

MEETING DATE: June 22, 2015

AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of a Recommendation from the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission Regarding Allocating One or Two Resource People to Work with Existing Community Groups to Create On-Site and/or Off-Site Garden Sharing Opportunities in Culver City, Including Considering the Formation of a Website to Support these Efforts.

ATTACHMENT

Pages

Excerpt of the approved April 7, 2015 Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission meeting minutes relating to Agenda Item A-2: “(1) Informational Item Regarding Urban Gardening, Apartment Gardening, and Neighborhood Coop Gardening; and, (2) Discussion Regarding the Potential Role that the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission May Wish to Take in Mentoring Community Members Interested in Community Gardening.”

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PARKS, RECREATION AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

April 7, 2015
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Stuart called the meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission to order at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Chair Laura Stuart
Vice Chair Scott Zeidman
Commissioner Scott Garland
Commissioner Kay Heineman
Commissioner Kelly Kent Marin

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Pledge of Allegiance

Barbara Silverstein led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda

Chair Stuart invited public participation.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Approval of Meeting Minutes for March 3, 2015

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER GARLAND, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ZEIDMAN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 3, 2015.

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participation in the Senior Nutrition Program; Mandated Program Services for each program; annual reports required; funding sources; the approved caterer list; audits; partnership with Beverly Hills; monthly quality assurance meetings; and referral services.

Armando Abrego, Senior and Social Services Manager; discussed the County; funding; requirements; exceeding the allocated number of meals; donations; monthly reports; maintaining funding; the annual program audit; the annual financial audit; the annual budget; the grant application to re-qualify every four years; the RFP for certified caterers every four years; annual inspections; the on-staff safe certification; certification of monthly menus; and he expressed appreciation to the Finance Department for their help.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding who is eligible for services; tracking County services; the Advisory Committee; and the webpage to promote nutrition to the community.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HEINEMAN, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ZEIDMAN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT.

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Item A-2

(1) Informational Item Regarding Urban Gardening, Apartment Gardening, and Neighborhood Coop Gardening; and, (2) Discussion Regarding the Potential Role that the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission May Wish to Take in Mentoring Community Members Interested in Community Gardening

Chair Stuart reported that the Commission had sent a recommendation to the City Council regarding Community Gardens and she asked that the Commission create a refined recommendation about how the City might help facilitate gardening in the City.

Chair Stuart invited public participation.

The following members of the audience addressed the Commission:

Michelle Weiner, Transition Culver City, discussed the mission of the organization; promoting community sustainability; making more efficient change as individuals; food security; growing your own food; the Learning Garden at Venice High School; community volunteers; areas in the City where small community gardens could happen; and areas within the park system that could be used.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding areas in the City that could be used as a Community Garden; the drought; working with existing groups in the City to create co-op gardens; Raintree; mentoring community members interested in community gardening; connecting groups; utilizing alternative sites; creating cooperatives in neighborhoods; creating programs for community members; a suggestion for a website to help the idea move forward; the feasibility of using park space; the registry in Santa Monica; concern with use of staff time; involving the School District; the City Council Liaison School Board Committee; educational opportunities; localizing food growing; growing food in parkways; and crafting a motion to the City Council to allocate staff resources to work with organizations in the City to help encourage growing food.

Sylvia Alvarado, Brian's Orchard Youth Alliance, discussed ideas on how to utilize the co-op idea; reported that she installs gardens and urban orchards; discussed donating portions of the harvest to local food pantries or to the Senior Center; Food Forward; she reported installing a garden for a supported community; and working with the High School.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding hope that the City Council would embrace the concept; involvement of other departments; creating a model for other cities; and crafting a motion.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MARIN, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ZEIDMAN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECOMMEND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL ALLOCATE ONE OR TWO RESOURCE PEOPLE TO WORK WITH EXISTING COMMUNITY GROUPS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, TRANSITION CULVER CITY, THE CULVER CITY GARDEN CLUB, LOCAL HOMEOWNER GROUPS AND APARTMENT PROPERTY OWNERS TO CREATE

ONSITE AND/OR OFFSITE GARDEN SHARING OPPORTUNITIES, IN ADDITION THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS DEVELOPMENT OF A WEBSITE TO SUPPORT THESE EFFORTS.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding next steps in the process.

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Item A-3

(1) Hear a Report from the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission Youth Sports Advisory Ad Hoc Subcommittee; and, (2) (If Desired) Discuss and Take Action Regarding the Future of the Youth Sports Advisory Ad Hoc Subcommittee

Chair Stuart invited public participation.

The following member of the audience addressed the Commission:

Laura Love, AYSO, asked about the middle school flag football program.

Chair Stuart indicated that Dan Hernandez, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director, would provide information to Ms. Love.

Vice Chair Zeidman provided a report on the Youth Sports Advisory Ad Hoc subcommittee.

Commissioner Garland reported meeting with Director Hernandez and the contractor that may be running the Culver City Youth Flag Football League which could begin in September and run through late November.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding Pop Warner football; location of games; practice times; and the amount of park time needed.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MARIN, SECONDED BY CHAIR STUART AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT.

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