

December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
COMMUNITY CENTER AD HOC COMMITTEE  
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA  
CONVENED THIS 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2015 7:00 P.M.  
SOUTH PASADENA SENIOR CENTER  
1102 OXLEY STREET**

**1. ROLL CALL**

Stepped in as Chair, Committee member Vanderwall convened the Regular Meeting of the Ad Hoc Community Center Committee at 6:35

Staff R Martin called the roll. Present were, Senior Commissioners Vanderwall and Knight, Library Board of Trustees Commissioner Penn, Fund member Veloz,

Absent at time of Roll: Youth Commissioner at Large Hodley-Brill, City Council Mayor Joe (arrived at 6:59pm), and Senior Commissioners Knight

Other Officials and Staff present: Community Services Director/Staff Liaison Pautsch, and Staff Reyna Salazar-Martin.

Excused Absence: Chair Beadle, Parks and Recreation Commissioner Members Salinas, and City Council Liaison Cacciotti

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2015**

**MOTION:** Commission approved the minutes of the regular June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. By unanimous voice vote, the motion passed.

(Vanderwall, Penn)

**3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**4. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE STAFF AND CONSULTANT'S TO PROCEED WITH THE NEXT STEPS OF THE DESIGN PHASE ON THE ORANGE GROVE/CITY YARD SITE AND THAT THE AD HOC COMMITTEE CONTINUE TO WORK WITH STAFF AND CONSULTANT'S ON THE NEXT STEP OF THE STUDY**

Director Sheila Pautsch presented the revised Options for the new Community Center, which now only included the Orange Grove site. City Council voted to eliminate the El Centro option from any further consideration due to the terms the current owners provided. Director Pautsch also read recommendations from Committee members Salinas and Chair Beadle who could not be at the meeting. They, along with the rest of the committee share the concern that in the current design the main Entrance on the El Centro side lacks the astatic iconic look they all feel is needed to justify the cost as well as match the other large iconic building within the City, i.e The library and Community Room. Also, the design reinforces the recommendation from the Cultural Heritage Commission to preserve the entire Parks and Recreation building on Mission. This creates a conflict in wanting to move forward with the design process because of the space and current condition of the existing building. They would prefer to eliminate the entire building and utilize that space for commercial use. They feel that if the commercial space is maximized, it will increase the financial base for funding the rest of the project.

Committee member Penn and Vanderwall both shared that having the Senior Center on the second floor does not have to be changed. However, they do add that it should stay on one level, no small steps, and that doorways and hallways be ADA and gurney accessible. Also, Commissioner Penn suggest a large room divider in the main banquet room to give renters an option of a smaller room. At this time, Council member Joe summarized to the Committee on what transpired at the closed session City Council Meeting which led to the elimination of Option 2 El Centro site.

Committee member Veloz suggests keeping the Orange Grove site outside façade, but gutting out the inside of the building. That way, they keep the building, however are free to utilize the inside space for the new amenities, classrooms and safer building conditions.

Commissioner Penn suggested eliminating the tennis and basketball courts (designed to be on top of the parking structure) and reconfigure the parking in order to make the entrance larger and more iconic.

The Committee agrees that the only way they feel they can give a recommendation to continue with confidence in the design, is if Council overturn the Cultural Heritage Committee decision to preserve the entire older Parks and Recreation building on Mission. They feel that the buildings condition will increase the cost to maintain and restore. At this time the committee strongly recommends that the Orange Grove building be completely removed in order to maximize parking space and maximize the commercial exposure to help fund the overall success of the project. If that is not possible, keeping only the outside facade of the Park and Recreation building and giving the committee the entire control of the inside of the building is the compromise they feel will benefit all parties. Secondly, now that there is only one location, they would like the focus to be on a new entrance. Reconfiguration of the parking to possibly redesign the main entrance off of El Centro to look more iconic may be an option.

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No further change to motion that was made at the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**5. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT**

Chair

None

**6. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS**

None

**7. STAFF LIAISON REPORT**

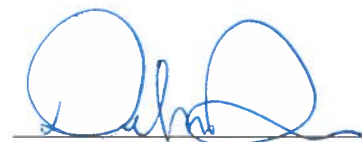
**ADJOURNMENT**

By consensus, the Commission adjourned at 8:10 p.m. The next Committee TBD

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved By:

  
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Sheila Pautsch  
Community Services Director

  
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Debra Beadle  
Chair