

Deborah Lopez

From: masseybarb@aol.com
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 10:35 AM
To: Stuart Kasdin; Kyle Richards; Roger Aceves; Michael Bennett; Paula Perotte
Cc: Deborah Lopez; masseybarb@aol.com
Subject: Agenda Item B.2

Mayor and Council members,

I'm writing in regard to Item B.2 on Tuesday's Agenda. I ask that you name the new park, the Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park. It would be the appropriate way for the City to highlight the person most responsible for this park. There is no more appropriate name and Jonny certainly deserves the honor.

Thank you, Barbara

Deborah Lopez

From: Alison Rhodes Tamminga <alifrant@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 10:19 AM
To: Deborah Lopez
Subject: Naming the park

Good morning,

I understand that you are the person to contact about naming our new park. We support the name Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park as Jonny worked so hard and long for the establishment of the City of Goleta. We are 30 year Old Town residents.

Please forward to the appropriate committees.

Thank you,

Alison and Ernie Tamminga
122 Mallard Avenue
Goleta 93117

Deborah Lopez

From: masseybarb@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 13, 2018 9:01 AM
To: Stuart Kasdin; Kyle Richards; Roger Aceves; Michael Bennett; Paula Perotte
Cc: Deborah Lopez; ferminamurray@gmail.com; masseybarb@aol.com
Subject: Fwd: Why Old Town Goleta Park Must be named after Jonny Wallis

Mayor and Council members,

Fermina Murray ask me to forward this to you because she is out of town on a family issue and can't access her letter.

Barbara

Mayor and Council members,

I am Fermina Murray, a local historian who has done histories and walking tours of Old Town Goleta. I sent in, through the Surveys Monkey, that the new Old Town Goleta Park at Kellogg and Hollister Avenue should be named after the late Jonny Wallis.

Here are some of the main reasons why this Park should be named:
Jonny D. Wallis - Neighborhood Park:

BACKGROUND ON JONNY WALLIS' ADVOCACY FOR PARKS AND RECREATION

Throughout her service on the Goleta Old Town Redevelopment Project Area Committee (PAC), the County of Santa Barbara Park Commission, the Goleta City Council, and the Goleta Planning Commission, Jonny championed the need for and value of parks, open space, and both active and passive recreation.

Many examples of her advocacy could be cited, but four efforts stand out:

While serving on the County of Santa Barbara Park Commission from 1999 to 2001, Jonny used her considerable powers of persuasion to convince the commission to reconsider its previous support of a proposal for active recreation on the Ellwood Bluffs. Among other features, the earlier proposal called for a BMX track, stables, food courts, nighttime lighting, and paid parking.

After revisiting the issue, the commissioners recognized the valuable opportunities for passive recreation available on this site. Their re-vote on the issue eased the way for the eventual land swap that led to the creation of the Ellwood Mesa preserve that we cherish and enjoy today.

Jonny's steadfastness during revenue neutrality negotiations with the County of Santa Barbara once more demonstrated her belief in the importance of parks and open space for the city-to-be. One prong of the negotiations dealt with the transfer of real property from the County to the new City of Goleta. Throughout the negotiations, County representatives insisted that Stow House and Lake Los Carneros constituted a regional park that should remain County property.

Jonny would hear none of the County's argument. She and her fellow negotiators hung tough, insisting that the park was part of Goleta's history, identity, and legacy, and that the property should be transferred to the city upon incorporation. Only on the last day of negotiations did the county yield. As a token of Jonny's leading the charge to acquire Stow House and Lake Los Carneros for Goleta, at the first city council meeting on February 1, 2002, a representative from County administration presented her with a key to Stow House.

Jonny Wallis lived in Old Town Goleta. Naming the park after her would be a unique tribute to OTG and the City.

Thank you,
Fermina Murray
442 Danbury Court
Goleta, 93117
Home Phone: 805-967-7189

Deborah Lopez

From: Paula Perotte
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2018 8:50 AM
To: Michelle Greene; Deborah Lopez
Subject: Fwd: Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park

FYI
Paula ~

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: David Landecker <dlandecker23@gmail.com>
Date: October 11, 2018 at 8:37:45 AM PDT
To: <pperotte@cityofgoleta.org>, <skasdin@cityofgoleta.org>, <krichards@cityofgoleta.org>, <mbennett@cityofgoleta.org>, <raceves@cityofgoleta.org>
Cc: "Betsy R. Cramer" <brcramer@cox.net>, Mary Rose <Mary.rose@maryrose.cc>, Mary Louise Days <mldays@cox.net>, Lee Moldaver <audubon@rain.org>, "Dominique Samario" <dominiquemsamario@gmail.com>, Michael Gray <michaelhallgray@gmail.com>, Mary Ellen Brooks <mebrooks@sbceo.org>
Subject: Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park

Madam Mayor and Members of the Council:

On behalf of myself and the Board of Directors of the Citizens Planning Association, I simply wish to thank your staff and support your Council in approving the following recommendation:

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Standing Naming Committee's recommendation of "Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park" as the permanent name for the new park in Old Town.

Jonny's work to create and shepherd the City of Goleta in its infancy, including her major role in the creation of its first General Plan and long-term plan for Old Town, merit recognition. She deserves, and would have been honored by being remembered in this way.

Thank you.

David Landecker

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Please note that my email address has changed to: dlandecker23@gmail.com

Edward Easton 605 Las Perlas Drive Santa Barbara, CA 93111

The Honorable Roger Aceves
Council Member
City of Goleta
130 Cremona Drive Suite B
Goleta, CA 93111

10/15/2018

Dear Roger,

The name for Goleta's newest park needs to be **Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park**.

A number of Park and Recreation Commission members who proposed the name of *Esperanza* for the park did not even know who Jonny Wallace was. Not only was that disappointing, but it was sad that their collective ignorance had to be made public. Her name on this park would be a good way to recognize a founder of the City and this park. It would allow Jonny's name to be known by all who will use this park and to let them learn a little of Goleta's history. Since these well-meaning Commissioners did not know who she was, much less what she did, only one supported her name for this park.

Additionally, their characterization of Old Town as a "Hispanic" enclave is common but unfortunate. I lived there, knocked on doors for elections and other issues for 10 years. I only had to use my Spanish speaking ability once. Old Town has numerous resident Caucasians much less Blacks who have lived there for many years. The term is usually used by outsiders to denigrate this area. It is now, and hopefully will remain, a diverse community. Jonny had lived in Old Town and worked for it for thirty five years.

It was pointed out by one Commissioner that the Housing project across the street is named Esperanza. There could be an unfortunate perception by people that this park belongs to this Low Income Housing across Kellogg Avenue. Does the City want that to happen? The Commission did not discuss this problem.

Only Jonny's proposed name included the term "Neighborhood Park". This was supposed to be a neighborhood park to identify it as intended for this neighborhood. It was intended to give the neighborhood something that it was for Old Town residents. That is why so many aspects of it are for children who will walk, be wheeled to, or bicycle to recreate there. Does the Commission have any knowledge of this history of this park's founding?

I was at the Commission's recent meeting and watched Commissioners fail to realize that the point of the naming process is not just a random process of individual word preferences. The two Chumash words don't respond to any Chumash settlements anywhere near Goleta. Do you know what they mean?

The purpose of City Commissions is usually to come to conclusions thru consultation and criticism, by debate. Hopefully they normally process through discussing alternatives or compromises to find a final resultant that a consensus or majority supports. What they finally reached was not that. The Park and Recreation Commission did not seem to see the process and the name as having any meaning beyond individual "liking" rather than finding a rationale for the name, Geographical, Historical, Honorific, etc. It must be said that the Naming Committee did not give them many of these kind of alternatives.

NOW, The one most important body in this process is the City Council. They at least have a majority that knows who Jonny Wallis was and what she gave to the City of Goleta. Naming things, honoring people is a tradition in Goleta. Honoring our heroes is within your power and is a duty which must be done. Being elected officials you can and will look at the civic input to judge its quantity, meaning, and value. Were the Commissioners given this data for their proposal? Was it given to you? It was not shared with spectators, why? Sooner or later this decision and the supporting evidence must come before the City Council. I hope you will take the time to study the evidence.

You need to approve **Jonny D. Wallis Neighborhood Park**. You will make it happen. Honor a former Mayor, honor a former and founding City Council member. Honor what she gave to Old Town and the children there. Forever.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Easton', with a stylized, flowing script.

Ed Easton

Formerly:

Goleta DRB member

Goleta Planning Commissioner

City Council member 2008-2014

Mayor 2012

Deborah Lopez

From: Stuart Kasdin
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 7:40 PM
To: Michelle Greene; Deborah Lopez
Subject: FW: Naming Goleta's new city park

Stuart Kasdin, PhD

Mayor Pro Tempore
City of Goleta | 130 Cremona Drive, Suite B | Goleta, CA 93117
805-961-7539 | skasdin@cityofgoleta.org

From: Goleta, CA [webmaster@cityofgoleta.org]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 7:38 PM
To: Stuart Kasdin
Subject: Naming Goleta's new city park

Message submitted from the <Goleta, CA> website.

Site Visitor Name: Vic Cox
Site Visitor Email: vic.cox.freelance@gmail.com

Mayor protem Kasdin,

Re: Item B-2, Tuesday's agenda:

Honorable Councilmember Kasdin:

I believe the new city park in Old Town should be appropriately named in honor of city co-founder and former mayor, planning commissioner and councilmember Jonny D. Wallis. Many have praised her devotion to Goleta generally and Old Town in particular, where she lived for more than 45 years, but she also cherished open space and parks of all sizes.

In 2004 when she ran for reelection to the Council she had served since the city's founding she warned against overdevelopment and in favor of preserving our small-town feeling of country. When the new council's balance of power shifted in favor of development she often was on the losing end of 4-1 decisions. But she never gave up and I never witnessed any loss of her dignified calm or humane approach to problems. A very private person she listened to people sympathetically, even if that was all the comfort she could offer.

I saw that in January 2006, after a deranged ex-postal worker shot and killed six former colleagues at the Goleta mail processing facility, America's worst mass shooting by a woman to that date. Then-Mayor Jonny Wallis was called on to express the sorrow and empathy of our community for this tragic loss of life. She offered the city's help "in any way it can." A year later, soft-spoken and low-key, Jonny told mourners at a memorial ceremony, "We celebrate their acts of kindness, smiles, birthdays and roses."

This is the person whose energetic foresight and kindness I think we would do well to recognize with the new park. Thank you.