

**OCTOBER 11, 2023
6:00 P.M. – OFFICIAL MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER by Chair Campbell at 6:03pm

ROLL CALL

= Present = Absent

Committee Member	Liaisons and City Staff
<input type="checkbox"/> Daniel Baume, alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Councilmember Arlis Reynolds
<input type="checkbox"/> Kohl Crecelius	<input type="checkbox"/> Councilmember Jeffrey Harlan
<input type="checkbox"/> Cynthia D’Agosta	<input type="checkbox"/> Councilmember Manuel Chavez
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terri Fuqua	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hank Castignetti, Orange County Model Engineers (OCME)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matthew Garcia, alt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly Brown, Parks & Community Services (PACS) Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Edwin Glover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly Dalton, Fairview Park Administrator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emily McClain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Fautua, Executive Assistant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erik Roberts, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alma Reyes, Deputy City Manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andy Campbell, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seung Yang, City Engineer
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monique Villasenor, Recreation Manager

Councilmember Reynolds left at 7:35pm

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Member of the public requests that consultants use a current map of the park. Spoke about the importance of biodiversity and open space.

Member of public asked about two budget items: bluff and mesa restoration.

Mat Garcia, HSS president noted the community has been happy to see gliders return. Noted they have received complaints about a non-flying member being disruptive during flying events.

Member of the public asked inquired about enforcement. Stated that she saw dirt bikes racing through the mesa and the rangers responded, but doesn’t know what the conclusion was. Noted that not only gliders are flying but others are flying and wants to know what’s being done to enforce flying policies.

COMMITTEE MEMBER and LIAISON COMMENTS

Committee Member Fuqua: Noticed someone in the vernal pool area flying gliders a couple days ago. Stated that motorized bicycles are not limited to the berms but are entering habitat.

Vice Chair Roberts: Inquired what year the MIG map is from. Spoke about the Commission and Committee Handbook training.

Chair Campbell: Noted he is receiving calls and photographs that the motorized planes in the park are regularly occurring and would like the issue of flying to be considered by City council again if the council liaisons would like to raise it due to these occurrences. Noted his attendance to the committee training and summarized useful information he learned.

OCME Liaison Castignetti: OCME has requested to the Fairview Park Administrator to put bird boxes on the east side and the City biologist has been asked to evaluate. Spoke about OCME's registration now requiring every member to be run through Megan's Law Database.

PACS Kelly Brown: Agreed Commission and Committee Handbook training was very helpful to understand the rules and regulations and looking forward to hearing feedback about the community meeting that was held for the Master Plan update.

Council Member Reynolds: Happy to hear there was an updated Commission and Committee training and handbook. Has been hearing enforcement challenges for a long time and notes the desire for improved signage at the park, which could help with enforcement constraints.

Vice Chair Roberts:

1. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 9, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the August 9, 2023 minutes

MOVE/SECOND: Chair Campbell/Committee Member Fuqua

Ayes: Committee member Fuqua, Committee Member McClain, Vice Chair Roberts, Chair Campbell

Nays: None

Abstains: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried: 4-0

Chair Campbell suggested including details about Mr. Yang's introduction.

OLD BUSINESS

1. STATUS OF FAIRVIEW PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Dalton presented. Summarized the work of the consultants so far, including meetings with the public and the committee. Another community workshop will be held in November or December. Noted feedback received that there was too much focus on amenities during the first community meeting and the next one will be focused on restoration and conservation.

Public Comment:

Member of the public noted she thought the community meeting went well, but the meeting focused on restoration should have happened first. Stated that the type of fencing used on the bluff is important for raptors so that it allows them to dive and use the natural draft. Noted the community meeting talked about an amphitheater and wanted to clarify that it was meant to be a small amphitheater to be used before hikes, etc. Offered a contact who does art for interpretive signage if it is needed.

Member of public asked when the survey will be online. Asked Mr. Yang to work with other engineers to build a bridge over the vernal pools.

Member of public asked about two budget items and where the funding is coming from: bluff and mesa restoration.

Discussion:

Vice Chair Roberts noted the next item will answer the budget question. Asked when the date for the next community meeting will be announced.

Mr. Dalton responded that a minimum of two weeks' notice will be given before the next community meeting.

Chair Campbell noted he liked the community meeting and came in knowing that restoration would be in the plan, so focusing on amenities made sense, but the public did not think so.

Vice Chair Roberts noted there were a few attendees who were not happy. He's happy that the next meeting will be better. Noted that the public wanted to be informed ahead of time and wanted there to be time for a Q&A.

Chair Campbell noted he received a complaint that the methodology of putting stickers on maps wasn't accurate because people were jumping tables and placing stickers on maps that were not theirs.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. OVERVIEW OF RESTORATION PROJECTS

Mr. Dalton presented.

Public Comment:

Member of public asked where the Banning Ranch Conservation area is. Noted an area where a non-native plant was hydroseeded that should be removed.

Mat Garcia asked what the process the City uses for accepting grant money for restoration.

Mr. Dalton responded that the funding is allocated in the budget, and is to be used for specific projects.

Discussion:

Vice Chair Roberts suggested clearer labeling on the map of restoration areas and a legend. Noted the presentation was very useful for all committee members and would be good for new members in the future.

Chair Campbell noted at the next meeting there will likely be new members and recommended re-presenting the information for them.

Council Member Reynolds stated that this information would be useful for the public as well with additional information about what projects the public can engage in. Also mentioned there is a backlog of restoration at Fairview but that hopefully eventually it would be mainly management. Asked if there are sufficient resources and staffing to manage all these projects.

Mr. Dalton responded that the restoration projects will require ongoing management, but will lessen over the years, with effort peaking at the beginning of the project. The intent is that the Operations & Maintenance plan in the updated master plan will take

the approach of emphasizing ongoing land management, rather than the historical approach of one-time fixes, which is not an applicable model for this type of site.

Alma Reyes responded that there is a plan ongoing for budgeting for more resources and understanding the cost of managing the entire park.

Committee Member McClain noted she did not know all the restoration areas of the park. Noted the “Restoration in Progress” sign doesn’t provide enough information and asked if we can put temporary signage that explain more about each restoration area until permanent signage is installed.

Alma Reyes noted they want to also utilize social media to educate the public.

Vice Chair Roberts noted that with more full-time staff, grants could be looked for and applied for. Asked about future mitigation partners.

Committee Member Fuqua asked if it is feasible to consider small tours for educational purposes to accompany the signs.

Committee Member McClain noted she thinks a lot of people who are breaking the rules are simply uneducated.

Monique Villasenor noted that these are all creative solutions to educate the public including tours and signage.

PARTNER REPORTS

1. SEA AND SAGE AUDUBON SUMMER 2023 REPORT

OCME Liaison Castignetti noted there were 60 species spotted on the east side and many of the club members were surprised. They will be discussing a presentation from Bettina Eastman to the club members and share bird information with the riders.

Chair Campbell noted the usefulness of the Merlin app for bird identification.

Vice Chair Campbell noted the white-tailed kite picture in the report is beautiful. Would like to know if in the future it could compare numbers from previous years to see if there is an increase or decrease in bird activity. Noted that objective data would help for education purposes.

Received and filed.

STAFF REPORTS

1. PARK RANGER REPORTS

Received and filed.

Chair Campbell noted the report states there are 4 full time rangers monitoring the park but stated that they are not exclusive to Fairview Park. Asked for more details on the amount of time spent at the park.

Alma Reyes noted she is working with the Police Department on the reports and will mention this feedback.

Vice Chair Campbell asked why there was a decline in reports.

Alma Reyes responded she is not sure, but it is typically based on needs of other parks in the City.

2. ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

Mr. Dalton presented the update.

OCME Liaison Castignetti mentioned last month they gave a record breaking 3,804 rides in two days.

Vice Chair Roberts noted in the committee training they mentioned a retreat to get to know each other and plan goals. Suggested to have one at the park in the first quarter of next year.

Committee Member Fuqua noted there are white-tailed kites out hunting again at the park.

Chair Campbell recommended a book about conservation. Noted there are committee goals and also liaison goals which should be shared with the committee and incorporated into the agenda.

McClain noted she's excited that projects are moving forward and that will be great for community involvement.

Mr. Yang introduced himself as City Engineer from the Public Works Department. He will assist staff with projects in the park.

Mr. Dalton noted the maps and documents that have been provided to MIG are all current. Noted the flying outside of designated days has been reported and staff is monitoring during the designated flying days. Noted the incidents are not happening on the same day and time but if a pattern emerges, enforcement can be applied to address the issue.

Alma Reyes noted they will meet with the Police Department to share the comments made about enforcement. Noted she agrees signage and education are important as well.

Public Comment:

Member of the public noted the community wants to be involved with restoration. Noted the Vandersloot area was planted in 2014 and people who originally planted still visit it.

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER & STAFF COMMENTS

No additional committee member or staff comments.

ADJOURNMENT by Chair Campbell at 7:50pm

NEXT REGULAR FAIRVIEW PARK STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING: WEDNESDAY, December 13, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.