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**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**Parks Division
IPM ADVISORY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
Wednesday, July 17, 2024
Parks Building Break Room
402 E Ortega St
Santa Barbara, CA
9:00 A.M.**

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair Chittick at 9:05 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

Voting Members:

Present: Greg Chittick, Kristen LaBonte, Keith Nevison

Staff Present: Simon Herrera, Jazmin LeBlanc, Daisy Hernandez, Tina Nelson,
Joe Gonzalez (Public Works Facilities), Lucas Hathaway (Airport), Ryan McKay (Golf
Course), Beth Anna Cornett (Public Works)

Also Present: Kathy McGill, Parks and Recreation Commissioner

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS AND STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Motion made seconded (Chittick/LaBonte) to approve the minutes of January 18, 2024. The motion passed (3/0).
- B. Motion made seconded (Chittick/LaBonte) to approve the minutes of February 27, 2024. The motion passed (3/0).
- C. Motion made seconded (Chittick/LaBonte) to approve with the following changes: Add that Various control methods were explored over many years to the minutes of April 30, 2024. The motion passed (3/0).

MEMBER AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

A. Staff report on Alice Keck Park nutsedge progress – Simon Herrera

Simon Herrera provided an update on the first application of nutsedge at Alice Keck Park, which was completed on June 5th. He noted visible yellowing of the treated areas and new growth beginning to return. While the initial treatment was effective in killing much of the unwanted growth, some nutlets remain, requiring a second application, scheduled for July 25th. He explained that although two applications may not fully eradicate the issue and that a third application could be necessary. He clarified that the area was fenced off with proper notice given before treatment, and no community concerns have been raised. Results of the second application will be monitored and reported at the next meeting.

2. NEW BUSINESS

A. Fiscal Year 2025 IPM Advisory Committee regular meeting schedule – (Attachment) – FOR ACTION

Motion made seconded (Chittick/LaBonte) to approve Fiscal Year 25 regular meeting schedule. The motion passed (3/0).

B. Review and approve the FY 2024 IPM Annual Report (Attachment) – For Action

The committee members requested edits on the report and moved to review at the next meeting.

C. Review and approve the FY 2025 IPM Annual Plan (Attachment) – For Action

Chair Chittick questioned the highlighted cells on the materials column requesting clarification. Jazmin LeBlanc added that the highlighted areas signified materials that required approval. Member LaBonte requested that the color be changed from yellow to a color that is not representative of a tired material. Chair Chittick moved to approve with the distinction that the annual Plan is informational and does not grant any exemptions; Member LaBonte seconded. The motion passed (3/0).

D. Programmatic Exemption Request from Public Works Facilities for use of Advion products, Fipronil and Navigator in City buildings as needed (Attachment) – FOR ACTION

Joe Gonzalez presented this exemption request. Jazmin LeBlanc added that the Ant Policy was added to this exemption last year, which states that green materials are used first and staff is asked to keep a tidy area. Joe Gonzalez

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confirmed that the Ant Policy is still in effect. Chair Chittick moved to approve with the condition that the policy continues to be followed and staff is made aware of the need for clean workstations; Member Nevison seconded. The motion passed (3/0).

E. Programmatic Exemption Request from Public Works Facilities for use of Timbor in City buildings as needed (Attachment) – FOR ACTION

The committee disused items E and F together as they related to the same material for use within the section/department. Joe Gonzalez presented the exemption request to treat termites in the Purchasing Building and throughout City Facilities, stating that it's a localized gel applied in crevices and will not pose an exposure risk. Member LaBonte requested an action item to add Timbor to our Tiered Materials List. Chair Chittick moved to approve Items E and F and requested followup on the addition of the material Timbor to the Tiered Materials List; Member LaBonte seconded. The motion passed (3/0).

F. Exemption Request for use of Timbor at 310 E. Ortega (Attachment) – FOR ACTION

This item was discussed during item E. Motion made seconded (Chittick/LaBonte). The motion passed (3/0).

G. Programmatic Exemption Request from the Airport Department for the use of RoundUp ProMaxx (Attachment) – FOR ACTION

Lucas Hathaway presented the exemption request to continue the use of RoundUp Promaxx only in the airfield, an area not accessible to the public, to maintain visibility of lights and signs required by federal regulation. He noted that mechanical control methods have been difficult due to wet conditions and restricted access. The committee suggested developing a long term weed management plan focused on identifying specific problematic species to reduce chemical use over time. Member Nevison moved to approve with the condition that the Airport Department return in the April 2025 meeting with a plan outlining strategy for targeting specific weeds and reducing herbicide use; Chair Chittick seconded. The motion passed (3/0).

H. Programmatic Exemption Request from the Santa Barbara Golf Club for use of fungicides, herbicides, and insecticides for use on Golf Course Greens and Fairways (Attachment) – FOR ACTION

Ryan McKay presented the exemption request memo. Jazmin Leblanc added that it was the same memo proposed last year. Ryan McKay clarified that treated areas are primarily greens and tees and mechanical methods are being used around trees. Chair Chittick asked if staff was still using compost tea. Ryan McKay reported that at this time they were not but there is an interest in

reinstating compost tea applications, which was effective for promoting healthier turf and reducing chemical use. Jazmin LeBlanc added that challenges exist due to staff vacancies and outdated equipment. Tina Nelson explained that efforts are underway to recruit key positions and budget for new equipment. Chair Chittick moved to approve with stipulation that compost tea be reintroduced by this time next year; Member Nevison seconded. The motion passed (3/0)

I. Exemption Request for use of Roundup Custom at East Beach Weir Mitigation Site (Attachment) – FOR ACTION

Beth Anna Cornett presented this request and provided background on the East Beach habitat restoration project, which involves restoration of 1.16 acres of beach habitat, focused on removing invasive plants and installing seven native plant species. The project includes a hand weeding contract and a six-month plant establishment period, which ended on June 2nd. She added that moving forward there are five years of monitoring and mitigation with performance standards requiring less than 5% nonnative invasives and over 25% native coverage. The site is fenced to protect the plants from public and pet access. A one-time application of Roundup Custom is proposed to treat a 400 sq. ft. portion of the restoration site to help manage aggressive Bermuda grass.

While there are concerns about effectiveness of various strategies, including temporary tarping and long-term impacts of Bermuda grass, the project aims to establish a robust native plant community. Initial results show healthy growth, with emphasis on creating conditions that allow natives to outcompete invasives over time. Approved treatment area is only 400 sq. ft. The committee requested that the emitters be plugged where plants are not present to avoid watering the Bermuda grass and that posting go up on the fence 72 hours prior to treatment and stay up 48 hours after treatment. Additionally, the committee requested perimeter checks within the 48 hours after application to ensure the fence is not breached. Member Nevison requested that Beth Anna Cornett return to the next IPM meeting with a report on the progress of the project. Member Nevison motioned to approve; Chair Chittick seconded. The motion passed (3/0).

OLD BUSINESS

MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:09 A.M.