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**PARKS, RECREATION, AND WATERFRONT COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, May 13, 2026, 7:00 P.M.  
Frances Albrier Community Center – auditorium  
2800 Park St, Berkeley, CA 94702

**Minutes- Draft**

1. **Call to Order** (chair) :7:10pm.
2. **Roll Call** (Secretary). Present: Rybczynski; Stewart; Nash; Muszynski; Abshez. Absent: Philip (LOA); Samelson (LOA).
3. **City of Berkeley Land Acknowledgement:**<sup>1</sup>
4. **Action: Approval of Agenda.** (chair) Move Item 16 – Rename Cesar Chavez Park to Item 12. (M/S/C: Muszynski/Nash/U) Ayes: Rybczynski; Stewart; Nash; Muszynski; Abshez; Noes: none; Absent: Philip (LOA); Samelson (LOA).
5. **Action: Approval of Minutes** for Wednesday, April 8, 2026 (chair).\* Amend minutes with “subcommittee on Golden gate Fields comprised of Nash, Muszynski, and Stewart. (M/S/C: Muszynski/Nash/U) Ayes: Rybczynski; Stewart; Nash; Muszynski; Abshez; Noes: none; Absent: Philip (LOA); Samelson (LOA).
6. **Public Comment** (2 min each). a) Erin Diehm; b) Claudia Kawczynska, signage at Cesar Chavez Park; c) Martin Nicolaus, mowing in Cesar Chavez Park; d) Paul Kamen, Ferry electrification; e) Kelly Hammargren, non-agenda.
7. **Chair’s Report/Discussion.** No update.
8. **Director’s Report:** Update on special events, community engagement, capital and maintenance projects, forestry, recreation, budget, fees (Ferris). Update was provided.
9. **Discussion/Action:** Update on PRW FY2027-28 Proposed CIP Plan (Ferris).\*\* Update was provided.
10. **Discussion/Action:** Update on PRW FY2027-28 Proposed Budget (Ferris).\*\* Update was provided. Public Comment: a) Claudia Kawczynska, b) Laura Allen, c) Kelly Hammargren, d) Todd, Commission on Safety and Community Health.
11. **Discussion/Action:** Update on PRW Leases and Licenses (Ferris). Update was provided.
12. **Discussion/Action:** Discuss/Recommend new name for former Cesar Chavez Park per Council referral to PRW Commission (Ferris)\*. Public Comment: a) Beatriz Leyev-Cutler; b) Martin Nicolaus; c) Wendy Abshez; d) Natasha Beery; e) Kelly Hammargren. M/S/C to continue the item to June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting (Muszynski/Nash/U) Ayes: Rybczynski; Stewart; Nash; Muszynski; Noes: none; Abstain: Abshez; Absent: Philip (LOA); Samelson (LOA).
13. **Discussion/Action:** Update from Commission Subcommittee studying the need for increased parks facilities in Berkeley’s Southeast Quadrant (Abshez). Discussion was held.
14. **Discussion/Action:** Update from Dog Park Subcommittee re potential funding sources for new dog parks (Nash). Public Comment: a) Erin Diehm. (M/S/C to send Commissioner Nash’s report to Council as Action (without the Aquatic Park site) Abshez/Muszynski/U) Ayes: Rybczynski; Stewart; Nash; Muszynski; Abshez; Noes: none; Absent: Philip (LOA); Samelson (LOA).
15. **Discussion/Action:** Send Subcommittee’s State of the Parks communication to Council as a communication for the Council meeting of May 19, 2026 and authorize Commissioner Nash to speak at the Council meeting during Public Comment (Abshez)\*. Public Comment: a) Erin Diehm. (M/S/C: Rybczynski/Muszynski/U) Ayes: Rybczynski; Stewart; Nash; Muszynski; Abshez; Noes: none; Absent: Philip (LOA); Samelson (LOA).
16. **Discussion/Action:** Discuss/Recommend Naming of a Public Plaza in South Berkeley as Delores Cooper Plaza per Council referral to PRW Commission (Ferris)\*. (M/S/C: Abshez/Nash/C) Ayes: Rybczynski; Stewart; Nash; Abshez; Noes: none; Abstain: Muszynski; Absent: Philip (LOA); Samelson (LOA).
17. **Information Reports.**

**18. Recent PRW Council Reports.\***

**19. Future Agenda Items:** Pier-Ferry Project; Workplan; Nexus Study; Public Art in Aq Park; June 10 Presentation on 600 Bancroft Project; June 10 Presentation on Aquatic Park Dreamland and Bioretention projects; Rename gym at Frances Albrier Center; Fitness Courts Project.

**20. Communications.\*** City Manager memo to Council re: Vegetation and Tree Removal on East Side of Aquatic Park, 04/06/2026; City Manager memo to Council re: Throne portable restroom update, 05/05/2026; Emails re: renaming CCP (6).

**21. Next PRW Commission meeting:** Wed, June 10, 2026 (Regular).

**22. Adjournment.** 10:30pm.

\* document is attached to agenda packet and on the commission website.

\*\* document will be provided at the meeting.

- Commissioners in attendance: 5 of 5 appointed
- Public in attendance: 13
- Public speakers: 15