



**Town of Atherton
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes
April 6th, 2022
Regular Meeting
Park & Rec
6:30 PM
Zoom Meeting**

1. ROLL CALL

Meeting started at 6:31 pm

Committee Members: Matt Baker (Chair), Taylor Henkel, Alex Keh, Frank Merrill-late, Julianna Robertson (Vice-Chair), Walt Robinson- absent, Marylue Timpson
Councilmember Liaisons: Rick DeGolia
Staff: Sally Bentz-Dalton

- 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –March minutes – approved as amended 5-0**
- 4. PRESENTATIONS –None**
- 5. REGULAR AGENDA-**

5d. Update on dogs off leash – This item was moved to be discussed first because the Chief, Steve McCulley was at the meeting. He reported that There had been 53 patrols in the park, 7 written warning and 4 verbal warnings. They all complied after the warnings. There was a recent incident and an officer the next morning issued a written warning. On Saturday April 30th there will be an educational animal event at Holbrook-Palmer Park. Alex Keh asked for the PD numbers to include park activity by PD as well as day and night use of the park.

5c. Review and continued discussion of possibility of adding a pickleball courts to Holbrook-Palmer Park – Alex Keh mentioned having a subcommittee meet with stakeholders to find out what would work. Taylor Henkel said at Nealon Park pickleball is popular and that community interest is strong. Alex Keh suggested have a trial run on a hard court and collect names and do a survey for interest. Julie Robertson asked how that would work as someone wouldn't be able to be there to do the survey. She said the Town would need to get the word out and figure out a key system. Staff said the handball court hardscape area is 60x30 feet. Noah Eisner said that one court could fit in that area because on a regular tennis court of 60x120 you can fit four courts lengthwise. Matt Baker stated it would make loud noise by the neighbors. Noah Eisner said he has had around 300 signers on his petition. 55 of the signers are Athertonians, 20% of signers are from adjacent cities and 30% from further away. Michael Jessup mentioned there will be issues with parking and complaints. Rick DeGolia asked if the trial could be done on the clay court and Michael Jessup answered no. Rick DeGolia also mentioned that a trail run would need to go to City Council for approval. Matt Baker asked for volunteers for a subcommittee. Alex Keh, Taylor Henkel and Julie Robertson volunteered.

5a. Review and recommend to City Council updated Park Fees

Alex Keh gave a thorough presentation on the updates to the park rental fees. Taylor Henkel went over the marketability aspect of the presentation. Marylue Timpson opposed the changes. A motion was made to approve the changes. A motion to approve by Matt Baker and second by Julie Robertson. 6-0.

5b. Review and recommend to City Council updated Memorial and Donation Policy for Holbrook-Palmer Park

Staff incorporated all edits. A motion was made to recommend the policy as is to the City Council. Second by Alex Keh. 6-0.

5e. Arbor Day tree planting review

Rick DeGolia commented to not put evergreen Magnolia's by deciduous Magnolia's.

5f. Park & Recs involvement in Atherton's Earth Day

Matt Baker said he would have a Park and Recreation booth at the Earth Day event for information about Park and Recreation as well as a sign up for a possible future park clean up.

5g. Updates on the prioritized park projects and goals

There were no updates.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS-

6a. Set up a day and time for the Landscape Walkthrough at Holbrook-Palmer Park

It was decided that the Landscape Walkthrough will be May 4th at 5 pm. Staff will provide pizza. The meeting will be hybrid and start at 6:30 via zoom or at Council Chambers.

7. COMMITTEE AND STAFF MEMBER COMMENTS

7a. Foundation report: **Frank Merrill said they are in the process of fixing the brides room locks to lock historical items.**

7b. Park goings on reports and Q&A: **Staff opened item to the Committee for questions and discussion**

7c. Park Events Report: **Staff opened item to the Committee for questions.**

7d. Individual Committee Member Comments:

Alex Keh asked about the fire station and having park space. Rick DeGolia mentioned for him to attend a Fire Board meeting.

Marylue Timpson mentioned that Mt. Vernon residents are now happy with the new tree.

Matt Baker said his new coffeeshop will open soon next to the Menlo Park Post Office.

8. SET/CONFIRM NEXT MEETING AND TOPICS

May 4th, 2022, Zoom and In person

9. ADJOURN

Next meeting is scheduled for: May 4th , 6:30 PM Hybrid

Meeting ended at 8:00 pm with a motion by Alex Keh and 2nd by Julie Robertson –6-0.