

# **Richmond Recreation & Parks Commission**

## **MINUTES**

**Wednesday, May 4, 2022 5:55 PM (SPECIAL MEETING)**



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### **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Special Meeting called to order by Chair Joey Smith at 6:00 P.M. who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Smith expressed a genuine acknowledgement of the land which was previously and currently occupied and cared for by First Peoples and wanted to affirm that the Commission earnestly and honestly embraces those who came before us and those who are working to ensure our legacies.

### **ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Joey Smith, Soheila Bana, Maryn Hurlbut, Catalin Kaser, Aaron Rowden and Eleanor Thompson

**ABSENT:** Brendan Havenar-Daughton (Excused), Allison Blakeley (Excused)

Chair Smith provided a brief overview of the meeting procedures and the Mission of the Recreation & Parks Commission.

### **AGENDA REVIEW**

Commissioner Hurlbut questioned if the approval of renaming needed to include Field #2, as the Agenda only mentions Field #1. Ranjana Maharaj, Deputy Director for Community Services - Recreation, advised that Field #1 was previously voted and approved by the Commission in October, 2021 and taken to City Council in February, 2022.

Accepting Ms. Maharaj's clarification on the item, Commissioner Hurlbut motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, and carried by a voice vote, the agenda was approved as submitted.

### **OPEN FORUM**

Cordell Hindler, Richmond, stated that he attended the Youth Council Meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup>, and he informed those in attendance of the vacancy on the Recreation and Parks Commission. In addition, Mr. Hindler invited the Commission to attend the Richmond Rotary Club's weekly meetings on Fridays at 12:30 P.M. at the Richmond Country Club for \$25 and cordially invited all to attend the performance of Crowns

the musical at 7:30 P.M. on Friday (5/6) and Saturday (5/7) at the Contra Costa Civic Theatre.

Commissioner Bana informed that she met with Darlene Drapkin of the East Bay Pickleball Association and expressed Ms. Drapkin's frustration on the bureaucracy and disappointment that the process to install Pickleball courts took so long. In addition, she felt that the Commission should be more encouraging and not discouraging of those providing good activities in the community.

### **DISCUSSIONS & ACTION ITEMS**

- a. APPROVE** the renaming of Nicholl Field 1 and the installation of a commemorative kiosk in honor of Willie Mays

Commissioner Hurlbut made a motion to approve the renaming of Nicholl Park Diamond Field #1 and install the walk-of-honor kiosk for Willie Mays, seconded by Commissioner Thompson.

Cordell Hinder spoke of his excitement to honor a legend at Nicholl Park, however voiced his concern over the placement and maintenance of the kiosk. Chair Smith shared that the City Staff and Commission have been working diligently to ensure that the kiosk can be well maintained going forward.

Chair Smith called for a voice vote and the item was approved as submitted. Ms. Maharaj advised that the item would go to City Council on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Christine George  
Executive Secretary