

**BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
JANUARY 31, 2000
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Present at Roll Call: Vice-Chair Kimberly King, Commissioners Russell Mills, Steve O'Bryan, Bruce Holderbein, Barbara Kopicki and Glenn Dunning, staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of December 27, 1999** This item was removed from Consent Agenda by Commissioner O'Bryan
- 2. Approval of 21st Annual Endangered Species Faire Permit Application - May 5 to May 7, 2000, Cedar Grove**
- 3. Permit Application from Downtown Chico Business Association for Friday Night Concerts in Plaza Park May 12, 2000 to October 13, 2000 - Plaza Park**
- 4. Approve Permit Application of Cycle Productions for Artisans Faire May 5, 6, and 7, 2000 - Plaza Park**

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS 2, 3, AND 4 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Minutes from Regular Meeting of December 27, 1999 Roll Call should show Commissioner Kopicki was absent.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Review and Discussion of Draft Environmental Impact Report - Otterson Drive

Clif Sellers, Community Development Assistant, reported on the project and answered questions regarding the proposed modification of the street system west of Park Avenue along Comanche Creek. He is asking all comments be submitted to the consultant by March 6, 2000. The draft EIR for the extension of Otterson Drive is presented to Commission for review and comment, especially regarding creek banks and greenways. About 80 copies of the document have been distributed to agencies and the public. From the public, Helen Ost said the area has value as good riparian habitat so look at it closely. The Commission agreed to refer the study to the Preservation Stream Committee for their meeting of February 29, 2000.

3. Permit Application from the Exchange Club of Chico for a “Ducky Derby” July 4, 2000 - One-Mile Recreation Area.

The Exchange Club of Chico has submitted an application to hold a Ducky Derby at Sycamore Pool on July 4, 2000 beginning at 2:15 p.m. Staff recommends the hours be changed so the pool would not be closed to the public during regular hours. From the public, Cap Porterfield, of the Exchange Club, said Ducky Derbies are successful around the country and last year’s event in Bidwell Park netted \$6,800 to support their charities. He believes it would help draw people to the Park and help other charities there that day. Ken Steidley, of Do It Leisure, said the Ducky Derby could conflict with other events planned for the Park that day. John Merz said it is not acceptable to close Sycamore Pool to the public. After discussion, Commission decided staff and the Exchange Club should find a new date to hold the Ducky Derby and the event should be completed before the pool opens at 11:00 a.m.

COMMISSIONER KING MADE A MOTION TO BRING BACK THE APPLICATION WITH ANOTHER DATE AND SET A TIME TO COMPLETE THE EVENT BEFORE 11:00 A.M. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION. AYES: VICE CHAIR KING, COMMISSIONERS MILLS, HOLDERBEIN, KOPICKI AND DUNNING. NOES: COMMISSIONER O’BRYAN. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Chair Tom Barrett Arrived at 8:10.

4. Authorization to Establish Test Areas to Use Dust Inhibitor on Upper Park Road

Urban Forester Boza reviewed an earlier recommendation to test “Road OYL” as a means to control road dust in Upper Park. Staff would like to start two test plots 250

feet long in the spring, one in shade and the other exposed to sun. A second application of Road OYL would be applied in July. Results would come from visual observation of dust generated. Total costs of paving the entire roadway, if two applications are needed, are estimated at \$17,000.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO ESTABLISH TEST AREAS OF ROAD OYL ON UPPER PARK ROAD AS DESIGNATED. COMMISSIONER KING SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Review of Revised Proposed Lindo Channel Encroachments - Policies and Procedures.

Park Director Beardsley said the revised Lindo Channel Encroachments - Policies and Procedures reflects recommendations made by the Commission and the public to Council and Council's responses. Any comments made tonight will go back to Council for final approval on February 15, 2000. From the public, John Merz suggested: 1) page 1 Introduction (various agencies) #5 replace "Sec 7 Consultations or Habitat Conservation Plan" with "a formal consultation process", 2) page 4, Exception for Category Va, add a second sentence "The City assumes no liability in granting such a permit, all such liability resting with permittee", 3) page 4, Appeals, line 5 replace "a second-level appeal may be made" with "If dissatisfied with Commission decisions, the appellant(s) may appeal", 4) page 4, Appeals, line 6 replace "appeals are requested" to "an appeal is filed". Commissioner Mills agrees with those changes and would add 1) page 2, Encroachment Classifications, take "sheds and rip-rap" from Category IV and add to Category III, and 2) page 3, Policies for Removal, would split Categories III & IV and make Category III removal in 180 and Category IV in 60 Days. Commissioner Kopicki said on page 5, last sentence to read "approval of the Park Director".

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE LINDO CHANNEL ENCROACHMENTS - POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Discussion of Staffing (Rangers) During Holidays

Chair Barrett would like to have Rangers available in the Park on all holidays, even off season, for safety reasons or close Upper Park. Park Director Beardsley said currently the budget supports Rangers on duty for holidays from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Operation staff do safety checks on all holidays. This item will be placed on the next Tree/Finance Committee agenda. Commissioner Mills suggested it be included in budget items to be discussed with Council on June 5, 2000.

7. Report from Master Plan Committee Meeting of January 3, 2000

a. Discussion of Allowing Access to Private Property from Parks, Greenways and Open Spaces.

The Committee has discussed the proposal for developing a policy regarding access to private property from park lands and has recommended a policy statement and fee schedule. Commissioner Mills supports having a stated policy and thinks allowing access does not look after the Park. He drafted a potential fee schedule, but decided the process would become too complex. Commissioner Dunning's opposition to a policy is that each applicant can appeal any decision to the Commission so why not let them just come to the Commission in the first place. Commissioner O'Bryan thinks there would not be many requests and the Commissioners would make good judgments for each. Chair Barrett said the applicant's financial condition is not the Commission's problem and others pay a fee for park use. From the public, Helen Ost thinks the policy statement is excellent and would avoid problems. Caryn Jones said be sure to specify only vehicular traffic is prohibited, not traffic from gates.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE POLICY STATEMENT THAT NO VEHICULAR ACCESS BE PROVIDED FROM PARKS, GREENWAYS AND OPEN SPACES TO ADJACENT PRIVATE PROPERTIES UNLESS UNDER EMERGENCY SITUATIONS AS REVIEWED AND DETERMINED BY THE PARK DIRECTOR.

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER KOPICKI. AYES: CHAIR BARRETT, COMMISSIONERS MILLS, KOPICKI AND KING. NOES: COMMISSIONERS HOLDERBEIN, DUNNING AND O'BRYAN. THE MOTION CARRIED.

b. Review and Discussion of Process for Reviewing and Updating the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan

Staff will proceed with an approach for updating the goals and objectives of the existing document and report back to Committee. From the public, John Merz recommended holding a workshop for public interaction, and would like to establish a time line for completion of the review. Park Director Beardsley hesitated to make a time commitment for existing staff's work because of extensive ongoing obligations, but is hoping to obtain additional help for the project. The item was sent to Tree/Finance Committee for review.

8. Review and Discuss Policies Regarding Public Plantings

Urban Forester Boza presented an overview of the policies and code sections subject to review. He said the program has been updated several times in recent years and Commission will be involved in continuing the upgrades. The City has adopted a drought-tolerant ordinance for public planting which is voluntary for private landscaping. There are 50 to 60 maintenance assessment districts of various sizes which the City maintains. There must be a balance between City policy and what property owners are looking for. Commissioner Mills asked about educating the public on selection and maintenance of plants being used. No action was taken.

9. Receive and Refer Draft Street Tree Ordinance to Tree/Finance Committee

The current street tree ordinance was last revised in 1967. Urban Forester Boza has prepared a revised draft ordinance and recommends it be sent to Tree/Finance Committee for review and comments from the public and the committee. Some changes recommended are to include the ordinance in Title 12, update a definition section, clearly define public planting area, and update permit requirements. The value of Chico's street trees is \$26 million plus other benefits they provide. The item was sent to the Tree/Finance Committee for a meeting on February 3, 2000 in Council Chambers which will begin the process of looking over the ordinance.

10. Discussion and Comment on the Five-Year Review of the City of Chico General Plan

Tom Hayes, Senior Planner, said the Five Year Review is an opportunity to measure progress and make adjustments in the Plan and to provide an opportunity to have public and Commission review. He invited comments on special concerns of the BPPC such as development and maintenance of acquired park sites, creekside greenways, linkage, open space plans, and trails.

From the public, Caryn Jones said specific items must be submitted to get things done beyond just making guiding policies. She suggested three implementing policies: 1) a foot and equestrian trail along the length of every creekside park, 2) extend uniform encroachment policy to all City park land, and 3) an Annie Bidwell trail the length of Bidwell Park.

Commissioner Mills would like to incorporate Lindo Channel into Bidwell Park. He asked about how to pay for continuing expansion of services, for the impact of development on existing parks, for the increase in City trees, and for equipment to maintain all. Commissioner King noted that CARD has been designated the primary

agent in developing neighborhood parks and that sites are slow to develop but that they are done upon the interest and support of area residents. Chair Barrett would like to buy greenlands whenever available and to learn what creekside property is City and what is private.

11. Election of Officers (Chair and Vice Chair)

COMMISSIONER KOPICKI MADE A MOTION TO ELECT KIMBERLY KING CHAIR. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION. AYES: CHAIR BARRETT, COMMISSIONERS MILLS, O'BRYAN, HOLDERBEIN, KOPICKI AND DUNNING. ABSTAIN: COMMISSIONER KING.

COMMISSIONER O'BRYAN MADE A MOTION TO ELECT GLENN DUNNING AS VICE CHAIR. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION. AYES: CHAIR BARRETT, COMMISSIONERS MILLS, O'BRYAN, HOLDERBEIN, KOPICKI AND KING. ABSTAIN: COMMISSIONER DUNNING.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Director's Report

Much work is being done all over the park on the accessibility project; City would receive in excess of \$600,000 from Prop 12, which might make money available for the Nature Center; Park Department web page has been updated at <http://WWW.CI.CHICO.CA.US>; the fee schedule for filming in the Park was approved in 1996 and now is going to Council; DCBA and DNA are working together regarding any conflict for the Thursday night concerts and Farmers Market.

2. Monthly Reports

Wildwood Park now has one circuit of nine lights working; trash is being removed from Lindo Channel; street trees have been trimmed in areas 1 through 4 and work is being done in area 5; special crews will work on street trees for seven weeks in the spring to clear sight and signs; two new employees will work during the summer for housekeeping in Bidwell Park; a grant for \$1,500 from the California Park State Foundation has been approved and will be used to purchase equipment for the April 22, 2000 Earth Day.

3. Incident Reports

Reports received from Bidwell Park, Caper Acres, Children's Park, Dorothy Johnson

Center, Hooker Oak Park, Oakway Park, 20th Street Park, and City Plaza.

4. Correspondence

Letters received from Maria Clark and Suzanne Gibbs saying some park lands are underused.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Chair Barrett said he is interested in learning about law suits filed regarding the Park and their resolutions. Commissioner Dunning asked about widening Highway 99 and Manzanita through Bidwell park. Park Director Beardsley said that when Cal Trans has a document to review, it will come before the commission.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 to the next regular meeting of February 28, 2000.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
JANUARY 31, 2000
SIGN IN SHEET

	Name	Address
1.	Helen Ost	1255 East Lindo Avenue
2.	Cap Porterfield	886 Yosemite Drive
3.	Ken Steidley	621 ½ Mangrove
4.	John Merz	1331 Broadway
5.	Caryn Jones	5 Deborah Terrace

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 28, 2000
MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Roll Call: Present at Roll Call: Chair Kimberly King, Commissioners Russell Mills, Steve O'Bryan, Tom Barrett, Bruce Holderbein, Barbara Kopicki and Glenn Dunning; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

2. **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Minutes of Regular Meeting of January 31, 2000**
2. **Permit Application from Ensemble Theatre of Chico for 2000 Production of Shakespeare in the Park June 24, 2000 to August 10, 2000 - Cedar Grove Meadow and Picnic Area.** This item was removed from consent agenda by Commissioner Barrett.
3. **Permit Application from Parent Education Network - Art Fund-raising Event, September 16 and 17, 2000 - Plaza Park** This item was removed from consent agenda by Commissioner Barrett.
4. **Permit Application from Chico Velo Club for Gourmet Hike - Sunday, March 19, 1000 - Upper Bidwell Park, South Rim Trail**
5. **Permit Application from the Chico Chamber of Commerce - Leadership Chico for a Fund-raising Hike - Friday, April 29, 2000 - Upper Bidwell Park**

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS 1, 4, AND 5 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS** None

4. **REGULAR AGENDA**

1. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**
 - A. **Permit Application from Ensemble Theatre of Chico for 2000 Production**

of Shakespeare in the Park June 24, 2000 to August 10, 2000 - Cedar Grove Meadow and Picnic Area

Commissioner Barrett was concerned that he has seen multiple vehicles using the grass area. Park Director Beardsley said he has talked to the vendors about that and will follow up on checking areas in use.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PERMIT APPLICATION FROM ENSEMBLE THEATRE OF CHICO FOR 2000 PRODUCTION OF SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Permit Application from Parent Education Network - Art Fund-raising Event, September 16 and 17, 2000 - Plaza Park

Commissioner Barrett said the use of non-lead chalk was designated and asked how it is regulated when people bring in their own materials. Park Director Beardsley said that item could be added to those that must meet stipulations for approval of materials on the event permit application and on the artists applications to enter the event. Materials will be inspected before use.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PERMIT APPLICATION FROM PARENT EDUCATION NETWORK- ART FUND-RAISING EVENT. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Park Director Beardsley received approval to add Award of Contract - Bidwell Park Clean-Up as item 2.4 on the agenda.

2. Approval of the 2000 Season Permit Applications from Chico Central Little League, Chico Area Recreation and Park District and Butte United Soccer League for Use of Wildwood Park

Park Director Beardsley said this annual application is on the agenda because Butte United Soccer is asking for Sunday use of the park from 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for four weeks in April and May. Policy has been to keep Sunday free for the public. Chris Sillars, of Butte United Soccer, said trials must be held on Sundays because players have other commitments on Saturday. Probably there could be 40-50 kids trying out. They don't need the whole field so there would be room for other activities. Alternate dates were submitted and accepted by Butte United Soccer.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PERMIT

APPLICATIONS FROM CHICO CENTRAL LITTLE LEAGUE, CHICO AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT AND BUTTE UNITED SOCCER LEAGUE FOR USE

OF WILDWOOD PARK. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Consider Funding Proposals from:

- a. **Chico Nature Center** Judy White, Director of the Nature Center, said the Center received \$45,000 in 1999 and is asking for \$60,000 for 2000. She submitted a current balance sheet and asked for support of the increase. The amounts for fund-raising and grants have been reduced as shown but they are estimated to increase. Commissioner Mills said community support also contributes to fund raising and he would like to have support from both Transit Occupancy Tax (TOT) and Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). The Nature Center is acting as representative of Chamber of Commerce on weekends and could request funding for that service. Commissioner Dunning thinks fund raising should not be necessary because the City wants the service and should pay for it.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND SUPPORT FOR THE \$60,000 REQUESTED BY THE NATURE CENTER WITH SOME OF THE FUNDING FROM TOT AND SOME FROM CDBG. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. **Chico Cat Coalition** Park Director Beardsley said the coalition was first funded from CDBG last year and need for the program will continue. The amount requested increased from \$7,000 to \$10,000. The number of cats to be removed is going up, with dozens still being dropped off. They have removed 275 cats, placed close to 200, and keep others in foster care. Over 11,000 volunteer hours have been donated. Commissioner Mills would like to initiate the same community-wide spay/neutering program for cats as it has for dogs.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND \$10,000 FUNDING FOR THE CAT COALITION FROM CDBG AND TO RECOMMEND CONTROL OF CAT POPULATION. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Award of Contract - Bidwell Park Clean-Up

Council directed staff to seek a non-profit organization to clean up Bidwell Park. Sixty proposals were mail to organizations and four were returned. It is not a fund-raising event. Park Director Beardsley was asked to consider the lowest responsible bidder and all four were qualified in his judgment. He recommends award to Chico State University, Chico, College of Business, Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) for an amount not to exceed \$2,500. The first event in April will be evaluated before the second one is OK'd. From the public, Ken Derucher and Reuben Williams, of SIFE, discussed their budget and said the \$1,000 for a scholarship could be dropped. Susan Mason, of Butte Environmental Council (BEC), described their former experience with this event and their submitted budget. Commissioner Mills said he is concerned that SIFE's clean up would not meet the standards of BEC and BEC has researched the budget better than SIFE. Commissioner King liked what BEC has done the past 14 years. Commissioner Dunning said to determine the qualification on the proposal and evaluate the results after the work is complete. Commissioner O'Bryan said BEC has always been the drive in the clean-up and only recently received funding so they should be supported now.

COMMISSIONER O'BRYAN MADE A MOTION TO REJECT PARK DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION AND AWARD THE CONTRACT TO BEC. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION. AYES: CHAIR KING, COMMISSIONERS MILLS, BARRETT, O'BRYAN, HOLDERBEIN AND KOPICKI. NOES: COMMISSIONER DUNNING. THE MOTION CARRIED.

5. Review and Discussion of Proposed Changes to Chico Municipal Code - Bidwell Park

Park Director Beardsley submitted recommended modifications to Chapter 12R.04 of the Chico Municipal Code meant to keep the Park safe and used in an appropriate manner. There will be four Rangers on duty this summer. They want to give high priority to issues of alcohol, glass, camping, smoking and to control night time activities between Manzanita and the closed Upper Park road. Ranger Bob Donohue gave the shift times beginning March 12, 2000. He said there has been a problem with off-road parking. Ranger/Volunteer Coordinator Steve Hogue's concern is in the new acquisition, especially regarding the disc golf course area where there has been two fires and litter left by camping.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE MODIFICATIONS TO CHICO MUNICIPAL CODE AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER DUNNING SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Tree/Finance Committee Meeting

- A. **Status Report on Capital Improvement Program** Staff submitted Capital items for fiscal year 2000-01 in the amount of \$273,030. If Proposition 12 passes, the funds would probably be available in 2001 for two to three years. Commission recommends that Proposition 12 funds be used on Five Year Capital Improve Projects.
- B. **Ranger Staffing for Holidays** Staff is looking at the budget to increase funding for this item. No action required.
- C. **Master Management Plan Review Timeline Discussion** Park Director Beardsley has asked for a half-time Management Analyst to update the Master Management Plan. No action required.
- D. **Review and Discuss Draft Street Tree Ordinance** A series of proposals has been prepared for review and comments but no resolution has been made.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION ON CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND HOURS FOR RANGER STAFFING ON HOLIDAYS. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Preservation/Stream Committee

- A. **Review and discussion of Draft Environmental Impact Report - Otterson Drive** Staff has drafted a letter to Clif Sellers, Community Development Assistant, with the Commission's comments on the Otterson Drive EIR that supports the no project alternative as having the least environmental impact. CDA Sellers gave an overview of the project. Cut off date for written comments is March 6, a draft will be drawn, followed by a period for corrections including public and agency comments and responses. The final EIR goes to Planning Commission to make their recommendations to City Council. During the Planning Commission discussion would be a time to offer more input.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO ENDORSE THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION FOR NO PROJECT ON THE OTTERSON DRIVE PROJECT. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- B. **Review and discuss Streambank Protection Standards** Commission discussed the revised draft of the document. Commissioner Mills said "improvements" and "structure" are used interchangeably and that should be cleaned up; item 8 is part of Title I and therefore redundant. Commissioner

Dunning suggested making general wording easier to understand.

- C. **Review and discussion of Concept Paper on Restoration of Chico's Riparian Habitat.** Dr. Paul Maslin has submitted a proposed program to facilitate involvement of environmental organizations' participation in restoring Chico's riparian habitats. Commissioner Mills said he has seen good results of the program practices along the creek on campus. Park Director Beardsley said 30% of growth is removed in a four year period of time, taking out seed source and small material so no dramatic change occurs at once.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO INCORPORATE THE PAPER INTO THE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUS.

8. **Trail/Safety Committee Meeting**

- A. **Upper Park Trails** Committee did not reach a decision about naming the trails. Staff will ask for public input. A meeting is set with Michael and Caryn Jones to walk trails and discuss alignment. No action required.
- B. **Site Clearances at the Intersection of Trails and Roadways** Staff will bring back some drawings demonstrating safety issues at intersections. No action required.
- C. **Authorization to Place Waste Receptacles for Animal Waste in Lower Bidwell Park.** Committee recommended three locations for dog waste receptacles in Lower Park. Disposable bags will be provided in areas of large use so dog owners could voluntarily clean up. There will be a report to Commission in one year.

5. **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- 1. **Director's Report** The new concrete at Plaza Park will be redone under warranty; review of the Rod & Gun Club lease is to be completed by August - it was sent to the Master Management Plan Committee; study of the Plaza Park design has been sent to Master Management Committee; a plaque has been uncovered dedicated in 1951 which names North Park Drive "Peterson Memorial Drive" in honor of George and Clara Peterson to recognize all they contributed to the Park. Maps will now be using that name.
- 2. **Monthly Reports** submitted and filed

3. Incident Reports submitted and filed

4. Correspondence 1) from Tony Baptiste, Community Development Director, to Butte County regarding notification of any construction along Lindo Channel to prevent future encroachments; 2) from Heidi Arno, Great Valley Center, acknowledging receipt of the LEGACI grant application entitled "Lindo Channel Resource Analysis/Existing Conditions Study:."

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Caryn Jones expressed concern about the expense of writing the Master Management Plan which is not followed up on. The Encroachment Policy timeline is on the agenda next month so be thinking about it. Commissioner Barrett asked if there is a way to get a summary of Park issues that appear before the Council and the resolutions. Park Director Beardsley could put that information in the Director's Report. A Pancake Breakfast has been approved on March 17, St Patrick's Day, in Plaza Park.

7. ADJOURNMENT

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 10:40 TO THE MEETING ON MARCH 9, 2000 AT 7:30 IN CONFERENCE ROOM 1 TO REVIEW THE REQUEST FOR AN OBSERVATORY IN UPPER PARK. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

March 27, 2000
Date Approved

DENNIS BEARDSLEY
Park Director

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 28, 2000
SIGN IN

	Name	Address
1.	Chris Sillars	2581 Caltier Avenue 95973
2.	Judy White	9234 Goodspeed Durham 95938
3.	Ken Derucher	815 Pomona Avenue #26
4.	Reuben Williams	708 ½ Pomona Avenue
5.	Susan Mason`	Box 3036 95927
6.	*Helen Ost	1255 East Lindo Avenue
7.	*Janet Waither	460 Rio Lindo
8.	Caryn Jones	5 Deborah Court

* request mailing list for Street Tree Ordinance and copies of Streambank Protection Standards, Otterson Drive letter, Paul Maslin's Concept Paper, and Hignel information

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2000
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Present at Roll Call: Chair Kimberly King, Commissioners Russell Mills, Steve O'Bryan, Bruce Holderbein, and Barbara Kopicki; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent: Commissioners Tom Barrett and Glenn Dunning.

2. CONSENT AGENDA None

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing on the Mitigated Negative Declaration for Development of an Astronomical Observatory in Upper Bidwell Park, Use Permit No. 00-6

Park Director Beardsley said the project is a 20 x 40 foot building to house telescopes on the west side of Horseshoe Lake at Parking Lot E. The first issue is of aesthetics. Mitigation Measure #1 is to change the color of the building from white to a shade of brown. A ten-foot high chain link fence would be replaced with an eight-foot fence with design and materials to appear as part of the building. Mitigation Measure #2 gives ways to control construction-related dust emissions. Mitigation Measure #3 says any cultural resources encountered shall be reported to the Planning Division and a qualified archaeologist will be contacted. There is no sewer at the site and Butte County Health Department does not support use of a compost toilet. A chemical toilet near the parking lot, with open lath construction, is now recommended. It will be a City facility.

From the public, John Merz said he meet with Kiwanis at the site and the map is incorrect. He had several points: suggested no final approval before final specifications are complete; a negative declaration can not have five mitigation issues; aesthetics is a big question but has no environmental impact; issues of closing hours are not addressed; surrounding area is not barren land and growth there should be considered; determine the solar cells meet demands; building is in a high-fire area; there is no description of a drainage pattern; the hours of operation and impact of being open all right are not addressed; don't do piecemeal planning.

Kris Koenig said the sub-committee worked out many details including the hours issues; there are no non-native plants; the original proposal gave regular hours and asked for permits for other hours; nature controls the capacity issue - there is lots of room for people to wait; heat attracted by colors of the building effects instruments but they can adjust; roof pitch is regulated

by height of telescopes - minimum is eight feet; there will be 12-volt red safety lights along the pathway; star parties may attract 50-60 people who don't stay long.

Anthony Watts read a letter of support from Dino Corbin, General Manager of KHSL. Mr. Watts will support the project personally with \$10,000 in materials and equipment from IT WORKS. Patrick Lynch, President of Kiwanis, said the club has given complete support in any way needed. Tim Hansen urges approval as soon as possible for the benefit of his interested children; Scott Mallory of Magalia said people outside of Chico are also supporters. Bob Donohue, past officer of Kiwanis, said the whole Kiwanis district is supportive about going ahead with the project. Ellen Koenig showed a poster made by her son to vote for the observatory. Gregg Payne thinks it expands the boundry of the Park all the way up. Wally Kramer, past Kiwanis officer, said they now have 33 members and support for the project has put a fire in the club. All concerns should be simply handled.

Commissioner Kopicki asked that bike racks be provided. Commissioner O'Bryan liked use of telescopes but had a problem with the location regarding lights of town and air quality and those problems may need help later. Commissioner Mills provided six additions to be included in the motion to approve.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION WITH ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS 1) BUILDING BE LIGHTER EARTH TONES, 2) OUTSIDE OF BUILDING BE FIRE-RESISTANT, 3) DRAINAGE BE ADDRESSED, 4) ROOF HAVE A MINIMUM PITCH, 5) FENCING BE ELIMINATED AND PANELS PUT ON SOUTH WALL OF BUILDING, AND 6) BIKE PARKING PROVIDED PLUS MITIGATION MEASURES #1 AND #2. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. REGULAR AGENDA

Review and Approval of Lease Agreement with the Greater Chico Kiwanis Club for an Astronomical Observatory in Upper Bidwell Park.

Park Director Beardsley introduced Alicia M. Rock, Assistant City Attorney, who drew the lease. It is a five year lease with two five-year options, no rent payments, the lessee is responsible for maintenance, some money is placed in trust in case of disaster expenses, any deviation in operation or any additional improvements must come back to the Commission. Commissioner Mills would like to specify that club membership be available to the general public and a minimum number of hours be set when the observatory is available for public use. He submitted four points: 1) how does one get access other than during public hours, 2) designate the time period per week available for public use, 3) operators make an annual report, and 4) widely publicize the availability of the facility. Chair King said other leases don't

have to record use of their facility but it is a good idea. She would suggest keeping a visitor log and making an annual presentation to the commission, but that doesn't need to be included in the lease.

From the public, Kris Koenig said a board of community representatives will run the operation. NOVA, a local astronomy club, will supervise open hours from Thursday through Sunday, and membership in the club is free. John Merz asked the meaning of the term "waste". Assistant City Attorney Rock said waste is a legal term meaning do not damage property or allow it to turn into ruin. Mr. Merz also said to designate that the lease is between Kiwanis and the City of Chico and that any lease needs a plat map and a copy of the building's footprint attached. He would require some recording of the use followed up with an annual report. Scott Mallory said to keep in mind that there is not much going on when the air is not clear.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO CONCEPTUALLY APPROVE THE LEASE AGREEMENT FOR AN OBSERVATORY IN BIDWELL PARK WITH ADDITIONS 1) DESIGNATE HOW ONE GETS ACCESS OTHER THAN DURING PUBLIC HOURS, 2) DEFINE TIME PERIOD PER WEEK WHEN USE IS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC, 3) OPERATORS PROVIDE AN ANNUAL REPORT TO COMMISSION, AND 4) KIWANIS PUBLICIZE THE AVAILABILITY OF THE FACILITY. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR None

6. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to the next regular meeting of March 27, 2000.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
MARCH 9, 2000
SIGN-IN SHEET

Name

1. John Merz
2. Kris Koenig
3. Anthony Watts
4. Patrick Lynch
5. Tim Hanson
6. Scott Mallory
7. Bob Donohue
8. Ella Koenig
9. Gregg Payne
10. Wally Kramer

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
APRIL 11, 2000
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Present at Roll Call: Chair Kimberly King, Commissioners Steve O’Bryan, Tom Barrett, Bruce Holderbein, Barbara Kopicki and Glenn Dunning; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley and Urban Forester Chris Boza.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

No Items

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS

No Items

4. REGULAR AGENDA

4.1. Review and Approval of Projects to be Funded from Proposition 12.

After considerable discussion the Commission arrived at a consensus on a proposal as presented below. The Commission deferred formal action until the April 24, 2000 meeting.

Projects proposed to be funded from grants funds (estimated to be \$480,000) that do not require a match (not in order of priority):

a. Lighting at One Mile Recreation Area	\$150,000
b. Plaza Park Bandstand and Restrooms	150,000
c. Sycamore Pool Dam (partial funding)	30,000
d. New Upper Park Bridge (site to be determined)	<u>200,000</u>
	\$530,000

Projects proposed to be funded from grants (estimated to be \$180,000) that does require a 30% match (not in order of priority):

	<u>Grant</u>	<u>Match</u>	<u>Total</u>
a. Pedestrian/Bike Bridge from Peterson Drive to South Park Drive adjacent Hwy 99.	\$ 66,500	\$ 28,500	\$ 95,000
b. One Mile Recreation Area Irrigation <u>94,500</u>	<u>40,500</u>	<u>135,000</u>	

\$161,000 \$ 69,000 \$ 230,000
(Uncommitted balance is approximately \$19,000)

Project proposed to be funded from sources other than Proposition 12 per capita funds
(matching requirements, if any, will be dictated by grant source)

	<u>Source</u>	<u>Cost</u>
a. Pedestrian/Bike Bridge from at Forest Avenue	Safe School/Bike Funds	\$ 95,000
b. Caper Acres Water Line	Prop. 13 Competitive	30,000
c. Horseshoe Lake Fishing Pier	Private/ADA	75,000
d. Street Tree Program (tree planting)	Prop. 12 Competitive	TBD
e. Rifle/Shooting Range Clean-up	Prop. 13 Competitive	TBD
f. Rifle/Shooting Range demolish/refurbish	Prop. 12 Competitive	TBD
g. Humboldt Neighborhood Pk. Restroom (Skateboard)	Prop. 12 Competitive	\$100,000
h. Trails (Upper Park, Lindo Channel and Teichert Ponds)	Prop. 12 Competitive	TBD

Note: TBD - To be determined by actual costs and/or available funding.

4.2 Set Date and Time for Annual Park Tour

By consensus, the Commission set 8:30 a.m., Saturday, June 3, 2000 for the annual park tour.

5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR None

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. to the next regular meeting of April 24, 2000.

Persons Who Signed in at the Meeting

Suzanne Gibbs	602 Sycamore Street	342-3429
Michael Candela	832 Madrone Ave.	345-2934
Erik Borlany	700 Normal Street	898-2850

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BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
APRIL 24, 2000
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Present at Roll Call: Chair Kimberly King, Commissioners Russell Mills, Steve O'Bryan, Bruce Holderbein, Barbara Kopicki and Glenn Dunning; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Cheryl Tobin. Absent: Commissioner Tom Barrett.

Special Order of Business: A moment of silence was held for Jackie Faris-Rees of the Chico Unified School District who recently passed away due to cancer.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of March 27, 2000

2. Minutes from Adjourned Regular Meeting of April 11, 2000

Minutes approved as submitted.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Hearing on the Mitigated Negative Declaration for Development of a Trail Between Longfellow Avenue and the Proposed First and Verbena Park Site.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, an initial study was prepared for the project concluding with a proposed mitigated negative declaration. Public Hearing was continued from March 27, 2000 meeting. Senior Planner Steve Zalusky read through his memo addressing comments and stemming from the March 27, 2000 meeting. The initial study found that the proposed project would have no significant effect on the environment. Commissioner Mills reminded the Commission that when an item such as this is presented to the Commission, a background and topographical map is needed. This item was approved with minor modifications to the document. Once approved by the Commission, permits will be obtained as well as additional approvals and monitoring.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE WITH THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS: 1) NO STORAGE IN THE ZONE OF TREES 2) EXTEND THE NO

CONSTRUCTION TIME PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 15 TO JUNE 1. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED 6-1. COMMISSIONER O'BRYAN VOTED NO.

2. Minute Order Recommending City Council Approval of Lease Agreements with the Fred and Eileen Hignell, Jr. Family 1990 Living Trust Regarding Property on the Adjacent 1399 Longfellow Avenue.

In considering the leases, Commissioner Mills made a motion to modify the documents to include the following: 1) Assure public access to all available parking spots during non-business hours. The lease from the City to Hignell reserves one parking spot for the public at all times; 2) Leases would be reviewed if the trail is not built by January 1, 2003; and, 3) If the property is sold or transferred, leases would be reviewed. The Commission took no further action.

THIS ITEM FAILED WITH A VOTE OF 2-4. COMMISSIONER DUNNING ABSTAINED DUE TO CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

Break: 9:20 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Preservation/Stream Committee of April 13, 2000.

a. Review and Discussion of Proposed Fishing Dock at Horseshoe Lake-Upper Bidwell Park

The Committee reviewed and discussed preliminary plans for the development of an accessible fishing dock at Horseshoe Lake. The project will include providing a pathway from Parking Lot C to a location west of the dam. The proposal includes a landing and sixty foot ramp to a floating dock. The project is being presented for conceptual approval for discussion with the Commission. An environmental document will need to be prepared and approved prior to proceeding with the project. Hollie Vinson spoke briefly on the concept of the fishing dock design and her vision for its use. Brian Firth also spoke in more detail of the design, color and materials for the dock. The Commission approved the conceptual design of the plans and agreed to proceed to the next step of proceeding with an environmental review.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONCEPTUAL DESIGN

OF THE PLANS AS SUBMITTED. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Proposal Regarding Teichert Ponds from the Little Chico Creek Educational Consortium.

The Little Chico Creek Educational Consortium has requested time on the agenda to present a proposal regarding access to, and management of, the Teichert Ponds. Dick Cory presented written materials to the Commission and spoke of possibly using the Ponds for educational purposes and to ask the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission adopt the Ponds to be allowed to manage the Ponds; request funding for the Pond; remedy the water quality problems and the testing of water of the Ponds. The Commission discussed this item and is seeking further clarification from the City Council and delegation for the future management plan for Teichert Ponds. The Commission has directed a letter to be written to the City Council requesting Teichert Ponds be designated as a park land/open space area and to adopt a management plan for Teichert Ponds.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO WRITE THE LETTER TO CITY COUNCIL STATING TEICHERT PONDS SHOULD BE DESIGNATED AS A PARK LAND/OPEN USE AREA. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED IT. AYES: BARRETT, MILLS, HOLDERBEIN, O'BRYAN, AND KOPICKI. NOES: KING AND DUNNING.

3. Request from Earl and Susan Nance for Garden Permit in Lindo Channel.

By their letter of April 9, 2000, Earl and Susan Nance requested permission to continue gardening on City property in Lindo Channel. Under the provisions of the recently approved encroachment policy, all such requests must be reviewed and approved by the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission. The Commission approved this request modifying the request to state there is to be no irrigation and the Nance's are to plant only Butte County native plants. In addition, the Nance's will be allowed to cut the Star Thistle.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE WITH CONDITIONS NOT TO IRRIGATE AND PLANT ONLY BUTTE COUNTY NATIVE PLANTS. COMMISSIONER O'BRYAN SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Review and Approval of Projects to be Funded from Proposition 12.

The "Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Act" (Proposition 12) was approved March 7, 2000. Proceeds from the bond will be available

as direct grants to public agencies on a per-capita basis. In addition, there will be grants available in a variety of categories on a competitive basis. The Tree/Finance Committee made recommendations for the per-capita allocation at the March 27, 2000 Bidwell Park and Playground Commission meeting. On April 11, 2000, the Commission held a separate meeting to discuss the matter and continued that discussion to the present meeting. The Commission has approved a series of recommendations which will be included in a memo to the City Council.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL WITH CHANGES OF DROPPING THE ONE-MILE LIGHTING PROJECT FROM \$150,000 TO \$100,000 AND BOOSTING THE UPPER BIDWELL PARK BRIDGE FROM \$150,000 TO 200,000 AND ADDING TEICHERT PONDS FOR PROPOSITION 13 COMPETITIVE FUNDING. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Review and Discussion of Items to be included in Budget Meeting with the City Council.

Each year the Commission has an opportunity to talk with the City Council about items of interest. The Commission discussed and chose to include Proposition 12 recommendations, long range planning program for Lindo Channel, the New Acquisition and Master Management Plan, policy change in Nexus analysis to include new projects in Bidwell Park. Dennis Beardsley, Park Director will be drafting a memorandum to the City Council and will provide a copy to the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission.

6. Request to Participate in Removal of Arundo Donax (Giant Reed) from Little Chico Creek and Lindo Channel.

Staff received a request from the California State University, Chico Environmental Resource Program to participate in grant application to address the invasive Arundo Donax in area waterways. This is an expanded version of the program the Park Department is participating through Team Arundo del Norte which addresses Big Chico Creek. Commission action is not required on this item, it is for information purposes only.

7. Report from Master Management Plan Committee Trail/Safety Committee Meeting of March 29, 2000.

a. Discussion of Rod and Gun Club Lease.

The City of Chico has a five year lease with the Chico Rod and Gun

Club. The original lease provided for three five-year terms, the second of which ends December 1, 2000. The lease will be automatically extended unless notice is given to terminate. The Committee is recommending Commission consider requesting information from the Rod and Gun Club relating to use of fees, hours available for public use, advertising and an annual report. The President of the Chico Rod and Gun Club, Mr. Hartman spoke of all the activities the Club offers to the residents of the City of Chico.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOTIONED TO RECOMMEND CITY COUNCIL THAT THEY EXTEND THE LEASE FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE YEARS, THE LEASE BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE THE FOUR ITEMS THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED: 1) PUBLIC ACCESS SHALL NOT EXCEED THE COST OF OPERATING THE PROGRAMS, 2) THE CHICO ROD AND GUN CLUB PROVIDE A MINIMUM NUMBER OF HOURS THAT THE PUBLIC HAS ACCESS TO THE FACILITY, 3) ADVERTISE THE AVAILABILITY TO THE PUBLIC AND; 4) AN ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT IS PROVIDED TO THE COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-2. AYES: MILLS, KOPICKI, O'BRYAN, DUNNING, HOLDERBEIN. NOES: BARRETT AND KING.

b. Review and Discussion of the Plaza Park Master Plan.

Committee discussed the status of the Master Plan for Plaza Park and the future of the existing gazebo. Committee is recommending the plan be reviewed and updated. Commissioner Mills motioned to adopt the Committee's recommendation.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION. COMMISSIONER O'BRYAN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

c. Consider Request to Place One Disc Golf Practice Basket in Bidwell Park.

Mr. Les Harrison requested permission to install a basket and informational signs which would be used for an "around nine" practice hole in Children's Playground. Committee recommended approval with a site be determined. Gregg Payne spoke on the positive benefits of having such a basket in the Park. Various members of the audience spoke of the positive benefits as well. Commissioner Barrett stated he would prefer Annie's Glenn area.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE WITH THE CONDITION THE BASKET WAS NOT INSTALLED OVER OR NEAR PATHWAYS IN THE PARK. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION STATING EITHER AREA WOULD BE FINE WITH HIM. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

d. Discussion of Vehicular Traffic in Upper Bidwell Park.

Committee discussed traffic issues and opportunities for extending public transportation. Staff will be reviewing additional information and will be coming back to the Committee. A trial program will be put together for the Spring 2001 season, for gaining access between the downtown Chico area and Upper Bidwell Park, Horseshoe Lake and Parking Lot F. No action required at this point.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Director's Report
 - a. Accessibility Report
 - b. Vegetation Management Program
 - c. Upper Park Resource Analysis Study
 - d. Lindo Channel Bank Study
 - e. Trails
 - f. Council and Other Commission Actions

The Park Director updated each of these items for the Commission.

2. Monthly Reports

Park Director Beardsley stated the Bidwell Park Cleanup was a great success. Bids for the Ringle Park Restroom Restoration Project has been awarded and is expected to be completed in September. The bid opening for the Downtown Street Trees will be opened the second week of May with the project being completed this summer.

3. Incident Reports Received and filed.

Correspondence: Letters from Doug Love and Richard Stewart regarding Lindo Channel Encroachments.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR None

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 a.m. to the adjourned regular meeting of May 23, 2000.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND
APRIL 24, 2000
SIGN IN SHEET

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
1.	Hollie Vinson	2960 Sandi Drive
2.	Mike Byrd	115 Yellowstone Drive
3.	Brian Firth	194 East 6th Street
4.	Don Lampe	3060 Thorntree Drive
5.	Suzanne Gibbs	602 Sycamore Street
6.	Helen Ost	1255 East Lindo Avenue
7.	Caryn Jones	5 Deborah Terrace
8.	John Merz	1331 Broadway
9.	Roger Cole	P.O. Box 68, Forest Ranch
10.	Dick Cory	1715 Oak Way
11.	Paul Maslin	Bio.Dept., CSUC
12.	Richard Wilson	1762 Oak Way
13.	Earl Nance	8 Shimmery Oak Ct.
14.	Bruce Gray	145 W. 20th Street
15.	Robert Malowney	Chico
16.	Gregg Payne	1343 Laburnum Avenue
17.	James Watson	137 W. 12th Street

18. Les Harrison

719 Orient Street

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
MAY 30, 2000
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Present Chair Kimberly King, Commissioners Russell Mills, Steve O'Brien, Tom Barrett, Barbara Kopicki, Bruce Holderbein, and Glen Dunning; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

Special Order of Business: Ranger Steve Hogue offered recognition to groups who have donated time in maintenance and improvement of the Park. Receiving certificates of appreciation were Teresa Murphy of Americorp, Farshad Azad of Azad's Martial Arts Family Center, and Retta Cooper for Yahi Chapter of Sierra Club.

Park Director Beardsley received consent to move item 4.6 of the regular agenda "Review and Approval of Big Chico Creek Sycamore Corner Flood Plain Restoration Project" to Item 4.3

2. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of April 24, 2000

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVED THE MINUTES OF APRIL 24, 2000 AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed From the Regular Agenda None

2. Review and Discussion of Final Environmental Impact Report - Otterson Drive

The final EIR for the Otterson Drive extension project has been distributed. This item is on the agenda to give the Commission another opportunity to make additional comments and recommendations before the plan goes to the Planning Commission for final recommendations to the City Council.

From the public: Suzanne Gibbs asked that the bridge abutments provide a clear span

by being set back from the bank and not placed in the water. John Merz wants to add a recommendation not to amend the general plan circulation element and to make a statement in opposition to the project as a whole.

Commissioner Mills said it seems some of the potential impacts and disadvantages are being left out of the report and that the Commission opposes any bridge over a greenway unless there is a strong reason for being there. Commissioner O'Brien said the acquisition was originally made for a creekside greenway and now is being presented as a roadway. Council should keep the general plan and retain the area as a greenway and not for traffic circulation. Most mitigations seem to be in the areas of interest of this commission so members should appear the council meeting in July.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO DRAFT A SECOND LETTER OF RECOMMENDATIONS REITERATING THE ORIGINAL IDEAS AND ADDING A STATEMENT TO RECOMMEND KEEPING THE GENERAL PLAN, DESIGN OF BRIDGE ABUTMENTS, AND NO CONVERSION OF OPEN SPACE. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0

3. Review and Approval of Big Chico Creek Sycamore Corner Flood plain Restoration Project.

Funding for restoration of a section of Big Chico Creek in the vicinity of Sycamore Field may be available as part of a settlement agreement with the Regional Water Quality Control Board. This agreement states that 50% of a \$100,000 fine assessed against the City could be paid by funding a watershed water quality project. After staff reviewed projects with Streaminders and Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance, this proposal for flood plain restoration is recommended. It would include removal of old land fill to reconnect the stream with its floodplain, of non-native vegetation , and of concrete left in the stream. The new floodplain would be vegetated with native plants and a log vein constructed to increase cover and create a habitat conducive to rearing salmon.

From the public, Suzanne Gibbs , of Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance, said the organization has developed plans for restoration at this site and they meet specifications of the funding. E. C. Ross, Director of Public Works, was also available to answer questions.

COMMISSIONER O'BRIEN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROJECT AS PRESENTED AND AUTHORIZE PRESENTATION TO CITY COUNCIL ON JUNE 6, 2000. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

4. Review and Approval of Communication to the Chico City Council Regarding Teichert Ponds.

This commission has requested that Teichert Ponds be designated as parkland and open space and asked for a budget to prepare a management plan. Park Director Beardsley asked for modification or approval of staff's proposed letter to Council recommending the plan. He also stated the budget report incorporates all points requested. Commissioner Mills asked that the last sentence in the second paragraph be moved to the beginning.

COMMISSIONER KOPICKI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE LETTER TO COUNCIL REGARDING TEICHART PONDS WITH THE LAST SENTENCE MOVED FORWARD. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

5. Report from Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of May 17, 2000

a. Discussion Chico Nature Center Lease

The City's lease with the Nature Center ends on December 31, 2000 and will be extended for an additional 20 years unless either party serves a Notice of Intent to Terminate. There has been some question if wording in Item 3 "Use of Leased Property" would limit fund-raising activities on the property. Judy White, Director, said any activity done on the property carried out the Center's goals. Chair King said the lease should have less restrictive wording so it is clear they can do fund raising on the property and that issue should be addressed tonight as part of the lease. Commissioner Mills said the lease should be approved tonight and the wording of Item 3 should be addressed later by a letter of clarification or an amendment.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND THE LEASE FOR CHICO NATURE CENTER BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

Wording in the lease regarding fund raising will be on the agenda for discussion at the regular meeting in July.

b. Discussion of Lease with the Chico Equestrian Association

This lease ends on January 1, 2001. The Committee recommends drafting a new lease for 15 years and incorporate requirements for an annual report, publicize it as available to the public, and publish fee charges. From the public,

Suzanne Gibbs asked how the area would be impacted if Manzanita Avenue is widened during the term of the lease. She also questions how an organization could monitor making a report on an arena open to the public. Commissioner Dunning said Manzanita is a long way from the arena and the area would not be effected. Commissioner Mills said the annual reports could be for just special events.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION FOR STAFF TO DRAW A NEW LEASE FOR CHICO EQUESTRIAN ASSOCIATION AS DESCRIBED. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

c. Consider Request to Establish Plaza Park as a “Drug Free Zone”

Downtown Chico Business Association has requested Park Plaza be designated a drug free zone to enhance penalties for violations. Many other areas in the City currently carry that designation.

From the public, Tom Bouequist thinks everything about the idea is non-sense, a lie, and part of a class war; passage would be hypocritical. Suzanne Gibbs wonders if the park would then look like a troubled area to people coming into Chico; thinks it is poor public relations and something we do not need.

Chair King said Children’s Park has improved and maybe drug free is part of that; DCBA produces the Friday night concerts so has an interest in Plaza Park. Commissioner Barrett would rather have a no smoking zone and drug free is not worthwhile. Commissioner Mills said DCBA earlier asked not to do it but they should not pretend there is no drug problem there. Commissioner Dunning said people would feel safer to see the area as a drug free zone and all parks should be; he asked if signs are always necessary. Park Director Beardsley answered the idea is to publicize the zone but signs can be made appropriate in location and design.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO DESIGNATE PLAZA PARK A DRUG FREE ZONE. COMMISSIONER O’BRIEN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-2. AYES: CHAIR KING, COMMISSIONERS MILLS. O’BRIEN, HOLDERBEIN AND DUNNING. NOES: COMMISSIONERS BARRETT AND KOPICKI.

6. Report from Trail/Safety Committee Meeting of May 17, 2000

a. Discussion of Trails in Upper Bidwell Park

Committee has approved a trail plan which identifies potential trail realignment, new trails, and bootleg trails that may be abandoned. In recommending names for the trails, they suggest five trail names remain the same and connecting trails be identified as such. Each packet contained names submitted by the public and trail maps showing committee recommendation. Park Director Beardsley said staff will work with emergency services in making the transition to the new trail plan. From the public, Retta Cooper said markers are often vandalized so make designations clear on a map; also signs take away from natural habitat so maybe put script on rocks.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT TRAIL NAMES AS RECOMMENDED. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

b. Status Report and Discussion of Annie Bidwell Trail

Council has allocated \$5,000 for a botanical survey of the proposed route, which has been completed, and an additional \$35,000 in the budget for the EIR.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Director's Report

The report was filed and updated: Arrival of goats has been delayed but they will be by the nursery at the end of this week. City is discussing with Cal Trans if we purchased access rights from Highway 32 when we purchased the acquisition. A second ad hoc meeting has been scheduled to discuss the First and Verbena Park issues. Commissioners O'Brien and Barrett volunteered to represent the Commission, with Commissioner Kopicki as alternate. Liquid Ambers would be the first of the downtown trees to be removed as they are causing damage to sidewalks.

2. Monthly Reports

Reports were filed and reviewed.. Ctree program held 2- three-hour workshops and pruned 428 trees. A consultant was on site of the lead study near Horseshoe Lake to begin a survey to determine where they would take soil samples. Agencies do not have to be notified in the initial steps, but would be before completion.

3. Incident reports

Reports were filed on Bidwell Park, Children's Playground, Park Plaza, and Caper Acres.

4. Correspondence

Letters and Director's responses were filed from Dana Simon regarding Wood Duck nest boxes along Little Chico Creek and from Trudy Bell regarding ugly garbage cans in the Parks.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Suzanne Gibbs asked about plans for restoring a bank of Little Chico Creek undermined at the bike path along Humboldt Road near the Police Station and suggested school student might help with the restoration. Park Director Beardsley said the Department of Public Works is working on plans. She reported the Research Foundation was awarded 1.677 million dollars for purchase of 2,700 areas of Simmons Ranch adjacent to Bidwell Park for education and research projects.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 to the bike tour of Bidwell Park on Saturday, June 3, 2000 beginning in Conference Room 2 at 8:30 a.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 26, 2000 at 7:30 p.m.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
MAY 30, 2000
SIGN IN SHEET

	Name	Address
1.	Suzanne Gibbs	BCCWA 602 Sycamore St
2.	John Merz	1331 Broadway
3.	Tim Bouequist	PO Box 4627
4.	Rett Cooper	4525 Wilder Drive

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
JUNE 26, 2000
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Present: Chair Kimberley King, Commissioners Steve O’Bryan, Tom Barrett, Barbara Kopicki, Bruce Holderbein, and Glen Dunning; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent: Commissioners Russell Mills.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of May 30, 2000**
- 2. Approval to Apply to the Butte County Air Quality Management District for a Clean Air Fund Grant to be Used for the Implementation of a Bus Shuttle to Upper Bidwell Park During the 2001 Wildflower Season.** This item was removed from the Consent Agenda by Commissioner Barrett.
- 3. Approval of Application from Ron Kleiner Sky High Sports Productions for a Running Event - Sunday, October 15, 2000 - Upper Park** This item was removed from the Consent Agenda by Commissioner O’Bryan.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 1 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER O’BRYAN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

- A. Approval to Apply to the Butte County Air Quality Management District for a Clean Air Fund Grant to be Used for the Implementation of a Bus Shuttle to Upper Bidwell Park During the 2001 Wildflower Season**

The proposed grant application in the amount of \$4,000 proposes to provide bus service from Downtown Transit Center to Horseshoe Lake on Saturday

and Sunday between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. during March and April 2001. The purpose is to promote public transportation in the park and reduce traffic congestion. Actual dates of service are open, but spring is a good time to view wildflowers. Commissioner Barrett said it is a study to find ridership, level of interest, and best route for the bus to use. Application deadline is June 30, 2000.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE APPLICATION FOR A CLEAN AIR FUND GRANT TO BE USED FOR A BUS SHUTTLE TO UPPER PARK. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

B. Approval of Application from Ron Kleiner Sky High Sports Productions for a Running Event - Sunday, October 15, 2000 - Upper Park

Commissioner O'Bryan asked if the event was a benefit or held for profit. He thinks triathlons have not been supported and park events should not be held for profit. Park Director Beardsley said it is a dual event (triathlon in Lower Park and running in Upper Park) being sponsored by a private firm from El Sobrante. He did not ask about profits, but the Chico Municipal Code does not prohibit such. It comes to the Commission because it is an off-road event. From the public, Tina Kleiner said her husband wants to get involved in setting up events and this one is not for profit but just to attract people for such events. Participants will pay a fee of \$20, but the number of participants may start low and grow each year. Chair King said it is not right to say no because of profit when such a policy is not in place. Park Director Beardsley asked Commissioners to set a policy on this issue for staff's direction.

COMMISSIONER O'BRYAN MADE A MOTION TO DENY THE APPLICATION FROM SKY HIGH SPORTS PRODUCTIONS FOR A RUNNING EVENT ON OCTOBER 15, 2000 AND SEND THE ISSUE OF EVENTS FOR PROFIT TO A MASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR SETTING A POLICY. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

2. Review and Discussion of Proposed 24-hour Convenience Store/Gas Station at Vallombrosa/Mangrove Intersection.

The Planning Commission has denied an application for a 24-hour store and gas station at Vallombrosa and Mangrove but the denial has been appealed. Chair King thinks such a business should not be close to the Park and BPPC should address a letter to Council for their meeting of July 25, 2000 stating opposition. Ed Palmeri, Senior Planner, said the operation would include 12 gas pumps, a car wash and a 24-hour

convenience store. Planning Commission found that use not appropriate for the site regarding traffic and Master Plan design.

From the public, Tom DeGiovanni said the discussion at the Planning meeting was not much about closeness to the park but more about traffic problems, though it would have a dramatic impact on One Mile. There are better uses available for that corner such as an office development which could become a good civic space and not an area misused as a bar and for drinking as has been done there in the past.

Chair King said Mangrove is designated a scenic route and potential litter and drinking should be kept out. Commissioner Barrett agreed and said the downtown 7-11 produces a trail of trash to the park and the schools; he wants a more tranquil intersection to compliment the park. Commissioner O'Bryan opposes only the store being open for 24-hour operation with subsequent lighting and activity. Commissioner Kopicki said more traffic would deter bikes using the park.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO HAVE STAFF PREPARE A LETTER IN OPPOSITION TO ALLOWING A 24-HOUR OPERATION ON THE CORNER OF VALLOMBROSA AND MANGROVE. COMMISSIONER O'BRYAN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

3. Review and Approval of Correspondence Regarding the Final Environmental Impact Report - Otterson Drive

On May 25 the final EIR was passed and designed the northern link as the preferred option for Otterson Drive extension. A draft letter on this issue from BPPC to Council was presented for review.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR NO PROJECT AS WRITTEN. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

4. Review and Discussion of Request from Jody Coombs (1670 Cooks Way) Regarding an Encroachment in Lindo Channel.

Property owner is requesting relief from the policy on removing a confirmed Category III encroachment in Lindo Channel due to financial hardship. Park Director Beardsley can not waive the policy so needs direction from the Commission.

From the public, owner Garrett Coombs said he is ready to remove the encroachment but needs financial help to do it. The property is for sale. He can not sell it the way it is

but would have no problem once the encroachment is removed. He would like the work done as soon as possible to get it back on the

market. If City does the removal, payment may come from escrow. The disclosure statement said part of the property belongs to the City when he purchased it.

Park Director Beardsley suggested Commission allow staff to work out a restoration plan and allow access from Lindo Channel to remove improvements. He will report on progress.

5. Review and Discussion of Hooked on Fishing Event Held June 3, 2000 - Horseshoe Lake.

Commissioner Barrett requested Commission discuss conditions of this event and of all fishing at Horseshoe Lake. He said the event clean up was not well done and proposes fishing be allowed only for children under 14 years of age any time. Rules are hard to enforce at the lake. Commissioner Dunning thinks avid fisherman like the process of fishing more than the keeping so should not be denied the right to catch and release. Range Bob said Rangers patrol at the lake and find most of the time fishers catch and release or practice fly fishing but more problems occur just after the event. From the public, Bob Evans agrees about the concerns with adult fishing but limiting it to under 14 would be hard on kids a little older who like to ride their bikes to the lake to fish. The issue was sent to Master Management Committee for policy review.

6. Status Report and Discussion of Wildwood Park - Phase II Improvements

Park Director Beardsley updated information on phase II of Wildwood Park improvement, which is primarily for parking. Architect Greg , of Land Image, showed maps of two proposed play areas, a group picnic area for up to 100, and a connecting path around the perimeter. Providing shade for the new areas is an issue. It can be done with cloth structure, steel structure, or planting trees. The initial concept is to provide quick shade and also make planter areas that would take 4-6 years to mature. Trees can not be planted near children's play area so a structure is needed there. There could be several small structures or one big one that is more efficient. Planting trees in the park needs major soil replacements. Commissioner O'Bryan asked that the color and design be made to look natural from a distance and he wants structures over the picnic and play areas. Steel provides a life of up to 50 years with proper painting and upkeep. Park Director Beardsley said a group raised \$15,000 for Brooks field and it could now be used to proceed with building a play area. He also recommended setting aside up to 1% of the total budget for art treatment. Commission recommended plan A to go with shade structures, or plan B to go with trees, first at group picnic area

and then at the play area if there are budget limitation. The final plan can now be prepared for construction in 2001.

7. Presentation of 2000 Street Tree Clearance Program.

Urban Forester Boza gave an overview of the tree trimming program and recent modifications that enhanced productivity. An inventory was done in 1995 that determined trees in poor condition and those that need to be trimmed. This year an additional part time staff of three was hired for seven weeks to work as part of a super crew that did all work required in an area, thus losing less time for stop, start and moving crews. Clearance trimming and elevating were done on Routes 4 and 5. The long-term goal is to trim every tree every 4-5 years. Commissioner O'Bryan saw the crew working on 7th Street and was impressed with the activity and how effectively they worked.

8. Report from Stream/Preservation Committee Meeting of June 19, 2000

a. Status Report on Emergency Access and Signing Along Lindo Channel

Fire and Park Departments have been working on the project to place signs and provide gates for emergency access to the channel. It is expected to be completed in July, 2000.

b. Placement of Portable Toilets and Garbage Receptacles Along Creeks and Greenways.

Committee agreed there is a benefit to having units along creeks and greenways where there is frequent use. Placements of units and funding would be worked out by staff. Commissioner Barrett asked for a receptacle along the road to the golf course and replacement of the unit removed during building of storm drains.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Director's Report

Park Director Beardsley updated the written report: work at Ringle Park is taking longer than expected to get supplies for construction; an area of 35 acres north of Five Mile does not need grazing again so the goats can be used more in Lower Park; Goats are working in areas that were previously hand cut ; the Lindo Channel encroachment program is moving ahead, he is currently talking to a couple of property owners; there

will be a report on the June 14 meeting regarding Verbena Park; Commissioners are encouraged to see where the Road Oyl

applications have been done on Upper Park road; Shakespeare in the Park is getting started.

2. Monthly Reports

Reports were filed for park maintenance and Rangers' work.

3. Incident Reports

Incidents were reported in Bidwell Park, Caper Acres, Childrens Park, Hooker Oak, and City Plaza.

4. Correspondence

Letter from Tina Telles and Director's response regarding establishment of a food concession in Bidwell Park.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Bill Arnold, of Tobacco Education with Butte County Health Department, asked about completion of a drug free policy at Plaza Park. He would hope it would include a tobacco free zone also as environmental tobacco smoke is not good for any one and it would help to discourage minors in possession of tobacco..

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. to the next regular meeting of July 31, 2000.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
JUNE 26, 2000
SIGN IN SHEET

	Name	Address
1.	Tina Kleiner	2347 Eugene Avenue Chico 95926
2.	Tom DeGiovanni	578 Vallombrosa Way
3.	Garrett Coombs	1670 Cooks Way
4.	Bob Evans	831 Carrgrove Court Chico 95926
5.	Bill Arnold	186 County Center Drive Oroville 95965

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
JULY 31, 2000
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Present: Chair Kimberly King; Commissioners Russell Mills, Steve O'Bryan, Tom Barrett, Barbara Kopicki, and Bruce Holderbein; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent: Commissioner Glenn Dunning.

Special Order of Business: Ranger/Volunteer Coordinator Steve Hogue has set up a Park Department home page giving information on a variety of things about the department. He will keep it updated.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from Regular Meeting of June 26, 2000

Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use from Michelle Cresswell to Use a Non-Reservable Picnic Area June 9, 2001 - Five Mile Recreation Area.

Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use from Chico Area Park and Recreation District for the 2000 National Yo-Yo Contest, Friday and Saturday, October 6 and 7, 2000- Plaza Park

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda None

2. Consider an Application and Permit for Park Use from Melinda Adams for a "Bidwell Roots and Blues Festival", June 16, 2001 - Children's Park

Park Director Beardsley said the application might consider Plaza Park for the site instead of Children's Park, he has concerns about damage to the extensive irrigation

system in the area, and he suggests a need for something in back of the stage to stop the noise of stage monitors. From the public, Melinda Adams said this is a free event that includes many children for the day and she likes having a playground available and a fence around the perimeter. It is not a crowd for partying or alcohol. Vehicles could unload all equipment at the beginning to an elevated stage near the service road to eliminate access during the day. Commissioner Barrett said he would like to see something happening in Children's Park. Chair King would like the area to be utilized for something more than just hanging out.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVAL THE APPLICATION WITH STIPULATIONS THAT VEHICLES REMAIN ON ROADWAYS, ALL BANDS UNLOAD EQUIPMENT BEFORE THE FESTIVAL BEGINS, AND APPLICANT WORKS WITH STAFF REGARDING PROTECTION OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM. COMMISSIONER O'BRYAN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

3. Review and Discussion of the Chico Creek Nature Center, Inc. to Use Leased Area for Fundraising Activities

Chair King asked to clarify terms of the lease regarding fund raising events. Section 3 states the property should be used only for a nature museum and for educational classes and programs. Any other use must be authorized by BPPC. She would like to eliminate that section of the lease as they are expected to do fund raising and the area should be open to doing all events. She wants to open new avenues for fund raising should City Council cut funding in the future.

Judy White, Director of the Nature Center, said the lease is for city property and they provide city information services so are careful to reflect a city service to the public. People would wonder what is going on if they see an activity at the Center that is not educational. The lease as written does not discourage fund raising off the premise.

Commissioner Barrett said fund raising is included in the term "what it takes to run the operation". Commissioner Mills said the lease excludes them from doing fund raising on the site that is not related to their mission as a natural science museum, but can do so outside the premises. Uses would be too broad if not designated as written. Two-thirds of their funding is outside of city so this does not need to be discussed.

Commissioner Holderbein does not see how a change would effect the fund raising since the director says it does not.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO ALLOW FUND RAISING EVENTS ON SITE AT THE CHICO CREEK NATURE CENTER PROVIDED THE FUNDS ARE USED AS OUTLINED IN THE LEASE. THERE WAS NO SECOND

COMMISSIONER O'BRYAN MADE A MOTION ASKING THAT A STATEMENT CLARIFYING THE LEASE BE PRESENTED AT THE NEXT REGULAR BPPC MEETING. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

4. Report from Trail/Safety Committee Meeting of July 5, 2000

Status Report and Discussion of Annie Bidwell Trail The Botanical Resource Assessment has been prepared on a section of the proposed Annie Bidwell Trail. Park Director Beardsley proposes to set a public meeting in August to identify routes and get input before initiating an environmental review. From the public, Caryn Jones explained the concept of the trail system. Eventually this section could go from the Sacramento River to connect with the Pacific Crest Trail. It is planned to be built by the public, within the sight and sound of Big Chico Creek before the 100th anniversary of Annie Bidwell leaving Chico the park. Commissioner Mills asked to set the workshop for August 24, and a followup item on the agenda for August 28.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Director's Report

Park Director Beardsley provided update on his filed report: vegetation management program is very active with goats extending their stay and an attack on Arrundo the third week of August; eight benches were installed at One Mile; Horseshoe Lake fishing study report was received today; staff is working on encroachments with several owners along Lindo Channel. The last Monday of December is the 25th so the regular meeting is set for December 18, 2000.

2. Monthly Reports

Filed and updated: Five hourly employees this summer had a big effect on getting a lot of work done; Skateboard Park graffiti was cleaned up in ½ day by Sheridan and the Park has not been closed for anything else all year. Urban Forester Boza said the first application of dust control on Upper Park Road had mixed success and would be applied thicker if done a second time.

3. Incident reports

Filed on Bidwell Park, Caper Acres, Children's Park, Hooker Oak, 20th Street, and Plaza Park.

4. Correspondence None

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Caryn Jones has been doing maintenance on Yahi Trail and has three points for Master Management Plan revisions: 1) use of Upper Park Road will increase as population grows but an upgrade would make it more crowded so make it a class one bike trail; 2) to reduce concerns for Salmon Hole area perhaps reduce the amount of parking available or give public more information; and 3) many happy dogs are off lease on Yahi Trail; why not eliminate the rule if it can not be enforced and take down the signs.

Michael Crowlin is an avid cyclist in Upper Park and said car traffic speed has gone way up since removal of water bars. There is too much dust, trash by gates, and it is a matter of time before a serious accident happens. He suggests 3 days/week for bikes, 2 days for cars, and 2 days closed.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. to the next regular meeting of August 28, 2000.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
JULY 31, 2000
SIGN-IN SHEET

	Name	Address
1.	Melinda Adams	1520 B Street Chico
2.	Judy White	1968 East 8 th Street
3.	Caryn Jones	5 Deborah Terrace

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
AUGUST 24, 2000
MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Roll Call: Present at roll call: Chair Kimberly King, Commissioners Russell Mills, Steve O'Bryan, Tom Barrett, Barbara Kopicki, Bruce Holderbein, and Glenn Dunning; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

2. **CONSENT AGENDA** No items.

3. **REGULAR AGENDA**

Review and Discussion of Proposed Annie Bidwell Trail

Park Director Beardsley announced that this is an informal workshop to discuss, review, and focus on the alignment of the Trail and provide guidance for doing the ERI. All present were asked to sign their name and address for future mailing regarding this issue.

There are three resource documents available to the public that pertain to the project. The botanical resource assessment provides details on the proposed alignment of the trail. A resource inventory would cover the entire expansion area and has more general information. The Master Management Plan needs to be updated, but was originally written before the acquisition. The existing plan may be rewritten to include the acquisition, or a separate plan might be written.

A posted map of the Park showed areas designating six sections of the proposed trail to be considered at this time. 1) from Bidwell Mansion to One Mile 2) to Five Mile, and 4) to Ten Mile House Road. Section 4 was divided as 4a shows trail east of golf course along Centennial Way and the old pistol range; 4b runs east of golf course along old jeep road to near Alligator Hole; 4c to east of Salmon Hole using the same tread; 4d ends at Ten Mile House. It would be class A to Five Mile and four feet wide for equestrian, hiking, and biking the entire length.

Discussion from the public: existing trails could be incorporated but many need to be realigned and properly designed; this trail could complete a loop with others; soil is thin everywhere so new would be exposed to the same erosion; pointed rocks mixed with soil could be brought in for base but the trail manual recommends native material; keeping clearance of 12 feet high and one foot on each side for horses would take a lot of maintenance, especially where plants grow well near water; parking could be increased for horse trailers at arena or on Centennial; two places are provided to water horses; the proposed alignment is being considered now but EIR

may require alternatives later; golf course expansion allowed for a trail in the area; would existing names along the new trail in Lower Park be changed or a logo could designate the route; surface streets are available from Mansion to One Mile; could use the proposed bike trail from Annie's Glen crossing Mangrove; Bidwell Avenue would be a beautiful park area and the County would probably like the City to take responsibility for it; City maintains a walking trail on north side of Creek at Lost Park but it probably can not support bikes;

Michael and Karyn Jones would walk the flagged route with Commission members or the public any time when asked. The matter is on the agenda for August 28, 2000, regular meeting for further Commission discussion.

4. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR None

5. ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. to the next regular meeting of August 28, 2000.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
AUGUST 28, 2000
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present at Roll Call: Co-Chair Glenn Dunning, Commissioners Russell Mills, Steve O'Bryan, Tom Barrett, Barbara Kopicki, and Bruce Holderbein; staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent Chair Kimberly King.

Special Order of Business: Park Director Beardsley announced that Sycamore Pool will be open on a limited schedule this last week of the season. Also, the park is very dry and he asked the public to be especially careful about fire.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from Regular Meeting of July 31, 2000
Commissioner Mills asked to remove this item.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearing on the Mitigated Negative Declaration for Development of a Fishing Pier and Access Ramp Westerly of Horseshoe Lake in Upper Bidwell Park.

Senior Planner Stacey Jolliffe said the mitigation is limited as the pier does not have much impact. Next step is to get the water quality certificate from the Water Quality Control Board. When plans are firmer, the mitigation still will be covered by a 1600 permit from Department of Fish and Game.. From the public, Suzanne Gibbs said this is a landlocked lake with no connection to Big Chico Creek and is planted yearly with non-native fish. Concrete piers are important, but the lake will be cleaner the more it is used and she supports the project. Commissioner Mills corrected the third paragraph of the City Memo to read "ramp slope will not exceed 1:12 for accessibility". Any cement contamination could easily be taken care of and the project could be built at low water level.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION . COMMISSIONER O'BRYAN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0.

Chair Kimberly King arrived at 7:40.

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Minutes from the Regular Meeting of July 31, 2000 The vote on the motion for Item 4.3 was carried 4-2. Yes: Chair King, Commissioners O’Bryan, Kopicki, and Barrett. Noes: Commissioners Holderbein and Mills.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER O’BRYAN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-0-1. COMMISSIONER DUNNING ABSTAINED.

2. Review and Discussion of Authority for the Chico Creek Nature Center, Inc. to Use Leased Area for Fund Raising Activities.

Assistant City Attorney Rock prepared a memo recommending BPPC either authorize fund-raising activities under the current lease or formally amend the lease to allow same. Park Director Beardsley recommends authorizing the activities and not to amend the current lease. From the public, Judy White, Director of the Nature Center, agrees that accepting authorization will continue fund-raising on the grounds.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE NATURE CENTER TO USE THE LEASED PROPERTY FOR FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES PROVIDING 1) ALL ARE TIED TO EDUCATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE CENTER, AND 2) REVENUES GENERATED BY FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES ARE USED FOR NATURE CENTER EXPENSES AND PROGRAMS IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE EXISTING LEASE. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

3. Review and Discussion of Proposed Alignment of the Annie Bidwell Trail

Park Director Beardsley reviewed discussion from the workshop held August 24. He would like further public discussion tonight regarding proposed locations prior to initiating the environmental document. Perhaps the next step would be a public meeting/walk along the proposed alignment.

From the public, Helen Ost made several suggestions: take advantage of existing trails where possible, protect the areas next to the creek for ecology and not to disturb wild life; stay out of sensitive species area; don’t increase sediment in the creek; don’t expose wooded areas to invasive plants; avoid wetlands and resulting permits; balance net gain and net loss of trails. Tom Bousquet said Bidwell Park starts at the railroad

trestle past Cherry Street, not at the mansion, so deal with the campus issue. Caryn Jones thinks ground trooping is a good idea.

Commissioner Mills thinks BPPC should make a policy statement aside from the EIR and suggested three stipulations. It was decided to set a general meeting on

Sunday, October 8, 2000 beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the golf course, with a shuttle to Ten Mile House Road, to walk the proposed alignment for the trail.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO MAKE A STATEMENT REGARDING ALIGNMENT OF THE ANNIE BIDWELL TRAIL INCORPORATING 1) AVOID TRAIL ALIGNMENTS WHICH DISTURB SENSITIVE AREAS OF DENSE FOLIAGE,, 2) USE AND CONSOLIDATE EXISTING PARALLEL ALIGNMENTS, AND 3) LIMIT CREEK ACCESS FOR ALL TRAILS. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

4. Denial of Request from the California State University, Chico - Biological Sciences Department to Serve Beer at an Event in Bidwell Park in June 2003

Park Director Beardsley has denied a request to serve beer at a meeting at either Five-Mile or One-Mile under 12R.04.040 of Chico Municipal Code. Any exception to that rule would have to be approved by Bidwell Park and Playground Commission.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO AFFIRM STAFF'S DENIAL OF THE REQUEST TO SERVE BEER IN BIDWELL PARK. COMMISSIONER DUNNING SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 6-1. YES: CHAIR KING, COMMISSIONERS O'BRYAN, MILLS, KOPICKI, HOLDERBEIN AND DUNNING. NOES: COMMISSIONER BARRETT.

5. Request from Kevin Guteriez for Consideration to Accommodate the Needs of Freestyle Bike Riders.

Park Director Beardsley said this request deals with use of Humboldt Skate Park and general needs for freestyle bike riders. From the public: Kevin Guteriez said he knows it is not possible for bike riders to use the Skateboard Park unless insurance is changed so he is proposing construction of a paved facility with ramps for bikes because there is no legal place to ride. CARD offered to put out transportable ramps at school sites but schools would not allow it. Ann Hayes asked if freestyle was designated as a dangerous sport so insurance would cover it. R. Rene Guteriez, Kevin's father, said he supports the sport but the street is only place to ride, he has paid \$500 in fines, and it is

hard to keep track of where his son is riding. Caryn Jones said kids could not raise enough money to build a structure themselves but can they take on their own liability? Nick Jackson said Humboldt is getting really crowded and accident prone so another park is needed. Bikers need 6,000 square feet and \$10,000 for ramps. Ryan McConnel said Humboldt Park cost \$300,000 and bike tracks cost \$15/foot.

Bob Koch, Risk Manager, explained liability at the Skateboard Park. The first \$500,00 comes from city funds, the rest from a pool with other cities. There is some limited liability because skateboarding is designated a hazardous activity and because the park was designed by a certified expert. Bikes would eliminate the design immunity. In considering a new bike park, resolve the liability issue and then determine if there is the will and ability to build it.

Commissioner Mills suggested pursuing CARD's position, ask about retroactive design immunity, and that staff write a letter to the legislature regarding dangerous activity designation. Commissioner Kopicki thinks a bike facility should be pursued and not share the existing park because it is crowded. Commissioner O'Bryan is amazed at the heavy use of the skateboard park. Park Director Beardsley said a policy issue could be recommended to Council and Prop. 12 funds might be available.

6. Presentation of the Resource Inventory of Upper Bidwell Park Expansion Area.

The document is completed and presented to Commission for review. From the public: Terri Lee Eagan, of CSUC Research Foundation, said the document is a compilation of all existing information into one format and she enjoyed preparing it. All information is also in the GIS, which she does also. Caryn Jones said the document is good, but she has concerns that some trails were missed, areas of erosion are not well depicted, and she couldn't find potential safety areas as promised. She said Drs. Stallings and Deitz have taken a position against the Annie Bidwell Trail and keep in mind that their bias could creep into their work when asking for the EIR on the trail. Lisa Stalling said she was hired to address wetlands issues on the Annie Bidwell Trail. She does not remember taking a public stance ever but was presenting issues only.

Commissioner Mills said details are lacking on trails. The document is received and filed.

7. Appeal of Approved Permit to the Chico Police Department October 31, 2000 (Halloween) in Plaza Park

Police use Plaza Park as their base during Halloween and have a contract for a Christian rock band to play there. From the public: DNA appeared to appeal the permit decision. He said Halloween is the biggest event in Chico and he is here to entertain and the police to protect. He has fine credentials and wants to get back to running the Plaza show. He will work with Police to find the right band. Tim Bousquet said there is something suspicious going on here.

Police Chief Mike Efford said Chico does not sponsor activities on Halloween, it is spontaneous and they just try to control it. Plaza Park is a critical area where Police make their presence and want music that is a calming influence to help

prevent
problems.
They
don't
encourage
growth
as they
don't
have
the
resources to
control
bigger
attendance.
He is
not
certain
if the
City
pays
the
band.

Commissioner Mills understands Police need to control Plaza Park and the stage, but would like DNA to provide the music. Commissioner O'Bryan thinks DCBA should have a band there and DNA is a better person to put on the music, but that is not the

policy.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO DENY THE APPEAL OF APPROVED PERMIT. COMMISSIONER DUNNING SECOND THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-3. YES: COMMISSIONERS MILLS, KOPICKI, HOLDERBEIN AND DUNNING. NOES: CHAIR KING, COMMISSIONERS O'BRYAN AND BARRETT.

8. Review and Discussion of Water Bars on Upper Park Road - Bidwell Park

Water bars were removed because Police cars now contain sensitive equipment easy to damage and could not respond speedily to an emergency. The bars served as speed bumps during dry weather so public speed has now increased. Park Director Beardsley has no recommendations on a solution to the increased speed. Commissioner Mills said the high speed is causing washboarding so access is worse now and we must find a solution to the speed and danger there. From the public: Mike Smith would like to see vehicles eliminated from Upper Park but a paved road was never intended for there.

9. Discussion of Commission Proposal to Institute Development Fees for Capital Improvements in Bidwell Park

Commission has requested that Council consider a policy establishing a nexus between population growth and need for capital improvement in Bidwell Park. Staff has prepared a memo to Council Finance Committee for review and approval. Park Director Beardsley believes the proposal is subject to updating the Master Management Plan that would result in a detailed list of items to improve and recommends Commission table the proposal until all questions can be answered in any insuring discussion. Commissioner Mills asked if historical data could be used to establish cost allocations instead of future estimates. He said there is already a list of approved capitol items. Park Director Beardsley said there is a legal requirement for a nexus study that covers policy, collection, costs and where dollars are applied before establishing such a fee.

From the public, Caryn Jones asked if there could be no capitol improvement projects because there is no updated Master Management Plan? Chico is growing and puts extra impact on Bidwell Park. There is a need to disburse use and get volunteer maintenance. Chico needs a second nature center to educate the population on how to be gentle to the Park. Mike Smith has watched capitol

improvements, nexus study and Master Management Plan and the hold up is bogus. Just put together a list of 5 or 10 items with some justification for each.

Commissioner Mills thinks a lot that drives the nexus study is past history. His conclusion is that development is impacting the park and we need to establish future recommendations for the park so that development is paying its share. Commissioner Dunning agrees and said we need to keep pushing for Master Management Plan funding. Park Director Beardsley said items not funded this year are up for next year. The budget review is scheduled in November. Commission recommended changing the memo to eliminate association with Master Management Plan.

10. Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of August 8, 2000

a. Rules and Regulations Regarding Fishing at Horseshoe Lake There were no further comments.

b. Commercial Events in Bidwell Park

There is no prohibition to commercial events in the Park and each permit is dealt with individually. Commissioner Barrett does not feel right about someone running an event to make money, but for-profit events have been allowed. Commissioner Mills thinks the issue is not if the permit is for non-profit or commercial, but for what benefit the event it is to the public. Commissioner O'Bryan said we retain discretion to approve or disapprove each permit, but he likes events tied to a non-profit that benefits the public. He is not in favor of such things as commercials being filmed in the park.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Director's Report Filed and updated: second park cleanup for the year is set for October 21; goats are gone as of yesterday; second application of dust control is

put on hold; Urban Forester Boza is doing an inventory of alanthus for control; reports on the dam and the lead study should be available next month.

2. Monthly Reports Filed and updated: several hourly employees are gone now; a permanent tree trimmer vacancy is filled.

3. Incident Reports Received and filed

4. Correspondence Received from Wes Dempsey regarding backfire set in 1999 and from Larry Herman with a request to review various issues at One Mile.

5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Commissioner O'Bryan would like to have a discussion on the subject of drug free zone for Plaza Park put on the September agenda. Chair King asked to set the walk along the proposed Annie Bidwell Trail for Sunday, October 8, 2000 as a noticed public meeting.

6. **ADJOURNMENT** The meetings was adjourned at 10:30 p.m. to the next regular meeting of September 25, 2000.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
AUGUST 28, 2000
SIGN IN SHEET

1. Suzanne Gibbs BCCWA 602 Sycamore St
2. Judy White 1968 E. 8th Street
3. Helen Ost 1255 E. Lindo Ave
4. Tim Bousquet PO Box 4627 Chico
5. Caryn Jones 5 Deborah Terrace
6. Kevin Gutierrez 1225 Sierra West Ln Apt A
7. Ann Hayes 273 Wild Rose Circle
8. R. Rene Gutierrez 193 Rio Lindo Ave
9. Ryan McConnell 343 W. 8th Street
10. Nick Jackson 1795 Watts Estates drive
11. Terri Lee Eagan 2568 Lake Hills Drive Oroville
12. Lisa Stallings 3276 Nord Ave
13. DNA 1445 Normal
14. Mike Smith 1970 Wild Oak Ave

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 25, 2000
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Present at roll call: Chair Kimberly King, Commissioners Russell Mills, Barbara Kopicki and Glenn Dunning. Staff: Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson. Absent: Commissioners Tom Barrett, Steve O’Bryan, and Bruce Holderbein.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 24, 2000**
- 2. Minutes from Regular Meeting of August 28, 2000**
- 3. Application and Permit Request from the Chico State Cycling Club to Use Upper Bidwell Park on Saturday, October 7, 2000 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for a Cross Country Mountain Bike Race.**

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-0

Park Director Beardsley asked to change addendum item 4.10 to item 4.4 and move others back one number.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

Commissioner Tom Barrett arrived at 7:40

4. REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda** None
- 2. Requests from Kevin Gutierrez for Consideration to Accommodate the Needs of Freestyle Bike Riders**

In response to requests made at the August meeting, ADA Rock has prepared a memo stating there can be no retroactively applied design immunity at Humboldt

Skateboard Park for bike riders. CARD has established an Ad-Hoc Committee to look into the requests of freestyle bikers and how to met their needs. Park Director Beardsley will report on their progress.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO PREPARE A LETTER TO THE CARD BOARD STATING COMMISSION'S SUPPORT AND OFFER OF ASSISTANCE. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

3. Review and Comment on Use Permit NO. 00-37 (RMB Architects/Carl's Jr. Restaurant) - A Request to Allow a Drive-through Service Window for a Fast Food Restaurant

Ken Seidler, Planning Director, brought the project to BPPC for comments because the site is across from Bidwell Park. Commissioner Mills said the drive-through would be behind dense foliage, he is not opposed to a restaurant there and thinks any concerns can be addressed as they come up. Chair King said the traffic study said there will be no impact at the intersection; she questions that and would like to be kept informed. Commissioner Barrett said the bike trail comes out there and access is a problem now. He does not think it is an appropriate use of that area, and wants the looks toned down and to address a potential litter problem. Commissioner Dunning would like the usual fast food architecture to be changed to blend better with the Park. Commissioner Kopicki would like the lighting toned down and to have owners police the trash.

From the public, Suzanne Gibbs said the Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance has concerns about the impact of noise and light on the animals in the Park, especially the owls at One Mile.

4. Review and Discussion Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Facilities Ordinance

The Planning Commission has proposed changes to Title 19 of the Chico Municipal Code which will effect park and open spaces if cell phone towers will be allowed in certain spaces. The changes would not require an EIR. Park Director Beardsley does not have a recommendation but said there is a potential problem with communication in Upper Park to be considered. Planning Director Seidler said facilities are now allowed in a wide variety of non-commercial zones including Open Space 1 and 2. Planning Commission wanted to provide greater flexibility to the industry and not effect residential by providing for them in OS1 and OS2. OS zones are not just all in the park but also at CSUC and the golf course.

From the public, Marsha Dea said the Mariposa tower is undesirable but was built through a use permit so be aware of what a permit will allow and discourage them. Linnea Hanson does not feel cell towers should be in open spaces but be 1,000 feet from any residence and the residents notified; these areas are environmentally sensitive and should have a complete ERI. Commissioner Mills questions the impact when there would be a need for access roads. Commissioner Barrett said they would also be a need for electric power and lines run to them.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THAT CELL TOWERS NOT BE PLACED IN OPEN SPACES 1 AND 2 IN THE CITY BECAUSE OF ACCESS ROADS, POWER LINES, VIEW SHED, FIRE DANGER AND THEY ARE INAPPROPRIATE FOR THE DESIGNATION. COMMISSIONER DUNNING SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

5. Minute Order Recommending City Council Approve an Additional Five Year Term as Amendment No. 2 to the Lease Agreement for the Indoor Shooting Range - Bidwell Park (City of Chico and Chico Rod and Gun Club)

Commission has requested the lease amendment include 1) fee from public access shall not exceed the cost of operating the programs, 2) an annual report on club activities and finances, 3) available at least two hours/week to public, and 4) increased publicity on the availability on the facility. Park Director Beardsley said these items have been incorporated for their approval. Commissioner Barrett said he has concerns that lead report is not done and the old range is not removed. Park Director Beardsley said the lead report is due next month and disposition of the current facility is not an issue now but will be discussed at the end of this five years. Chair King does not believe the facility belongs in the Park and the range should be cleaned up. Commissioner Mills said not all four items were included in the Amendment. It is important any revenues generated at the club site be used only for maintenance of that facility in any lease. The annual report would be due 01-01-02 for the previous 12 months plus one month to write it.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND COUNCIL IMPLEMENT THE LEASE EXTENSION BETWEEN CITY OF CHICO AND CHICO ROD AND GUN CLUB WITH ADDITION OF 1) AGGREGATE OF REVENUES NOT EXCEED COSTS OF PUBLIC PROGRAMS AND 2) REVENUES GENERATED AT THE CLUB SITE BE USED ONLY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE FACILITY. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-1. YES: COMMISSIONERS MILLS, BARRETT, KOPICKI AND DUNNING. NOES: CHAIR KING.

Staff will bring new wording of the amendment back to October meeting for final

approval.

6. Review and Consideration of Chico Creek Nature Center's Revised Proposal for New Administration/Outdoor Classroom Building

After a fire at the Nature Center, replacement of office and storage space was originally approved for the East Eighth Street side of the existing facility. The Board of Directors has submitted a revised proposal to place administrative/ outdoor class room and rest rooms on the back side of the facility and look for an addition on the front later. Judy White, Director of the Nature Center, said the Board decided putting the addition behind would preserve the look of a museum. An outdoor restroom will improve use for all of the Center. The class room would be open on two sides but they would like a gate for security. Architect Gene McFarren is giving his time without charge.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO CONCEPTUALLY APPROVE THE PLANS AS PRESENTED WITH PERIODIC UPDATES AND IN PARTICULAR EXTERIOR MATERIALS AND COLORS. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

7. Review and Discussion of Alternative Designs to Replace the Dam at the One Mile Recreation Area

Park Director Beardsley asked Commission to consider approving details on the design of the dam so staff can proceed with construction drawings and funding in 2001 or 2002. There is a need to facilitate operation and maintenance of Sycamore Pool, enhance the recruitment of gravel to the creek downstream, and provide safety to operation and maintenance personnel. Engineer Fran Bocalli, of Bocalli and Associates, has considered several possibility for a dam at this site and provided information on five types: 1) radial gates, 2) sluice gates, 3) overshot gates, 4) inflatable/rubber dam, and 5) inflatable/steel dam. He considered fish/habitat, reliability, construction, operation, public safety, personnel safety, maintenance, vandalism, aesthetics, and costs. His recommendation is the a bladder dam with steel construction because it needs a minimum adjustment to fit existing conditions and would adjust automatically to water level setting, The bladder can be set back far enough not to be visable to a normal passer-by to minimize attraction to play with or vandalize. The compressor and control units need to be enclosed in a building of about 8 x 12 feet. The total cost is \$260,000 and the bladder lasts about 30 years.

From the public, Suzanne Gibbs had concerns about fish passage, problems with possible pathogens that effect public health, and if the compressor can be heard. She

would like the money to be put into a recreation center and the pool revegetated into a natural creek. Commissioner Barrett asked to lower the structure housing the compressor to make a small profile.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO HAVE STAFF PURSUE BUILDING A INFLATABLE/STEEL DAM AT ONE-MILE. COMMISSIONER DUNNING SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

8. Request for Reconsideration of Proposed Ordinance to Include Plaza Park as a “Drug Free Zone” under Title `12 of the Chico Municipal Code

This item was carried over to the October 30, 2000 general meeting.

9. Request to Consider Encroachment Policy for Parkways and Greenways

Commissioner Mills said there is an encroachment policy for Lindo Channel and it is time to go forward with a policy for other areas. Use the existing policy for Lindo Channel as a boilerplate and be looking for locations where there might be problems. This request was sent to the Preservation/Stream Committee.

10. Trail/Safety Committee Meeting of September 19, 2000

a. Status Report and Discussion of Re-establishing the Yahi Trail from Parking Lot P to Lot U

The existing Yahi Trail is being re-established along the existing trail with some new alignment because of sensitive ecological areas. Michael and Caryn Jones have offered to help with the project and think grant funding may be available. The Planning Department has given a categorical exemption for the project.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO RE-ESTABLISH YAHY TRAIL FROM PARKING LOT P TO PARKING LOT U. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

b. Discussion of Proposed Annie Bidwell Trail

Discussion and further action on this item will be postponed until after the public meeting/ hike along the proposed alignment on October 8, 2000.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Director's Report

Park Director Beardsley updated the filed report: all patches of arundo on the south side have been treated; park clean up is set for October 22; staff is about to begin the process of eliminating ailanthus; the annual vegetation management report is due in November and will provide discussion of other plants to consider. Commissioner Mills would like a full report on Bidwell Ranch flyover and discussion of park impacts. Commissioner Barrett said not all encroachments are from property owners, such as employees parking by S&S Produce. Staff will check the boundary in questionable areas.

2. Monthly Reports Received and filed.

3. Incident Reports Received and filed.

4. Correspondence From Commissioner Russell Mills regarding the future of Upper Park Road and from Mr. Wes Dempsey regarding the 1999 fire in Bidwell Park.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Commissioner Dunning noted there is interest in establishing design standards for Vallombrosa and there is a meeting tonight. He also suggested discussion of options for widening Manzanita when Eaton Road is extended because there are several large oaks along the route and the change will be a significant impact on the Park.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 to the next adjourned public meeting on Sunday, October 8, 2000 at 8:00 a.m. to tour the proposed route of the Annie Bidwell Trail in Upper Bidwell Park

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 25, 2000

SIGN-IN SHEET

	Name	Address
1.	Suzanne Gibbs	602 Sycamore Street 95928
2.	Marcia Dea	2725 Mariposa Avenue
3.	Linnea Hanson	2837 Mariposa Avenue
4.	Judy White	9234 Goodspeed Durham 95938

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
OCTOBER 8, 2000
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present at Roll Call: Chair Kimberly King, Commissioners Russell Mills, Steve O’Bryan, Barbara Kopicki, Bruce Holderbein, and Glenn Dunning; Absent: Tom Barrett; Staff: Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

1. None

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda None

2. Review and Discuss Proposed Annie Bidwell Trail - Upper Bidwell Park Section Between Ten Mile House Road and Centennial Drive.

The Commission will meet at Parking Lot E and car pooled to the Ten Mile House Road the proposed alignment for the Annie Bidwell Trail. The Commission also reviewed segments of the existing trails in the new acquisition area of Upper Bidwell Park. No recommendations were made and no action was taken.

5. ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. to the next regular meeting of October 30, 2000.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
OCTOBER 30, 2000
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present at Roll Call: Chair Kimberly King, Commissioners Russell Mills, Steve O’Bryan, Tom Barrett, Barbara Kopicki, Bruce Holderbein, and Glenn Dunning; Staff: Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of September 26, 2000**
- 2. Consideration and Support for Trees for the New Millennium Grant Application**
- 3. Approval of Trail Name Change from Canyon Oak Trail to Maidu Trail**

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVED THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER DUNNING SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda** None
- 2. Minute Order Recommending City Council Approve an Additional Five Year Term as Amendment No. 2 to the Lease Agreement for the Indoor Shooting Range - Bidwell Park (City of Chico and Chico Rod and Gun Club)**

Park Director Beardsley brought the approved minute order back to Commission with the new wording requested at the September meeting.

From the public, David Hartman of the Chico Rod and Gun Club said item 3.C. included wording that was not part of the earlier discussion agreed upon. Specifically “all revenues generated by fees or charges at such public hours or events on the Leased Premises shall be used for maintenance of the facilities on the Lease Premises”. The earlier agreement indicated to him there would be no limitation on fund rising which they

will need if the Club must leave the park at the end of five years. The Board will meet next Monday and see that item for the first time. He asked that it be removed. Bruce Gray, vice-president of the club, informed the Commission of the programs and work done for the public by volunteers in the club. At one time the City requested the Club take over the facility and it is a unique program started in the 50's. Michael Herzbrun suggested initial charges be kept low for users of the facility and applied to cost of maintenance and then take willing donations above that.

Commissioner Mills said the new wording came from the Nature Center lease, which would be used as a master. The requirements there are the same as far as money raised being used on site. Commissioner Dunning said it is not right to tell them they have to find a new facility and can not raise money there for it. Commissioner O'Bryan agreed and added the original lease ten years ago did not have that restriction on fund raising. He supports the gun club wholeheartedly as a good place to train people in safe handling of firearms. Commissioner Barrett said the benches, shade structure, and bunkers are still out there and he would like to amend the lease to add a condition those structures be removed from the premises. Chair King would support the lease if Barrett's condition were added.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOVED TO RECOMMEND COUNCIL APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE LEASE BETWEEN CITY OF CHICO AND CHICO ROD AND GUN CLUB AFTER STRIKING ITEM 3.5 . COMMISSIONER O'BRYAN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-2. YES: COMMISSIONERS DUNNING, O'BRYAN, MILLS, HOLDERBEIN, AND KOPICKI. NOES: CHAIR KING AND COMMISSIONER BARRETT.

3. Presentation on Big Chico Creek Ecological Preserve

The California State University, Chico Research Foundation recently acquired 2,724 acres along 2.5 miles of Big Chico Creek to create a nature preserve.

From the public, Donald Holtgrieve explained the Foundation is separate from the University and is responsive to projects including ecological preservation programs. During the first year of owning the Preserve, they will take an inventory of the new land. Then they will produce a management plan using input from both a technical and a general citizen committee to be formed. They also have a option to purchase another 1,000 acres upstream. An easement to their property crosses Bidwell Park and they would like to be a good neighbor and work with the Commission. Caryn Jones said the acquisition is a wonderful event and urged the Commission to provide input to the management plan as it is developed.

Commissioner Mills said that a provision for some funding required access for hunting

and fishing Commissioner Kopicki said the property is beautiful and she is glad it is there.

4. Application and Permit for Park Use from California State University, Chico (P.E. Class 230) for a Duathlon on November 11, 2000

Four students from the P.E. class appeared before the Commission to explain this class activity. An earlier application for the event provided for running and bike racing in Lower Bidwell Park. Bikes cannot exceed 20 mph in Lower Park so both the bike race and the run are not requested to be held in Upper Park on the same date. Students said runners would use Yahi Trail and asked that the gates be closed at Bear Hole for runners' safety. A press release would notify the public that the gate would open at noon. The mountain bike race would be canceled in rain.

Commissioner Mills said Yahi Trail is not suitable for the run and some trails on the north side may be better. Commissioner Dunning said he recently jogged on Yahi and it was difficult and has a poor line of sight.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE PERMIT REQUEST, INCLUDING THE GATE CLOSURE, FOR USE OF THE TRAILS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE ROAD. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

5. Presentation and Discussion of "Characterization and Remedial Alternatives Evaluation Report - Horseshoe Lake, Bidwell Park"

A Preliminary Initial Site Characterization of the Horseshoe Lake ranges has been completed. Urban Forester Boza said the area was used for various fire arms range since the 1930's and was shut down in mid 80's as population grew and the use became a conflict. The current study is to determine the site characteristics of lead and skeet fragments remaining, identify target cleanup levels, review cleanup alternatives and associate costs, and identify the regulatory alternatives for cleaning up the site. The first step is all that has be requested so far. Sue Goss and Greg Fasiano, consultants for Harding Lawson Associates of Sacramento, appeared to present the report and answer questions. Steps to completing the project would be determining 1-site evaluation, 2- site characterization, 3-risk factors, 4-remedial action, 5- certification, and 6- operation and maintenance. This is a volunteer cleanup, making the guidelines for certification more favorable than for a mandated cleanup.

Commissioner Dunning asked to consider if the high cost of cleaning up is in proportion to the risk to people walking across the area. Commissioner Mills thinks the hazard risks sound high and thinks the public should be informed and maybe fence off the area.

He asked if the military might be part of the payment since they were there much of the time. Mr. Fasiano said the Department of Defense does have a program for that. Commissioner Barrett asked for details of the proposed steps to follow and the approximate time and costs involved for each. The estimate was between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND COUNCIL APPROVE \$20,00 FOR FUNDING THE NEXT STEP IN THE PROGRAM AND EXTEND IT TO INCLUDE THE PISTOL RANGE. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

6. Request to have Vehicular Access to Upper Bidwell Park During Winter Months to Work on Trails

The gate at Diversion Dam is closed during wet weather and usually closed all winter. The gate at Parking Lot E is closed when weather conditions dictate, as are the trails in Upper Park. Caryn and Michael Jones have requested having a gate key for vehicular access to work on trails during the winter months. The road would be open to volunteers when the trails are open. Park Director Beardsley said the road would stay closed to the general public, only volunteers would have the key on the honor system. Normally trails open two days after a rain and the road is usually alright by then.

From the public, Caryn Jones said the Commission should provide better support to facilitate efforts of volunteers. Summers are too hot to work and cooler season is better but working conditions are more difficult. The proposal to allow vehicular access may be granted for a trial period or with restrictions such as the weight of vehicles.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE A KEY TO VOLUNTEERS PROVIDED 1) IT BE CHECKED OUT ON A DAILY BASIS AND ONLY WHEN CONDITIONS ALLOW (TRAILS ARE OPEN) AND 2) STAFF MONITORS CONDITION OF THE ROAD. COMMISSIONER DUNNING SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0

7. Request for Reconsideration of Proposed Ordinance to Include Plaza Park as a “Drug Free Zone” under Title 12 of the Chico Municipal Code.

On May 30, 2000 Commission approved a proposed ordinance to include Plaza Park as a Drug Free Zone. Commissioner O’Bryan asked for reconsideration. Downtown Chico Business Association (DCBA) wanted some time to absorb the impact on the downtown area.

From the public, Katrina Davis, DBCA Director, said the Borad would like to see other measures taken to encourage higher use of the park during daytime hours and see if that would take care of the problem, and have more law enforcement. Don Kidd would like to see all of downtown be a safe place at all times, but some feel putting up drug free zone signs has a negative connotation. He does not want signs alone, but more police activity. Bob Ray asked to see documentation on drug use because he does not see any drug activity there. If we don't know the penalties, why talk about enhancing them? He is working with at-risk kids who need more positive things in the community. The law is targeting kids who need help. Charlie Prussen, a member of DCBA board, said the request was approved by BPPC in May but the DCBA board did not even talk about it until June. He works at 6th and Broadway and does not see the problem there but putting up signs would be a problem. Tim Bouquist said there was a massive police operation throughout downtown this spring involving Sacramento State graduates in entrapment activities that must have cost one- half million dollars. What more can you want for the war on drugs. The incidents reports last month in the plaza were primarily alcohol issues and domestic disputes. Richard Elsony, of DCBA, is concerned about what message the signs would give people who don't know our community.

Commissioner Dunning sees the drug free zone as one thing to do to eliminate the problem and then there could be more. It would be a better argument for more law enforcement. Chair King thinks this should not go forward until Police Chief can be here and they are busy tonight for Halloween preparations. Children's Playground has been safer since becoming a drug free zone, but other changes were made there as well.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED TO DROP THE REQUEST FOR A DRUG FREE ZONE IN PLAZA PARK. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTIVE WHICH WAS DENIED 2-5. YES: COMMISSIONER BARRETT AND KOPICKI. NOES: CHAIR KING, COMMISSIONERS MILLS, O'BRYAN, HOLDERBEIN, AND DUNNING.

8. Review and Discussion of Current Policy Opening the Gate at Parking Lot E to Upper Bidwell Park Road During Three Day Holidays

Currently the gate to Upper Bidwell Park is closed at Parking Lot E on Sundays and Mondays except for three-day holidays when it is opened. Chair King thinks it should be closed every Sunday and Monday to be consistent. Commissioner Mills would like to have the road closed but then wants alternate transportation provided. Commissioner Barrett said there is not adequate enforcement so it should be closed. Park Director Beardsley said the ranger coverage has been adjusted to resolve the safety issue on holidays.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED TO KEEP UPPER PARK ROAD CLOSED ON SUNDAY AND MONDAY INCLUDING THREE-DAY HOLIDAYS. COMMISSIONER O'BRYAN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-3. YES: CHAIR KING, COMMISSIONER KOPICKI, O'BRYAN, AND BARRETT. NOES: COMMISSIONERS DUNNING, HOLDERBEIN AND MILLS.

9. Discussion of Establishing a Trails Advisory Committee

The adopted Trails Manual indicates a Trail Advisory Committee be created to encourage public participation in establishing and maintaining trails in Bidwell Park. Commissioner Mills asks that this be implemented. Park Director Beardsley suggested identifying individuals in the equestrian, bike, and hiking communities and bring together whoever wants to work in an informal, inclusive process to bring recommendations to the Trail/Safety Committee and then on to the BPPC.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO ESTABLISH A TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AS DESCRIBED. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

10. Process for Reviewing Encroachment Resolution Proposals – Lindo Channel

Park Director Beardsley said several encroachments have been resolved and some will require further review and consideration. He is recommending a committee agree to take part in reviewing some encroachment resolution proposals when there is disagreement. He would like additional recommendations for resolutions in some cases. Staff is in the process of informing all owners of the policy and providing follow-up on any alleged or potential encroachment. They are documenting everything. Staff plans to be gentle and be firm and are getting cooperation from property owners.

From the public, Caryn Jones said the process is taking way too long as the list of encroachments was prepared in 1998. Some large encroachments are in force by some owners who have contributed to council member campaigns. We have waited far too long to reclaim our land.

Chair King confirmed the Preservation Stream Committee would be sounding board for Lindo Channel encroachment proposals.

11. Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of September 28, 2000

Rules and Regulations in the Vicinity of the One Mile Recreation Area

The Committee recommends that Sycamore Pool be closed for swimming between 11:00 p.m. and dawn to discourage use which can be a nuisance for park neighbors.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MOVED TO CLOSE SYCAMORE POOL BETWEEN 11:00 P.M. AND DAWN. COMMISSIONER MILLS SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Director's Report The filed report discussed Lindo Channel encroachments and stream bank erosion; Vallombrosa Avenue Scenic Road Standards; downtown tree/sidewalk replacement project; and Council and other Commission actions.

Monthly Reports Received and filed.

Incident Reports Received and filed

Correspondence None

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR Commissioner Dunning asked to have a report on the Bidwell Park clean up done on October 22, 2000.

7. ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 p.m. to the next regular meeting of November 27, 2000

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
SIGN IN SHEET
OCTOBER 30, 2000

	Name	Address
1.	David Hartmen	14057 Greenberry Lane, Chico
2.	Bruce Gray	145 W. 20 th Street Chico 95928
3.	R. Michael Herzbrun	1745 Oriole Court
4.	D. Holtgrieve	CSUC
5.	Caryn Jones	5 Deborah Terrace
6.	Danny Timothy	1115 W. Sacramento Ave #162
7.	Shelbey Reid	1661 Forest Ave #157
8.	Danny Eoff	901 Oak Lawn Avenue
9.	Traci Ciapponi	1620 Bidwell Avenue
10.	Greg Fasiano	HLA 10265 Rockingham Dr Sacramento
11.	Susan Goss	HLA
12.	Bob Ray	1405 West Third Street
13.	Charlie Prussin	1405 West Third Street
14.	Don Kidd	119 Main Street
15.	Richard Elsony	1405 West Third Street

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 27, 2000
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present at Roll Call: Chair Kimberly King, Commissioners Russell Mills, Steve O'Bryan, Tom Barrett, Barbara Kopicki, Bruce Holderbein and Glenn Dunning; Staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, Assistant City Attorney Alicia M. Rock, and Administrative Secretary Janice Heckerson.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of October 8, 2000

2. Minutes from Regular Meeting of October 30, 2000 This item was removed from the Consent Agenda by Commissioner Mills.

3. Approval to Present an Ordinance to the City Council of the City of Chico Adding a Provision to the Chico Municipal Code to Establish Night Closing Hours for Sycamore Pool in Bidwell Park. This item was removed from the Consent Agenda by Commissioner Dunning.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MOVED TO APPROVED ITEM 1 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

A. Minutes from Regular Meeting of October 30, 2000

Item 2.5, page 4 should read "Commissioner Mills made a motion to recommend Council approve \$20,000 for funding ...

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 30, 2000 AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

B. Approval to Present an Ordinance to the City Council of the City

of Chico Adding a Provision to the Chico Municipal Code to Establish Night Closing Hours for Sycamore Pool in Bidwell Park.

Commissioner Dunning said this ordinance is to close just the pool and not to close the entire area as was asked for originally. Park Director Beardsley said it was decided the pool could be closed immediately and later gates may be put in. The plan was endorsed by Mr. Herman, who originally asked to close One Mile because of noise problems for the neighbors.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE TO CLOSE SYCAMORE POOL AT NIGHT. COMMISSIONER O'BRYAN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

2. Discussion of Otterson Drive Extension and Related Mitigations (Comanche Creek Greenway).

Park Director Beardsley said the Otterson Drive extension is in question but planning on Comanche Creek can move forward anyway. If the extension does go ahead, it will come back to Commissioner for review.

From the Public, Luisa Garza said there are toxic plumes in the area that Council is not dealing with; encourage the Planning Commission to recommend a task force look into plume contamination in the area. Emily Alma lives downstream from the proposed extension and would like the Commission to take a strong stand to preserve the greenway; clearly there is money available. The toxic issue was not addressed by the EIR but by the Air Quality Control Board. Dave Murray pointed out greenways are a valuable asset and there are only two streams, Little Chico Creek and Comanche Creek, with water flowing during the summer. Parts of Little Chico Creek have been reclaimed so don't throw away what we already have at Comanche Creek or make it a truck route. Rachel Schraeder is concerned about standing gasoline and toxins so investigate to certify the potential danger and costs. Lin Jensen said other places have incorporated greenways and industrial parks with right planning. Karen Lash said the area is too narrow for both a truck route and enjoying a greenway; the area needs a park but don't dig up toxins. Chris Nelson said the area could divide the industrial park from farm land and provide a foot and bike path connection to Diamond Match property to appease the many interests involved in the project.

Commissioner Mills said the Commissioner is on record opposing the extension, now we can address what else could happen to the greenway if the area is purchased by the City and a road is not built. Commissioner O'Bryan said the current owner has proposed to build there and the City needs to buy it. Chair King asked to send the Council a letter restating that BPPC is on record in favor of buying any creek side property available for greenways, and to buy this parcel whatever the outcome of the Otterson extension.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION FOR CHAIR KING TO SIGN A LETTER TO COUNCIL RECOMMENDING THE CITY PURCHASE COMMANCHE CREEK GREENWAY WHETHER OR NOT THE OTTERSON EXTENSION IS CONSTRUCTED. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

3. Receive and Comment on Annual Vegetation Management Report

Urban Forester Boza reported this is the seventh year of the program. The Broom control program is going well, especially in Upper Park. The program will continue to include burning, goat grazing, Arundo control on south side of Big Chico Creek and around the golf course, limited spraying on Himalayan blackberry and then work on Lindo Channel. In October 2002 crews will start Ailanthus control again after eight years. Ranger Bob Donohue said burning is done for management of star thistle on three-year rotation, as prescribed by a UC Davis study. This is the third year in some areas and there has been a good kill resulting. Staff is now looking for ways to follow up. Salt Creek crews followed the goats through areas of Himalayan blackberry eradication with good success rate. Manual cutting is being used to eradicate Arundo, as skill saws do not produce a good cut for application of herbicides. Park Director Beardsley said goats will be back next year and bid for a new contract is going out soon. They will be in the park from April to July, as changes in fall temperatures often make them sick. Crews are putting out a native plant seed mix for revegetation. There are some small test spots to determine effects of weed removal by weed eaters and there will be a test trial for use of hot water.

From the public, Jim Brobeck said he and Wes Dempsey have studied the prescribed burns and the effects on Blue Oaks are unacceptable. He also suggested making immediate efforts to reseed before weeds can come back, spread hay over areas of Bunch Grass, plant acorns at specified areas for long term effects, and follow up with a holistic approach to management. John Merz referred to changes he recommends in the report. He wants the three-year rotation on burns looked at again, don't graze the walnut orchard where oaks are coming back, post every program for the public, and research the types of

seed mix being used. Helen Ost commended the Commission and Staff on the wonderful eradication program, but has concerns about the burn areas and wants monitoring. Luisa Garza agrees on reporting programs as a courtesy, even when not required by law; encourages reducing use of chemicals, and wants to see if hot water is a good system.

Urban Forester Boza responded that the posting programs has been a policy followed for several years. Newspapers may not always publish information given them. The initial study on the burn program was done in 1992, but the Extension Service still recommends the three-year system. Staff is building a sustainable management program to reverse growth of 30-40 years and results can not be immediate. The program can be modified appropriately as new information is learned. The public gives good quality feed-back and the study of seed mixes would be a good topic for a masters thesis.

Commissioner Barrett said volunteer projects should be developed in Lower as well as Upper Park and we should have public comments before continue burning. Seed sources keep bringing in the need for more control. He has noticed some maintenance staff encourage exotic plants to grow and that should be discouraged. Commissioner Mills said oaks come back quickly after grazing but modify mowing. School projects are doing well in Annie's Glen. There will be a grant in the fall for Arundo eradication.

4. Report on Potential Grant Funding Under Propositions 12 and 13

Park Director Beardsley reported there will be a workshop in Sacramento next week and another later with Department of Water Resources on applying for the grants. He is monitoring alerts and keeping aware of the qualifications required. Most of the money will not come out until next year. Much has already been given by the legislature so a reduced amount is still available. There will be a need for staff assistance in grant application over a long period of time and some support may be provided. Commissioner Mills found nine sources that might work from the list provided, including one for the Nature Center. They may also apply for their own funds.

Break from 9:20 to 9:30.

5. Trail/Safety Committee Meeting of November 15, 2000

A. Approval of Amendments to the Bidwell Park Trails Manual

Park Director Beardsley presented two proposed amendments to the Bidwell Park Trails Manual. The first is to include a paragraph on pruning technique along the trails and the second states that trees six inches or less may be removed in conjunction with trail design and construction. Commissioner Barrett would like a review before removal of any tree and that trail alignment be reviewed with consideration of the trees involved.

From the public, Caryn Jones said current pruning standards result in cutting more vegetation than needs to be cut for clearance and the new techniques are an improvement. Helen Ost said six-inch Blue oak is a substantial tree that could be 15 feet high and she does not favor making existing trails meet the new standard. Jim Brobeck said Indians did not use saws to make trails so route them through the trees.

COMMISSIONER MILLS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS WITH THE CHANGES THAT WERE NOTED TO THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE BIDWELL PARK TRAIL MANUAL. SPECIFICIALLY, THE TWO PARAGRAPHS SHALL READ AS FOLLOWS:

Pruning techniques shall be used to provide variation and interest in trails. Methods such as directional pruning shall be used to provide desired clearance for passage but minimize vegetation removal. In addition, woody, forbs or grass vegetation height on trail shoulders may vary (12 to 18 inches) in height depending on location. This is particularly important for Class C trails.

For protection against erosion, and to maintain the appearance of area, trails shall be routed to minimize the removal of trees, trees six (6) inches or less in diameter may be removed in conjunction with trail design and construction. Where trees in excess of six (6) inches are encountered, alternative routing shall be considered. In the event alternative routes cannot be located, the tree(s) shall be flagged and the proposed removal(s) be reviewed and approved by the Director or his/her designee. Preference will be given to preservation of Butte County natives with non-Butte County natives removed where practical.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

B. Discussion of Proposed Annie Bidwell Trail

Park Director Beardsley would like to bring the whole package to the Commission in the next month or two.

6. Master Management Plan Committee Meeting of November 16, 2000

A. Proposed Gate at the Intersection of Wildwood Avenue and Upper Park Road

Park Director Beardsley recommends construction of a gate at Wildwood Avenue and Upper Park Road to minimize night time activities including alcohol use, speeding, and vandalism. Legitimate access for programs and events would be accommodated and no one with facilities in Upper Park has an objection to the gate. A private security firm closes the park gates now and workers at the golf course would open it at 5:00 a.m. When the observatory is open, barricades may be put at other parking lots to keep cars out. Commissioner O'Bryan said a former gate there was destroyed so it must be strong and would need big boulders on each side.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION TO INSTALL A GATE AT WILDWOOD AVENUE AND UPPER PARK ROAD. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 7-0.

B. Review and Discussion of Conceptual Proposal Regarding Public Access to Upper Bidwell Park

Commissioner Mills has proposed closing vehicle access to Upper Park Road and wants to go further with discussion on the issue. He would not shut people out of Upper Park, just cars. Some cars can not drive the road as it is now, but anyone could use public transportation when provided. Cars conflict with nature, wild life, and other cars. Commissioner Dunning wants a reasonable way to get people up and back and asked about possible costs and funding. Commissioner Barrett said public transportation does not pay for itself.

From the public, Caryn Jones thinks closing the road to cars is a good

idea but wants nothing to decrease public access to the park. The general public does not want non-athletic types penalized because of bad activity by some jerks. All uses of the road are valid but conflicts must be addressed. Make an alternative route that pedestrians and bikes would prefer. Helen Ost likes the park on days when the road is closed; many people are already restricted from access because their cars can not drive the road.

Commission agreed to start preliminary research on ideas and Park Director Beardsley will bring back some information later and encourage public input.

7. Discussion and Possible Change in Bidwell Park and Playground Commission Meeting Date for December, 2000

The December regular meeting is now set for December 18, 2000. Under the Municipal Code any meeting conflicting with a holiday is supposed to be set for the day following the holiday, which would be January 2, 2001 but final say is up to the Commission. After discussion, it was agreed to leave the meeting date at December 18, 2000.

8. Discussion of Setting Fixed Times and Dates for Specific Meetings

The increasing number of meetings and subjects sent to committee encourages establishing a set date and time each month for committee meetings. After discussion, it was decided to let new Commission members set the times most convenient for them. It was also suggested Trail/Safety committee meetings be held in the field occasionally.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. Director's Report** An extensive report, with attachments, was received and filed. Commissioner Mills said there is a drop-off along the bike path for Little Chico Creek that might need a guard rail. There is a large proposal involving three counties for a grant to clear Ailantus. Chico is looking at city-owned sections along Little Chico Creek and maybe neighboring property for such clearance.
- 2. Monthly Reports** Received and filed. Crews are starting a program to plant 230 trees on public right-of-way and working with Cal Trans for 150

trees along Eight and Ninth Steets.

3. Incident Reports Received and filed.

4. Correspondence None

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting of December 18, 2000 at 7:30 p.m.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 27, 2000
SIGN-IN SHEET

	Name	Address
1.	Luisa Garza	129 West 16 th Street
2.	Emily Alma	2300 Estes Road
3.	Dave Murray	6 Vallombrosa Circle
4.	Rachel Diana Schraeder	1919 Mars Way
5.	Lin Jensen	468 E. Sacramento
6.	Karen Laslo	469 E. Sacramento
7.	Chris Nelson	2500-B Estes
8.	Jim Brobeck	1605 Manzanita
9.	Helen Ost	1255 East Lindo
10.	Caryn Jones	5 Deborah Terrace

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
DECEMBER 18, 2000
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present at Roll Call: Chair Kimberly King, Commissioners Tom Barrett, Barbara Kopicki, Bruce Holderbein and Glenn Dunning; Staff Park Director Dennis Beardsley, Urban Forester Chris Boza, and Administrative Secretary Cheryl Tobin. Absent: Russell Mills.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Minutes from Regular Meeting of November 27, 2000.**
- 2. Approval of Permit Application and Permit for Park Use from Chico Area Park and Recreation District for the 2001 National Yo-Yo Contest, Friday, October 5, 2001 and Saturday, October 6, 2001-Plaza Park.**
- 3. Approval of 22nd Annual Endangered Species Fair Permit Application -May 4 to May 6, 2001.**
- 4. Approval of Application and Permit for Park Use for a Private Event April 29, 2001.**

COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA. COMMISSIONER DUNNING SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

3. NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS None

4. REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda** None
- 2. Request to Install a Memorial Bench in the Vicinity of Brown's Hole-Upper Bidwell.**

Staff has received a request to install a memorial bench in the vicinity of Brown's Hole. The Commission has requested that no additional benches be installed without prior review and approval. The focus for additional benches has been in Lower Bidwell Park. As proposed, a bench without a back four to six feet long with a brass plaque would be installed.

Caryn Jones, from the public, stated she felt the idea of benches in the vicinity of Brown's Hole would be appropriate. Commissioner Barrett and Holderbein stated it would be fine as long as the bench was installed in the parking area. Commissioner Dunning stated he was against the idea of benches if they were along the trails.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL FOR THE INSTALLATION OF THE MEMORIAL BENCHES IN THE BROWN'S HOLE PARKING AREA, COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

3. Preservation/Stream Committee Meetings of November 4 and December 12, 2000.

A. Review and Discussion of Encroachment Issues Located at 1674 Manzanita Avenue.

Commissioner Dunning excused himself on this item due to a conflict of interest. Staff has reviewed and received a proposal from the Pleasant Valley Mobile Estates. Park Director Beardsley spoke of the history of Lindo Channel and the encroachments. Commissioner Barrett asked if the information previously requested by the Committee had been received from Butte County, it had not been received. Park Director Beardsley reviewed existing policy relative to considering extenuating circumstances for removing encroachments.

Mr. Donald Jones, the owner of this mobile home stated that 23 years ago, some RV's were parked adjacent to the mobile home park on county property. In April of 1998, Mr. Jones rented the space adjacent to his mobile home at No. 51. Mr. Jones contacted the owner of the Mobile Homes Estates, Mr. Everett Beich, to determine if it were possible to place double wide unit in No. 53 and swing the fence over and connect it into the corner property of the RV parking area. Mr. Beich granted the Jones' request and agreed to move the fence. Don Jones stated he had no idea that by moving the fence it would create an encroachment on Lindo Channel. In May 1998, the single wide mobile was removed. June 3, 1998, Mr. Jones had the double wide moved onto space No 53. Mr. Jones has proposed to conduct a straight exchange of land, lease the land, or to litigate. Mr. Jones is favoring the exchange of land as a solution.

Mr. Anderson, manager of the mobile home park spoke on behalf of Mr. Beich, owner of the mobile home park. He stated that when the home was placed on that property, that all the property and necessary permits were

received, however, the County never checked the boundary lines, they only approved proper procedure for the placing of the mobile home. Mr. Anderson also requested for an exchange of 4200 square feet of land.

From the public, Caryn Jones and Helen Ost both stated this situation is unfortunate, but the problem lies between the owner of the mobile home park and the county, not with the city.

COMMISSIONER BARRETT MADE A MOTION NOT TO APPROVE THE REQUEST.
COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 4-0.

4. Art Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of December 12, 2000

A. Review and Discussion Preliminary Proposal for Art Element for the Wildwood Park Phase II Improvements.

The Committee held a public discussion on proposed art elements for the next phase improvements at Wildwood Park. At the meeting, the consultants presented concepts and drawings for Committee review and comment. Committee is recommending commission review and discussion. Consultant Greg Melton displayed the proposed art concepts for the next phase of improvements for Wildwood Park and discussed how the design would be arranged in Wildwood Park.

COMMISSIONER KOPICKI MADE A MOTION TO CONCEPTUALLY APPROVE THE DESIGN. COMMISSIONER HOLDERBEIN SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

5. Trail/Safety Committee Meeting of November 15, 2000

- A. Committee members have been provided a copy of the “Proposed Annie Bidwell Trail Botanical Resource Assessment” prepared by the California State University Research Foundation for that section of the trail proposed for Upper Bidwell Park. In addition, the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission held a special meeting August 24, 2000 to scope out the issues for the project. At their August 28, 2000 meeting, the Commission referred the project to the Trail/Safety Committee for recommendations. The Committee is expected to make recommendations for a proposed route for the Annie Bidwell Trail.

From the public, Caryn Jones spoke on her frustration of the two main

sections of trail being removed from the project. She stated that the present proposal needs to go back to the Trails Committee so the issues of botanical study and an environmental review can be discussed.

Helen Ost commended the Trail Committee for their hard work and dedication to the project. She agreed that the major part of the trail is above the creek and referring to Item #3, she is concerned about having a mitigated negative declaration. A mitigated negative declaration would not happen until the staff reviewed it and a decision would be made at that point. She stated that she would like to see the main trail (the higher trail) open to having either a lesser foot trail at some time in the future or access to the creek either at the beginning or the end of that section and to encourage access to the creek with no more than a negative declaration. Additionally, Helen Ost would like it noted that we would be encouraging access to the creek.

Park Director Beardsley stated this alignment would be given to the Planning staff and request what level of involvement and environmental review would be needed on this project. If a negative declaration, then the Commission can go ahead and proceed. If not, such a mitigated negative declaration and above, then Council would like to be made aware before the Commission proceeds.

Commissioner Dunning stated he was not in favor of putting a trail in this section of the park.

COMMISSIONER DUNNING MOTIONED TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL. COMMISSIONER KOPICKI SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED 5-0.

B. Site Review of Eastern Segment of Yahi Trail.

COMMISSIONERS KOPICKI AND DUNNING WILL BE WALKING THE TRAIL.

5. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. **Director's Report** Park Director Beardsley stated that the City has a website and various items of interest, including Lindo Channel, are posted.
2. **Monthly Reports** Received and filed. Crews are very busy catching up and the Street Tree Crew began planting trees.

3. Incident Reports Received and filed.

4. Correspondence None

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR Caryn Jones requested clarification on the Minutes for November 2000. She stated that on page 6, the last paragraph, it should read, “Caryn Jones thinks closing the road to cars is not a good idea....”

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting of January 29, 2001 at 7:30 p.m.

BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION
DECEMBER 18, 2000
SIGN-IN SHEET

	Name	Address
1.	Caryn Jones	5 Summerwood Ct.
2.	Donald L. Jones	1675 Manzanita Avenue, Space 53
3.	Ron Anderson	1675 Manzanita Avenue #4
4.	Helen Ost	1255 East Lindo Avenue
5.	Greg Melton	627 Broadway