

**BOARD OF COMMUNITY SERVICES MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
Via ZOOM, SANTA ROSA, CA**

July 21, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Quandt at 4:24pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Quandt, Board Members Logan Pitts, Carolina Spence, Pamela Van Halsema and Steven Spillman

Absent: Vice Chair Griffin and Board Member Cruz

3. SCHEDULED ITEMS

3.1 ROSELAND CREEK COMMUNITY PARK MASTER PLAN

Deputy Director Santos will provide an update on the Roseland Creek Community Park Master Plan and ask for the Board's recommendation for Council approval.

Recommended Action: Recommendation to Council for approval

Deputy Director Jen Santos provided a review of the development of the Roseland Creek Community Park Master Plan from 2009 to present. Private property was purchased with matching grants from the Sonoma County Agriculture Preservation and Open Space District to complete the park, including the creation of a trail from McMinn Avenue to Burbank Avenue. Conservation covenants correspond with the master plan and limit the type of development that can occur in the approximately 20-acre park. The master plan follows the City's Creek Master Plan and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. The environmental analysis (Mitigated Negative Declaration) reflects that project impacts will be less than significant. Santos reviewed the southwest area planning and demographics and listed the numerous community outreach meetings and listening sessions that were held since 2009 to gather input from all areas of the community. The methods for outreach included direct mail postcards, 'E-blast' emails to residents, flyer distributions, onsite postings at the future park property, notifications to media contacts, Recreation and Parks e-newsletter, and postings on Facebook, NextDoor, Instagram, srcity.org, santarosarec.com and Twitter. The master plan went to Council in January 2020, at which time a vocal community group submitted their own version of the master plan. Council asked staff to conduct a follow up community meeting to include the community group's plan which took place in March 2020. Additional community input took place via a series of listening sessions followed by a facilitated community meeting during Spring 2021. Community input is reflected in the current version of the master plan which contains a balance of all citizen preferences. The 2021 master plan is presented to the Board today for recommendation to Council for approval.

Board discussion ensued.

Public Comment:

Alice Lynn advocated for picnic areas in the shade, parks designed for women, girls and mothers, multiple benches along walkways and less gender segregation in park design.

Rick Coates shared concerns about the crosswalk, logs in the play area, planting lawn during a drought, parking, protected bike lanes and a desire to see the park kept as a natural oak woodland.

Ricarda Suarez desires to see youth input in the planning design and prefers the park be more preserve-like to nurture environmental awareness, rather than having more concrete, keep natural with no parking.

Hector Rico hopes the park will enhance the services provided to the Roseland School District's students and families and offered space at schools to host future community meetings.

Fred Krueger shared concerns regarding excessive heat in urban areas and advocates for keeping the park in a natural state. A referenced article was provided to the Board and added to the agenda.

Larry Hanson supports natural areas in urban settings, a restored Roseland Creek riparian corridor, more trees and less paved parking areas, a Pomo Park and a more natural park for Roseland children. A referenced article was provided to the Board and added to the agenda.

Duane Dewitt is not in favor of irrigated landscape, open flames, impermeable surfaces, paving or a 'community' park. He is in favor of a special use park area which includes an 'interpretive' Pomo Village component.

Board Action:

Board Member Spillman made a motion to recommend the current Roseland Creek Community Park Master Plan to Council for approval. Board Member Van Halsema seconded.

Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Chair Quandt made the following announcement:

Beginning at our regular meeting on July 28th, correspondence submitted prior to the start of the meeting will no longer be read during the meeting due to time constraints. All correspondence will be provided to the board and attached to the agenda prior to the meeting for reference. Late correspondence received after the submission deadline will be attached to the agenda up to one week after the meeting for which it was submitted.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Quandt adjourned the meeting at 7:37pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on July 28, 2021, at 4:00pm.