

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
CITY OF COSTA MESA
MEETING OF THE FAIRVIEW PARK STEERING COMMITTEE
June 8, 2022 – 6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER by Chair Campbell at 6:01pm

ROLL CALL

= Present

Absent

Committee Members

Committee Liaisons

City Staff

Terri Fuqua

Emily McClain

Erik Roberts

Chair Andy Campbell

Vacant

Vacant

Vacant

Vacant

Councilmember Reynolds

Councilmember Chavez

Councilmember Harlan

OCME, Hank Castignetti

PACS, Kelly Brown

Kelly Dalton

Jason Minter

Laura Fautua

Ms. Fautua announced the resignation of Cara Raffele and Evan Rothman.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kim Hendricks: Expressed thanks for the recent Fish Fry event and commented on other locations for Concerts in the Park event.

Mat Garcia: Requested update on applicant status for vacant spots on Fairview Park Steering Committee.

COMMITTEE MEMBER and LIAISON COMMENTS

Committee Member Roberts: Concurred with Kim Hendricks comment on other possible locations for Concerts in the Park. Commented on the success of the Fish Fry Event at Lion’s Park.

Committee Member Fuqua: Expressed wishes for Fairview Park to remain a natural, passive use space.

Chair Campbell: Commented on mobile stage use and how it could be used for different park settings. Noted maintenance crew truck use of bluff trail after it rains and how it leads to deterioration of trails in the park. Expressed wishes for a policy that would close the park to heavy truck use after rain to prevent further deterioration.

PACS Liaison Kelly Brown: Introduced herself to the committee.

OCME Liaison Hank Castignetti: Inquired on the full-time status of maintenance crew.

Jason Minter: Clarified this will be addressed in the Administrator’s Update.

Councilmember Reynolds: Announced the purchase of Banning Ranch for preservation purposes with public access by the Banning Ranch Conservancy & Coalition. Commented on possible coordination with them regarding the FVP Master Plan Update.

1. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 13, 2022 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the April 13, 2022 minutes by Committee Member Fuqua and seconded by Committee Member Roberts.

AYES: Committee Member Fuqua, Roberts, and Chair Campbell.

NAYS: N/A

ABSTAIN: N/A

ABSENT: Committee Member McClain

MOTION CARRIED: 3-0

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. APPROVAL OF A DRAFT FLYING FIELD ORDINANCE

- i. Public Correspondence Received
Mr. Dalton presented.

Chair Campbell: inquired over the jurisdiction of the FAA and how it would play into the passing of the Flying Field Ordinance.

Mr. Dalton: clarified that the existing ordinance contains a provision in which gliding activities need to adhere to FAA policies. The HSS has an agreement with the FAA that regulates model flying at Fairview Park.

Chair Campbell: inquired whether there should be an FAA agreement with HSS in place that could be referenced in the ordinance.

Public Comments:

Mike Costello: Noted the FAA's jurisdiction over all open air in the US and a letter of authorization from the FAA to the HSS allowing flight below 400 feet at Fairview Park. Inquired as to how the reduction of flying days at FVP went from 365 days to 40.

Kim Hendricks: Agreed with Cynthia D'Agosta's recommendation that the ordinance is not ready to move forward, citing FAA jurisdiction. Also noted discrepancies within the draft regarding incompatible statements and definitions.

Mat Garcia: Commented on HSS' submitted feedback regarding the draft ordinance and how it was not included in the revised draft.

Jeff L: Commented on his time volunteering with HSS' and how youth participation provides valuable educational enrichment.

Mr. Minter: noted additional steps that need to be taken after the ordinance is taken to City Council.

Chair Campbell: inquired how the passing of the ordinance and the update to the FVP Master Plan coincide.

Mr. Minter: estimated that the Master Plan would be completed in about 18 months.

Committee Member Roberts: commented on how the provided correspondence offers valuable background information regarding flying in Fairview Park.

Committee Member Fuqua: inquired as to whose responsibility it would be to retrieve gliders that fall into sensitive habitat areas.

Mr. Minter: clarified that there is no pressure to quickly move forward with the passing of the ordinance and noted staff's due diligence to answer any and all questions from the committee.

Committee Member Roberts: commented on how the ordinance is essentially a compromise and suggested that the committee discuss the matter thoroughly before voting to agree to it.

Chair Campbell: recommended to not move forward with the ordinance until current questions and discrepancies can be addressed.

Mr. Minter: noted that there is a possible footprint for the flying field that would not be in violation of the recommendation from U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Chair Campbell: proposed that the draft be brought back for discussion at the next committee meeting to be able to address any possible loopholes.

Committee Member Roberts: requested clarification as to what matters and questions need to be cleared up regarding the draft ordinance.

Chair Campbell: noted that there are still questions regarding preservation of the vernal pool habitat with respect to launch sites and the FAA's letter of authorization to the HSS.

Committee Member Roberts: initiated a motion to suspend the approval of the draft ordinance to the next committee meeting.

Committee Member Fuqua: expressed concerns of enforcement of the ordinance.

Chair Campbell: inquired as to how the ordinance would address enforcement.

Mr. Minter: clarified that enforcement guidelines would not be included in the ordinance but in the operating agreement instead. Communications with the Park Ranger program regarding the ordinance would facilitate enforcement.

Councilmember Reynolds: encouraged the committee to be specific in their recommendations, concerns, and requests so that staff can take appropriate action.

MOTION: Chair Campbell initiated a substitute motion that the committee revisit the item at its subsequent meeting and that the revised draft ordinance consider the following issues: ensure that habitat protection is reflected, evaluate HSS' concerns over definitions, the FAA authorization letter for HSS and its ramifications, and the enforcement of the concepts in the ordinance. Seconded by Committee Member Roberts.

AYES: Committee Member Fuqua, Roberts, and Chair Campbell.

NAYS: N/A

ABSTAIN: N/A

ABSENT: Committee Member McClain

MOTION CARRIED: 3-0

Chair Campbell: inquired as to how communication would work when reviewing further information.

Mr. Minter: clarified that there would be a report made for the next committee meeting in August addressing all questions and concerns from this meeting and that there would be no working groups or further discussion with the committee until then.

B. APPROVAL OF SCOPE OF WORK FOR THE FAIRVIEW PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATE

- i. Supplemental
- ii. Public Correspondence Received
Mr. Dalton presented report.

Committee Member Roberts presented a summary of the subcommittee meetings.

Public Comments:

Kim Hendricks: Suggested that consultants review Avian Survey along with biological reports from Endemic when updating the FVP Master Plan.

Mat Garcia: Requested 3 general committee workshops instead of 2.

Chair Campbell: commented on the productiveness of the workshops.

Councilmember Reynolds: recommended that there be an official vision statement for Fairview Park. Commented that engagement with tribal liaison is an important aspect of community outreach. Noted that restoration was left out of when developing a management, operations, and maintenance plan. Recommended that consultants be asked to include recommendations for grant funding.

Committee Member Roberts: emphasized restoration in FVP, concurring with Councilmember Reynolds.

Mr. Dalton: concurred with the importance of the aforementioned vision statement. Commented that engagement with tribal representatives is meant to be captured by the consultant qualifications section.

OCME Liaison Hank Castignetti: concurred with Councilmember Reynolds regarding the creation of a vision statement and its importance.

PACS Liaison Kelly Brown: added that there could be possible collaborations with universities regarding indigenous studies. Also noted there are other opportunities for funding for engagement with local communities.

MOTION: To approve staff recommendation for Item 2B by Committee Member Fuqua and seconded by Committee Member Roberts.

AYES: Committee Member Fuqua, Roberts, and Chair Campbell

NAYS: N/A

ABSTAIN: N/A

ABSENT: Committee Member McClain

MOTION CARRIED: 3-0

3. NO NEW BUSINESS

4. MONTHLY REPORTS

A. PARK RANGER REPORTS – Received and filed.

- i. April
- ii. May

Public Comments:

Mat Garcia: Inquired as to whether there have been any infractions by model airplane flyers while the flying field has been closed.

Chair Campbell: noted that he is not aware of any citations.

Mr. Dalton: noted that he has not received any written reports from park rangers regarding citations on model flyers.

B. ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

Mr. Dalton presented report.

Councilmember Reynolds: inquired as to whether the CMTV team has ever done a special on the Restoration Events and noted it could recruit more volunteers.

5. ADJOURNMENT by Chair Campbell at 7:53 pm.

Next REGULAR Meeting: August 10, 2022 at 6:00pm