

April 2, 2018

Chair David Kinney & Members of the Park & Recreation Board
City of San Diego
Park & Recreation Board

Re: Renaming of Elizabeth Rabbitt Neighborhood Park

Please consider this a formal request to rename Elizabeth Rabbitt Neighborhood Park to Del Mar Mesa Neighborhood Park.

Our arguments are as follows:

- ❖ **City Policy – we do not believe that City Policy was adhered to in the process of notification to the community of the 2016 request to rename the park.**

Park & Rec Policy 600-33 COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION AND INPUT FOR CITY-WIDE PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS states that the *Project manager will notice the staff representative to the City-recognized local community planning board/group and each community planning board/council member with the project bulletin inviting them to attend the community meeting.*

In 2004 the Del Mar Mesa Community Planning Board (DMMCPB), in conjunction with the Carmel Valley Recreation Council, was the “Community Committee” approached by the Park & Rec Department to assist them and to provide community input on the design of the park, an effort that continued for at least 2 years. Since that time, the DMMCPB was regularly consulted and updated, both informally and formally at our meetings, throughout the long and arduous architectural and construction process. Members of the board spent many long hours hashing out important details including:

- Park uses
- Park Design & selection of Landscape Architect
- Difficult parking issues
- Bidding problems and changes of contractors
- Cost over runs from original budget
- FBA financing and lack of funds
- Construction delays
- Historic tree removals during construction
- Turf growth problems -delaying the opening

It came as a shock then, when in 2016, the DMMCPB **was never** contacted when a request was made to the city to change the name of the park. We were suddenly not considered to be a “Community Committee” and therefore were never consulted. Nor were we noticed that the renaming-process was underway. (In hindsight it has been determined that this oversight was not intentional. In fact, the Parks and Rec staff person handling this renaming request was not aware that the DMMCPG even existed. She was unaware that the Del Mar Mesa was a separate Community Planning Area from Carmel Valley.)

The DMMCPG, the ONLY community committee on the Del Mar Mesa for over 20 years, should have been a “go to” community committee for this request. With all the delays and problems associated with this park,

it would not be close to being opened if not for continued and dogged contact by members of this community committee to city staff to solve problems and keep the process moving. The DMMCPG persistently worked to keep this park in front of city staff. It is now going on 14 years of effort - and we still are waiting for our park! There are some on the DMMCPG who feel that this end run on the 2016 renaming process was payback by some in the Park & Rec Department because of all the complaining staff has had to endure from DMMCPG.

❖ **City Policy – we do not believe that City Policy has been adhered to in the choice of this name.**

Attached is Council Policy “Naming of City Assets” which has an effective date of April 13, 2017. This Policy predated the Renaming of the DMM Park and there is no reference that this Council Policy even existed in the Minutes of the Park & Recreation Board Meeting in May 2017. ***This is a clear oversight by staff in the process of the renaming.***

The honoree clearly does not meet the standards laid out within this policy. There are many other people in our community who were true pioneers living in the community long before this honoree, who expended significantly more effort to establish our community, and who made a much larger contribution to the overall community. Unfortunately, because of the fact that the process of notification was not followed, these people were not even afforded the decency of even being able to give their opinion on this issue.

❖ **Insufficient Community Involvement in the 2016 Renaming Process**

We are attaching the minutes of the October 2017 DMMCPB. At this meeting, the primary proponent of the Elizabeth Rabbitt park renaming, Dan O’Rourke, went out of his way to acknowledge that he did not bring the renaming issue to the DMMCPG prior to submitting to the city, because he was aware a number of those members would oppose it.

In summary, there are many in our community who feel that no one person should be singled out for such an honor. Involvement in the planning of our entire Community, including the planning of our neighborhood park, the crowning jewel of our community, has been an enormous collaborative effort, spanning over 20 years.

MANY are responsible, and Ms. Rabbitt does not stand out among those, and honoring a single person in this way, does a disservice to the other members of our community who contributed their time and efforts, in many cases making a much larger and more significant and enduring contribution.

We urge you to rename our park to Del Mar Mesa Neighborhood Park, a name that reflects and honors the entire community and everyone’s voluntary hours expended!

Sincerely,

Jan Hudson
Founding Chair, served 8 years as Chair of the DMMCPB

Paul Metcalf
Past Chair, served 1 year as Chair of the DMMCPB

Gary Levitt,
Past Chair, served 12 years as Chair of the DMMCPB

Attached: Council Policy Naming City Assets: DMMCPG –October 2017 Meeting Minutes

5550 Carmel Mountain Rd # 204 San Diego CA 92130

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SUBJECT: NAMING OF CITY ASSETS

POLICY NO.: 900-20

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 13, 2017

BACKGROUND:

The City, through its departments, and advisory boards and commissions, has followed a number of processes/policies for *naming* or *renaming* its parks, libraries and other *City Assets*. Generally, these policies provide for the *naming* or *renaming* requests based on (1) the location of the *City Asset*, (2) the identity of an individual of historical significance to the local area, or (3) the identity of an individual or entity whose contributions to the City and/or the community supports the request. From time to time, the City has also named *City Assets* after a person or entity who has provided significant financial support for the *City Asset* being named.

The City wishes to replace any existing *naming* or *renaming* policies with one comprehensive citywide policy, as follows:

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish uniform guidelines for *naming* and *renaming* of *City Assets*.

This policy outlines the criteria, conditions, and procedures that govern *naming* and *renaming* of *City Assets* in order to maintain their integrity, to encourage philanthropic giving while acknowledging public investments, and to safeguard against unwanted commercialization of *City Assets*.

This policy does not apply to:

1. Marketing Partnerships entered into under Council Policy 000-40, except that consideration should be given to Guiding Principles, Section C (Funding Criteria) below in regards to them;
2. The *naming* of public streets addressed in Chapter 12, Article 5, Division 11 of the San Diego Municipal Code (SDMC);

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3. Artworks, which are exempt from this Council Policy. Artworks are defined and governed by San Diego Municipal Code 26.0701 et seq.;
4. Public safety-related *City Assets*;
5. Council Policy 100-02 (Donation Acceptance);
6. *Donor Acknowledgement*; and
7. Council Policy 200-10 (Honorary Street Names).

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions apply:

Board: Board as recognized by the San Diego Municipal Code (SDMC) and/or City Charter.

City Assets: Tangible or intangible items of value that are owned or created by the City, including but not limited to both *City facilities* and leaseholds that do not exceed 35 years and/or that confer ownership rights by agreement. This definition does not include Artworks, which are city assets under San Diego Municipal Code 26.0701 et seq.

City Facility (included in City Assets): Any part of real property or structure owned by the City or for which *naming* rights are conferred by agreement, including, but not limited to parks, libraries, *Recreational Facilities* buildings, parking facilities, interior or ancillary features that are a part of, or within, a larger facility and other City facilities.

City Sponsored or Recognized Support Group: May include, but is not limited to: recreation councils, “friends of” organizations, Community Planning Groups, town councils, or similar entities.

Commission: Commission as recognized by the SDMC and/or City Charter;

Department Director: Appointed director of the department that owns the *City Asset* eligible for *naming* or *renaming*. The director may assign this responsibility to other department staff within their delegation of authority.

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Donation or gift: A monetary (cash) contribution, endowments, personal property, real property, financial securities, equipment, in-kind goods or services, or any other *City Asset* that the City has accepted and for which the *donor* has not received any goods or services in return. For purposes of this Council Policy, the terms “donation” and “gift” shall be synonymous.

Donor: A person or other legal entity that proposes or provides a *donation* to the City.

Donor Acknowledgement: Excluding *naming*, donor acknowledgement is permanent writing on plaques, walls, stone carvings, pavers, bricks, electronic display, or interpretive signs that are temporary or permanent and are used to recognize the financial contribution of a *donor*.

Funding: Financial or in-kind resource to provide funding that might result in *naming* or *renaming*.

Funding Source: The source of *funding* which can include individuals, nonprofit organizations, and for-profit entities.

Naming: The selection and approval by the City for the initial *naming* of a *City Asset* other than streets within the public right of way.

Non-profit Organization: A corporation or an association that conducts business for the benefit of the general public without shareholders and without a profit motive.

Recreational Facility (included in City Assets): Major structures such as community centers, aquatic facilities, picnic shelters/pavilions, athletic courts, and fields.

Renaming: The selection and approval by the City for a new name of an existing *City Asset* other than streets within the public right of way.

Sign Ordinance: The City’s sign regulations contained in SDMC §§ 142.1201 – 142.1292.

POLICY:

The policy of the City is to reserve *naming* or *renaming* of *City Assets* for circumstances that will best serve the City’s interests and ensure a worthy and enduring legacy for the City. To this end, the City supports *naming* or *renaming* requests within the following broad categories:

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1. Location. As a general policy, a name should assist the public in identifying its location. The City shall first consider the name of the community area, the names of nearby geographic features, and the names of adjacent schools and streets when it is considering a *naming/renaming* request.
2. Significant Events, People, and Places. The history of a major event, place, or person may play an important role to preserve and honor a community's history, landmarks, or prominent geographical features. The City may name a *City Asset* for a major event, place, or person of social, cultural or historical significance to the local area when the *City Asset* is associated with or located near the events, people, or places of social, cultural or historical significance. The relationship of the event, person, or place to the *City Asset* must be demonstrated through research and documentation.
3. Outstanding Individuals. This category is designed to acknowledge individuals who have made substantial contributions to benefit the City, local community, park and recreation system, or public library. Naming or renaming a *City Asset* for an outstanding individual is encouraged for those person's whose significance and good reputation have been accepted in the community, City and/or State/National history. If it is not appropriate to name the larger *City Asset* after an individual, then naming or renaming can be subordinate to the name of the larger *City Asset* or the City may name an area or portion of the *City Asset* after an individual, including but not limited to a meeting room, structure, fountain, or garden.

In considering the *naming* or *renaming* of a *City Asset* after an individual, priority will be given to those who made a sustained and lasting contribution to:

- a. The City of San Diego
 - b. The State of California
 - c. The United States of America
4. Major Donations. The City has benefited from the generosity of residents, organizations, and businesses. The significance of *funding* may warrant acknowledging the *funding source* through *naming* or *renaming*.
 - a. The threshold for *naming* or *renaming* a *City Asset* for an individual, organization, or business when *funding* is involved should include a *donation* agreement and one or more of the following:

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- i. A significant contribution towards the capital construction costs of the structure;
 - ii. A deed to the City of land for the majority of the *City Asset* by the *donor*; and/or
 - iii. A twenty-year endowment for the continued maintenance and operations of the *City Asset*.
- b. *Donors* seeking *naming* or *renaming* rights for major *donations* with respect to an individual should use the guidelines for Outstanding Individuals above.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

A. General Provisions

1. In considering proposals for the *naming* or *renaming* of a *City Asset*, the City will consider whether the proposed name will:
 - a. Engender a strong positive image consistent with the City's goals and values;
The name Elizabeth Rabbitt Community Park does not engender a strong positive image.
 - b. Be appropriate relative to the *City Asset*'s location and/or history;
The name Elizabeth Rabbitt Community Park does not reflect a location or history.
 - c. Incorporate the assigned historic name if the *City Asset* is a designated historical resource listed on the local, State, or National Register of historic resources;
N/A
 - d. Have historical, cultural, or social significance for future generations;
The name Elizabeth Rabbitt Community Park would have little significance for future generations.
 - e. Commemorate places, people, or events that are of continued importance to the City, community, region, or state;
 - f. Have symbolic value that transcends its ordinary meaning or use and enhances the character and identity of the *City Asset*;
The name Elizabeth Rabbitt Community Park has no symbolic value.
 - g. Have broad public support; and
The re-naming of Elizabeth Rabbitt Neighborhood Park has local neighborhood support, but not broad public support of the greater Del Mar Mesa Community. It is a large community made up of several neighborhoods and open space, with over 500 homes.
 - h. Not result in the excessive commercialization of the *City Asset*.

e. While Elizabeth Rabbitt has contributed as a member of the DMMCPB and is admired by her neighbors, her contribution to the Del Mar Mesa community as a whole does not stand out. There are other community members who have contributed much more time, effort, and who are responsible for landmark decisions that shaped our community's future.

Because of the thousands of volunteer hours donated by MANY members of our community, we feel no one person should be singled out, and support the original name, Del Mar Mesa Neighborhood Park.

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2. The City will not permit corporate logos, insignias, or advertising slogans in a permanent naming or renaming of a City facility.
 3. A park or library's official documented name should not include the name of a corporation or business. If an organization or foundation's name consists of one or more individuals' names, then the guidelines for Outstanding Individual *naming* should be utilized.
 4. When considering the *naming* or *renaming* of a *City Asset* (excluding official documented names of parks and libraries) that includes a business name, *naming* or *renaming* must be for a defined contractual period of time with regard to the life of the *City Asset*.
 5. All related signage shall comply with the *Sign Ordinance*.
 6. The City shall retain full editorial control over all related signage subject to the *Sign Ordinance* and adhere to the below criteria.
 - a. Any physical form of on-site recognition shall not interfere with visitor use or routine operations.
 - b. The form of any on-site recognition shall:
 - i. Be of appropriate size and color within the design scheme of the facility;
 - ii. Not dominate the sign in terms of scale or color;
 - iii. Not detract from surroundings or any interpretive messages; and
 - iv. Be subject to review and approval by the *Department Director*.
- B. *Funding* Acceptance Criteria. The City may not accept *funding* as part of a *naming* or *renaming* proposal that would create any conflict of interest, as set forth in the City's Ethics Ordinance (Chapter 2, Article 7, Division 35 of the SDMC) and the Fair Political Practices Commission regulations (Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 18110 – 18997). The following principles form the basis of the City's consideration of *naming* or *renaming* proposals based on *funding* of a *City Asset*:

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1. The mission of a *Funding Source* must not compete, impair or conflict with the policies, goals or operations of the City;
2. The *funding source* must provide a desirable association according to the Guiding Principles under this Policy; and
3. *Naming* or *renaming* rights offered are commensurate with the relative value of the *funding*.

PROCEDURES

A. *Naming* or *Renaming* Application Process

1. Applicants and proposers (including *City Sponsored* and/or *City Recognized Support Groups*) shall submit their *naming* or *renaming* proposal to the *Department Director* depending on asset type.
2. If applicant's proposal follows the intent of this Council Policy, the *Department Director* shall make a proposal in writing for *naming* or *renaming* of a *City Asset* as follows:
 - a. For library facilities, the *Department Director* will make the proposal to the Board of Library Commissioners.
 - b. For parks and *recreational facilities*, the *Department Director* will make the proposal to the Park and Recreation Board.
 - c. For other *City Assets*, the *Department Director* will make the proposal to the appropriate Deputy Chief Operating Officer for the City Facility for which the *naming* or *renaming* is proposed.
 - d. Other City staff may review and provide input on the proposal for *naming* or *renaming*.
3. Written proposals must, at a minimum, include the following information:
 - a. The proposed name;
 - b. Reasons for the proposed name, including a discussion of the criteria identified in this policy;

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- c. The amount of the *donation* or *funding* provided for the *City Asset*, if applicable;
- d. Written documentation outlining community support for the proposed name; and
- e. If proposing to *rename* a *City Asset*, justification for changing an established name.

B. *Naming and Renaming* Review Process

1. Upon receipt of a *naming* or *renaming* proposal for any *City Asset*, the *Department Director* reviewing the *naming* or *renaming* proposal shall consider the following items in the review, including but not limited to, the following:
 - a. Submit the proposal to appropriate City historical staff to review the California Historic Resources Inventory Database (CHRID) to determine if the *City Asset* is a Designated Historical Resources with an assigned historic name;
 - b. Ensure that supporting information has been authenticated;
 - c. If the *City Asset* is a Designated Historical resource listed on the local, State or National Register of Historic Places, any on-site recognition shall comply with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and shall be reviewed and approved by the City's Historical Resources staff according to those standards;
 - d. Ensure compliance with Charter section 225 (Mandatory Disclosure of Business Interests);
 - e. Consider the impact of the *naming* or *renaming* to the community; and
 - f. Consider the cost of implementation and signage, and identify the *funding* to cover such costs.
2. The *Department Director* will submit the proposal to the City Attorney's Office for legal review of the following issues that include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Ownership rights, by agreement or by law; and

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- b. Adherence to City policies, such as the San Diego Charter and SDMC, as well as any local, state, or federal regulation.
3. For all *City Assets* other than a library or park that do not involve *funding*, the *Department Director* will submit a recommendation to the Assistant Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer, or Deputy Chief Operating Officer as appropriate for review. The *Department Director* will submit the proposal for final approval of *naming* or *renaming* to the Chief Operating Officer. Prior to approval, City staff will notify the applicable Council District(s) and publish a notice with 30 days for comments by the public that will be taken into consideration by the Department Director following the process outlined herein.

If a *naming* or *renaming* request is for a library or park and does not involve *funding*, then the *Department Director* will advise the applicable board or commission who will invite comments from relevant community groups or associations.

- C. The City, in its sole discretion, may:
 1. Reject *naming* or *renaming* proposals or remove existing *naming* that portray or include depictions, words, or phrases that the City reasonably deems to be harmful, controversial or otherwise do not support the guiding principles stated in this policy; and
 2. Reserve the right to rename any *City Asset* for any reason, for instance if the resident, organization, or business for which it is named turns out to be disreputable, becomes disreputable or does not otherwise support the Guiding Principles set forth in this Policy.

FUNDRAISING GUIDELINES

From time to time, the City may receive offers for outside support groups to identify donors to fundraise for specific *City Assets* in exchange for *naming* rights. *City Sponsored or Recognized Support Groups* intending to fundraise (excluding *Donor Acknowledgement* programs) for multiple *naming* rights or major projects must take the following steps:

1. Develop recommendations for *naming* opportunities with gift levels prior to receiving gifts and offering *naming* rights to prospective donors.

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2. Draft and submit recommended *naming* opportunities with gift levels to the *Department Director* for review.
3. Upon receipt of recommended naming opportunities with gift levels, the *Department Director* reviewing the *recommendation* will consider the following items in the review, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. Submit the request to appropriate City historical staff to review the City's CHRID to determine if the *City Asset* is a Designated Historical Resource with an assigned historic name;
 - b. Ensure that supporting information has been authenticated;
 - c. If the *City Asset* is a Designated Historical Resource listed on the local, State or National Register of Historic Places, any on-site recognition shall comply with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and shall be reviewed and approved by the City's Historical Resources staff according to those standards;
 - d. Ensure compliance with Charter section 225 (Mandatory Disclosure of Business Interests);
 - e. Consider the community impact;
 - f. Consider the impact of the *donation* or *funding* to the completion of a project, if applicable; and
 - g. Consider the cost of implementation and signage, and identify the *funding* to cover such costs.
4. The *Department Director* will submit the proposal to the City Attorney's Office for legal review of the following issues that include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Ownership rights, by agreement or by law; and
 - b. Adherence to City policies, such as the San Diego Charter and SDMC, as well as any local, state, or federal regulation.
5. Upon completion of the above steps, the *Department Director* will work with the City Attorney to prepare a draft agreement with the *City Sponsored or Recognized Support Group*.

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6. Upon approval by the *Department Director*, the *City Sponsored or Recognized Support Group* will submit the recommended *naming* or *renaming* opportunities with gift levels and draft agreement to the corresponding board or commission.
7. Upon approval by the board or commission, the *Department Director* will submit the final draft recommendation on the *naming* or *renaming* opportunities with gift levels along with the draft agreement to the City Council for final approval. Only after City Council approval may the *City Sponsored or Recognized Support Groups* begin soliciting and accepting donations for *naming* or *renaming* rights.
8. No final commitment to name a *City Asset* or portion thereof shall be made to a potential donor without the final approval by the *Department Director* and Assistant Chief Operating Officer or Chief Operating Officer. *Naming* or *renaming* rights that include *funding* will have final approval by City Council.

HISTORY:

“Naming of City Assets”

Adopted by Resolution R-311043 – 04/13/2017

Del Mar Mesa Community Planning Board

October 12, 2017

Carmel Valley Library, Community Room

Attendees:

Gary Levitt

Lisa Ross

Diane Korsh

Amy Wood

James Bessemer

Elizabeth Rabbitt

Michael Vinson

Paul Metcalf

Derek Reeves

Tina Jackson

Ray Ellis

Absent:

Dean Vayser

Call to Order:

Gary Levitt called the meeting to order at 6:16 pm.

Roll Call:

Dean Vayser absent

Adoption of Agenda:

There were no changes, the agenda adopted as presented.

Approval of Minutes:

Chairman Levitt called for review and approval of the minutes. Lisa Ross moved to approve, Diane Korsh seconded and the motion was carried. Ray Ellis Abstained.

Community Member/Public Comments:

Chairman Levitt called for any comments or questions from the audience, reminding them of the two minute limit.

Matt Strabone introduced himself and announced that he is running for the office of Assessor/Recorder and County Clerk. He gave a brief over view of his back ground as an attorney and an overview of what this office entails. He expressed his desire to improve the relationship between this office and the community. The election will be June 5, 2018

DMM Notch in Torrey Highlands Oversight Committee - Lisa Ross:

Chairman Levitt gave a brief overview of the developer process to amend the use permit to be converted from designation for a church and school to a commercial office building. Chairman Levitt commented on the need to have the community involved in the approval of this development to protect Del Mar Mesa's interest and preservation. The DMMPG's primary concern is the fact that the 6 or 7 story parking structure is facing the Del Mar Mesa Preserve. It is so close to the edge of the property that there is no room for trees to be planted shielding the structure from the open space except in slopes which will not grow high enough or well enough to achieve this purpose. There is also no architectural screening to block the impact of lights or to shield the open nature of a parking structure. Chairman Levitt clarified that DMMPB does not have a vote on this matter. Lisa noted that the city instructed the developer to involve and inform DMMPG. Cisterra is the applicant.

FBA Update - Little McGonigle Canyon Ranch Rd connection/Traffic Calming Solutions/Community Plan Update - Gary Levitt

Chairman Levitt encouraged Hilary to continue to work on City Staff completing a Community Plan update so that the FBA Plan can then be updated ASAP

Bylaw Review and Approval - Elizabeth Rabbitt:

Elizabeth Rabbitt verified with DMMPB members that they were in receipt of her email summarizing the changes to the bylaws. She asked if there were any other questions or changes and noted that most of the changes were requested by the city. She highlighted the limited changes proposed by the DMMPB in regards to the board seat designations. Michael Vinson suggested the modification of the "Grand Del Mar Resort" to just "the Resort". Paul Metcalf raised his concern for the changing of the wording of "Board" to "group", Chairman Levitt clarified that the name has in fact not been changed and what he was reading was a matter of City nomenclature which refers to this and any planning board as a "Planning group". The motion to approve was made by ____ and seconded by ____ and carried unanimously.

Start Process to Express Concern of the Del Mar Mesa Community Park Regarding the Process to Name the Park - Gary Levitt:

Chairman Levitt began this discussion noting how difficult this situation has been for him and the mistake of his believing that the City would direct the decision regarding the parks name to the DMMPB for input at some stage of the process. After all historically the Parks Dept had come to this Planning Group for its input at every step of the process during the parks original design and approval process, that this group had contacted and pushed and cajoled the Parks Dept at regular intervals throughout the often-delayed construction process and in fact without the involvement and efforts of the DMMPB it is likely that the park would not be as close to its completion as it is, despite it being a decade late. He also noted that this is expected to be the last meeting for him. He explained his frustration at going to the local recreation council meeting, a to inform them that he intended to restart the naming of the park process, and to find himself surrounded by his neighbors who wanted to know what he had against Elizabeth personally as if not liking Elisabeth was the issue. Unfortunately these neighbors had no

knowledge of the history of the community, and the extraordinary volunteer efforts of many people who were each instrumental in creating our community, and how frustrated he was with the fact that these people were simply excluded from the process to name the park and their opinions were never taken into account.

He also explained that at that same recreation council meeting the effectiveness and importance of the Planning Group was questioned. He explained that the DMMPB had last been required to give its formal opinion on a development project nearly 10 years ago. That since that time, because there is no master developer of the Community, the Planning Group responsibilities have evolved into a sort of unofficial Community HOA, taking responsibility for making sure that the City, and in some cases project developers, are doing what they promised they would do or are required to do for the completion of the buildout of the community.

He gave an overview of the endless hours of effort over the years of fighting the battles to develop the community that we love and appreciate today, with specific expression of appreciation for the devotion of a number of people without whom this community would not be what it is today. Some of the people mentioned were:

- **Jan Hudson who pursued the vision that preserved the look and feel of Del Mar Mesa fighting for more creative developments, preserving views and open space, and fighting against walls and sidewalks throughout the community.**
- **Bob Howard who has singlehandedly underwritten the installation and maintenance of the entry trail and landscaping all the way up until near the top.**
- **Preston and Angelika Drake who have and continue to lead the trail maintenance programs – 3-4 times a year.**

He explained that none of these people were expecting the Park to be named after them. In fact that in every case they would be embarrassed if their names were picked out in this way from the others who contributed so much to our community. But what these people deserved was that their opinion be heard in the process to name the Park. He expressed his concern that this is what is so wrong about the way the proponents of naming the Park after Elizabeth Rabbitt, **which was to consciously exclude these people from the process by not inviting them to express their opinions or to make them aware of the process**, and to invite them to come to the public meetings held to select the name and discuss this at any meeting with Park & Rec staff or committees.

And in summary he explained that he agreed with the proponents for the park name had received bad advice from the City parks Dept who apparently informed them that they did not need to bring the name issue to the attention of the DMMPB

Upon opening the debate up to the floor the person most responsible for the park naming process through the City, **Dan O'Rourke** explained that they had followed every process laid out of them by the City Parks Dept in arriving at the new name. They asked repeatedly whether they need to come to the DMMPB and were always told it was not necessary. **Dan also felt that he had done what was required when he sent Chair Levitt a email that he was thinking about the idea in**

October 2016. As far as he was concerned he felt that this email was adequate notice to the Planning Group. He then stated that because Chair Levitt had expressed initial opposition to the idea in his response to this email, from that moment onwards he did not include the Chair or any other officers of the DMMPB in his emails or solicitations for support of his idea, except for Elizabeth Rabbitt.

He stated that despite the explanation given by Chair Levitt of all the other responsibilities the Planning Group had voluntarily taken on explained above, **in his opinion it was still the Chairs and other members responsibility to anticipate this sort of actions he was taking, and it was their fault that the Planning Group was not aware of the process he was undertaking. Mr O'Rourke even stated that the Chair should have worked harder to make sure he was aware of Mr. O'Rourke's efforts on this matter.**

Opinions on both sides of the issue similar to the aforementioned were expressed by many other members of the Community.

Paul Metcalf requested Elizabeth Rabbits opinion and feelings. She stated that while she was honored by the efforts to name the Park in her honor, she did not request this honor and would not object to others electing to go through the process to establish a different name.

Chair Levitt acknowledged that the primary fault lay in the hands of the City Parks Department who never include the DMMPB on any notice of any meetings on this issue. They bear the penultimate responsibility for the harm this action had done to our Community.

Lisa Ross then read the following motion:

WHEREAS: The Del Mar Mesa Community, having no Park and Recreation Council of its own the Del Mar Mesa Planning Group has served as advisor to the City Parks, Development Services and Planning Departments in the design and implementation of the Del Mar Mesa Neighborhood Park. Despite establishing the precedent and receiving the Planning Group's assistance and time commitment to the process at that time, this was ignored in the naming process.

WHEREAS The new neighborhood park was named without the knowledge or consultation with the Planning Board or other relevant community groups.

WHEREAS The Del Mar Mesa Planning Board and other involved members of the community "discovered" the new park name was now officially approved at the board's September 14, 2017 meeting.

The Del Mar Mesa Planning Board requests that the City Manager investigate the process by which the name of the Del Mar Mesa Community Park was approved, including noticing of park council meetings, why the groups most involved in the park planning, financing and implementation were not involved, and why the Parks Department failed to advise the petitioners to obtain Planning Board and other relevant community group support.

Had the meetings been properly noticed and the Planning Board consulted, all residents of our community's opinion would have been considered and taken into account before a final decision was reached.

Lisa Ross made the motion to approve this resolution, Paul Metcalf seconded, After significant discussion a vote was called: Six(Gary, Paul, Lisa, Jim, Michael and Tina) voted in favor, two opposed (Derek and Ray) and three abstained (Elizabeth, John and Diane).

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm.