transition
23. Groups emotionally invested in existing building. How do we honor the veterans? How do we bring them in?
24. We have a Nationally Accredited Senior Center; don't want to lose that
25. Multiple buildings – different purposes; need to support people who are not even born yet
26. Challenge not to lose seniors in design, 50-100 age group
27. Facility will need to last 50 years
28. Designate space for NFL
29. Like the idea of combining spaces, like the NFL Building
30. Technology Center; use it in every part of the building and programming; it is an expectation
31. Love new stage and kitchen
32. Parking and circulation is currently an issue
33. Need to consider parking, traffic; not good as it exists today
34. Look at acquiring more adjacent land
35. Underground parking; tennis courts on top of parking, etc. Doesn't want to see big parking structure.
36. Like idea of campus vs. one building, might help parking; like idea of walking between buildings
37. Natural daylight
38. Programming and type of space impact usage
39. "Senior" population is fastest growing
40. Need to grab senior interests
41. Many seniors have trouble getting places; aging seniors, trouble with transportation, frail
42. Multi-generational facility may not grab seniors who might use canes, etc.
43. Don't change such that current users cannot use
44. Don't forget that seniors just want places where they can hang out
45. No mention of spaces – who may have different abilities (Alzheimer's)
46. Like concept and look ahead to boomers
47. Are buildings the answer?
48. RMC is also part of equation; don't duplicate center components
49. How you program determines how it's used
50. Does the City have to provide all services or can it be a broker
51. Old is 20 years older than me
52. Not addressing 80+ struggling seniors; adult day care
53. Create spaces/resource center/more meeting space/core space
54. There are currently 6 clubs at VMSC which have members over 50
55. No mention of need for room for club meetings and activities
56. Programming differences make Center able to serve multi-generational
57. Use space more time requires sufficient space
58. Mixed use requires exclusive entry and spaces

59. Hearing, vision assisted over and above ADA requirements
60. PCC is experiencing similar issues
61. Potential sense of loss – doesn't necessarily appeal to all now
62. Appreciates multi-generational
63. "Senior" age is a state of mind, but it impacts the body too!
64. Wellness center not senior center
65. Challenge to take concerns and fold into document recommendations
66. Use addendums, appendices, summarize it
67. Need summary and word smithing
68. Calling it multi-generational does not mean it's multi-generational
69. Are we trying to promote interaction?
70. Make sure we are addressing the needs of frail seniors
71. Need to be careful at classes at Red Morton Center due to kids running around
72. VMSC felt like "home"; need a place to share with people of same age group
73. Wants "senior" space, wants quality time with seniors
74. Need new building
75. Exclusivity for one group decreases potential use for others
76. "Our seniors deserve better" vs. "Our community deserves the best"
77. On Page 12, Goal: needs to say "provide" in place of "support"
78. Need space seniors have ownership of; peaceful and quiet when desired

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Livingston for her presentation. Superintendent Hover said the comments from this evening would be incorporated into a revised draft scoping study and will be brought back to the Commissioners.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

The joint meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services and Senior Affairs Commissions was adjourned at 9:20pm. The Senior Affairs Commission will reconvene at 1:00pm on Thursday, September 10, 2009 at the Veterans Memorial Senior Center. The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission will reconvene at 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 at the Community Activities Building.