May 4, 2023

Dear President Peskin and Supervisors,

I am writing to you today, as the Chair of the San Francisco Parks, Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee (PROSAC) to respectfully ask for the continuance of File No. 230482, being introduced by President Peskin, and Supervisors Safai, Chan, and Walton to restructure the membership of PROSAC.

PROSAC is a body of 23 volunteer members, of which only 18 members are currently seated. The meeting that I believe prompted President Peskin's office to propose this legislation, is one of only three meetings in the past three years where we were unable to achieve a quorum. In the six years that I have served on this committee the last minute cancellation of a meeting due to lack of quorum has been a rare occurrence. The majority of the members who are currently serving, come to meetings and actively participate. Our current members write resolutions, give thoughtful feedback, champion policy, and engage their communities.

While I appreciate the sentiment of this proposed legislation and am in agreement that the appointment process for PROSAC has been deeply flawed for some time, specifically under the constraints of Resolution 393-13; I am incredibly disappointed that this legislation is being pushed through without any input or feedback from PROSAC's officers, members, RPD Staff, or members pf the Recreation and Parks Commission. I was made aware of the legislation as an idea by Sunny Angulo, to which I asked that at the very least that she work with myself and outgoing Chair, Nick Belloni before moving forward. This did not happen. It was also never discussed with me by my Supervisor's office, which is co-sponsoring the legislation. I was only made aware of its existence on April 28th, after a PROSAC member was contacted by their appointing officer to ask their opinion on it. The remainder of sitting members were unaware of this legistiation's existence until our May 2nd meeting, this week.

As an appointed representative, and the Chair of this committee as well as past chair of other Citizens Advisory Committees, one of my core values is accountability. I hold myself accountable to my immediate District 1 community, to my appointing officer, to my nominating organization and the communities which they serve, as well as to my fellow PROSAC members. To me, an integral piece of accountability is that when you decide to take action, you consult

with the communities you work with and that you do not leave them surprised. Every single appointed PROSAC member was left surprised by this legislation, including those members whose appointing officers are sponsoring it. This process of this legislation has been not transparent nor has it been in the spirit of good governance.

It is my belief that Resolution 393-13 which governs the appointment of 11 of our seats, is clearly outdated and in need of reform. Furthermore, it was written giving organizations from well-resourced communities the ability to nominate members, while only including a handful of the many organizations in this city and county which meaningfully advocate for equity and inclusion. Many of the organizations on this list have also ceased to either exist or contribute to our rec and parks system. In spite of this list, we have current members who actively represent communities which have the greatest advocacy needs within our Rec and Parks Department. This includes advocates for environmental justice, safe and accessible open spaces, seniors, low-income children, youth and families, immigrants, arts and events, and stewardship of our national parks within San Francisco. We have a wealth of knowledge and expertise among our seated members that will be disregarded by this legislation in its current form. Supervisor Preston's most recent appointment to District 5 is a transgender Black woman living with physical disabilities. She will be the only representative on PROSAC to serve the disability community. Supervisor Preston's other representative is an incredible advocate for the Tenderloin community. Many of our district seats have two currently seated members, each of which bring their individual perspectives, that bring value to the committee. To ask our members to compete for who represents their communities and guide the department as either a voting member or an alternate shows a lack of respect for their lived experience and their service.

Finally, I put the onus of responsibility back on the members of the Board of Supervisors to not only fill the five existing vacancies on PROSAC, but also set the expectations of their members to attend meetings and actively participate. Our PROSAC officers have made a concerted effort to help Supervisors fill vacancies. Our immediate past Chair, Nick Belloni has sent countless emails over the past three years, often with little to no response from Board staff. We have made recommendations to Supervisors on behalf of qualified candidates that have either been rejected or left to languish until the candidate lost interest, only for those seats to remain vacant. My day job is to train people from low income and BIPOC communities to develop their skills and serve on public boards and commissions with an equity lens and a commitment to their communities. As the current PROSAC Chair, I am committed to using my professional experience to collaborate with the Board of Supervisors so that we may continue identifying candidates to fill vacancies.

To my knowledge, no other San Francisco citizens advisory committee is structured the way that the Board of Supervisors is suggesting PROSAC be restructured. My fellow PROSAC officers, members, and I have several ideas on how to restructure our committee so that we can not only meet within quorum and fill vacancies; but so that we may also better serve our most underserved communities and constituencies with the equitable representation and input they are owed. Therefore, I ask you to continue this proposed legislation by sending it back to be redrafted in full collaboration with PROSAC officers, members, and our staff liaison.

Sincerely,

Wendy Aragón
Chair and District 1 Representative
San Francisco Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Committee

Cc: Supervisor Connie Chan, District 1
Supervisor Ahsha Safai, Rules Committee Chair
Supervisor Matt Dorsey, Rules Committee
Supervisor Shamann Walton, Rule Committee
Supervisor Dean Preston, Rules committee in absence of Supervisor Walton
Victor Young, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Ashley Summers, Commission Liaison, Recreation & Parks Department
Nick Beloni, PROSAC Chair Emeritus
Cytnia Salazar, PROSAC 1st Vice Chair
Therese Oxford, PROSAC 2nd Vice Chair

Attachments included

DISTRICT	SEAT	NAME	WILL ATTEND	NOT ATTENDING
1	13	Wendy Aragon	1	
1	14	Richard Rothman	1	
2	5	Nick Belloni	1	
2	6	Angela Leung	1	
3	15	Ken Maley	1	
3	16	VACANT		1
4	3	Valery Lapidus		
4	4	Erin Bank	1	
5	19	Cyntia Salazar	1	
5	20	Rafael Bortnik	1	
6	17	VACANT		1
6	18	Brian Pepin	1	
7	9	VACANT		1
7	10	Deval Patel	1	
8	7	VACANT		1
8	8	VACANT		1
9	1	Elisa Laird-Metke	1	
9	2	Karen Rhodes	1	
10	11	Ieeshea Romero		1
10	12	Roisin Isner		
11	21	John Somoza	1	
11	22	Steven Depont-Kalani	1	
At Large	23	Ancel Martinez	1	
		TOTAL	15	6

NO REPLY	PRESENT
	1
	1
	1
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1	1
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1	
	1
	1
	1
2	14

DISTRICT	SEAT	NAME	WILL ATTEND	NOT ATTENDING
1	13	Wendy Aragon	1	
1	14	Richard Rothman		1
2	5	Nick Belloni	1	
2	6	Angela Leung	1	
3	15	Ken Maley	1	
3	16	Terry Oxford	1	
4	3	Valery Lapidus		1
4	4	Jan Scott	1	
5	19	Cyntia Salazar	1	
5	20	VACANT		
6	17	VACANT		
6	18	Brian Pepin		1
7	9	VACANT		
7	10	Deval Patel	1	
8	7	VACANT		
8	8	Sophia Constantinou	1	
9	1	Elisa Laird	1	
9	2	Karen Rhodes		1
10	11	VACANT		
10	12	Kurt Grimes		1
11	21	John Somoza	1	
11	22	Steven Depont-Kalani	1	
At Large	23	Ancel Martinez	1	
		TOTAL	13	5

NO REPLY	PRESENT
	1
	1
	1
	1
	1
	1
	1
	1
1	1
	1
	1
	1
	1
1	13

Seat	District	Name	1/7/2020	2/4/2020	3/4/2020	Number Attended	Percent Attended
		Total Members Present:	**15**	**14**	**15**		
13	1	Wendy Aragon	P	P	P	3	100%
14	1	Richard Rothman	E	E	P	1	33%
5	2	Nick Belloni	P	P	P		
6	2	VACANT					
16	3	Rosa Chen	P	P	P	3	100%
15	3	Kenneth Maley	U	E	U	0	0%
3	4	Jordyn Aquino	P	P	P	3	100%
4	4	Julia Pfeiffenberger	P	E	U	1	33%
4	4	Susan Ryan				0	#DIV/0!
20	5	Trevor McNeil	P	U	U	1	33%
19	5	James Falino	P	P	P	3	100%
18	6	Jane Weil	P	P	P	3	100%
17	6	Patrick Roddy		P	P	2	100%
9	7	Cally Wong	P	U	U	1	33%
10	7	Anthony Cuadro	E	P	P	2	67%
7	8	Mark Scheuer	P	P	P	3	100%
8	8	Robert Brust	P	P	P	3	100%
2	9	Karen Rhodes	P	P	P	3	100%
1	9	Elisa Laird-Metke	P	E	P	2	67%
11	10	Roisin Isner	U	P	U	1	33%
12	10	Ieeshea Romero	U	E	U	0	0%
21	11	VACANT					
22	11	Steven (Currier) Depont-Kalani	P	P	P	3	100%
23	At Large	Ancel Martinez	P	P	P	3	100%

Key: P = P

If a member was not seated for part of the year, change the cell color

In Row 3: Please describe the special nature of any meetings (i.e. Re

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If you need to add more columns, Copy column C in its entirety, then

Do not change any formulas in the red cells. If there are any errors in

To track committee attendance, make a copy of this worksheet in the

Please email Rebecca.Peacock@sfgov.org with any questions about

End 1st Q 2020

Seat	District	Name	meeting cancelled	meeting cancelled	meeting cancelled	Total Members Present:
13	1	Wendy Aragon				0
14	1	Richard Rothman				0
5	2	Nick Belloni				
6	2	VACANT				
16	3	Rosa Chen				0
15	3	Kenneth Maley				0
3	4	Jordyn Aquino				
4	4	Julia Pfeiffenberger				0
4	4	Susan Ryan				0
20	5	Trevor McNeil				0
19	5	James Falino				0
18	6	Jane Weil				0
17	6	Patrick Roddy				0
9	7	Cally Wong				0
10	7	Anthony Cuadro				0
7	8	Mark Scheuer				0
8	8	Robert Brust				0
2	9	Karen Rhodes				0
1	9	Elisa Laird-Metke				0
11	10	Roisin Isner				0
12	10	Ieeshea Romero				0
21	11	VACANT				
22	11	Steven (Currier) Depont-Kalani				0
23	At Large	Ancel Martinez				0

resent, E = Excused Absence, U = Unexcused Absence, T = Tardy, LE = Left Early

of the corresponding date to indicate

treat, District Meeting, etc.) If a meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum, please note who was absent in Row 3.

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"Insert Copied Cells"

calculation, they will be corrected by the Mayor's Office according to the raw data.

tabs below.

this form.

		Seat	District	Name	7/7/2020	8/4/2020	9/1/2020	
				Total Members Present:	17	15	14	
#DIV/0!		13	1	Wendy Aragon	P	P	P	
#DIV/0!		14	1	Richard Rothman	P	P	P	
		5	2	Nick Belloni	P	P	P	
		6	2					
#DIV/0!		16	3	Rosa Chen	P	P	P	
#DIV/0!		15	3	Kenneth Maley	P	P	U	
		3		Jordyn Aquino				
#DIV/0!		4	4	Julia Pfeiffenberger	U	U	U	
#DIV/0!		4	4	Susan Ryan	P	P	P	
#DIV/0!		20	5	Trevor McNeil	P	U	U	
#DIV/0!	End 2nd Q 2020	19	5	James Falino	P	P	P	End 3rd Q 2020
#DIV/0!		18	6	Jane Weil	P	P	P	
#DIV/0!		17	6	Patrick Roddy	P	P	U	
#DIV/0!		9	7	Cally Wong	P	U	U	
#DIV/0!		10	7	Anthony Cuadro	P	E	P	
#DIV/0!		7	8	Mark Scheuer	P	P	P	
#DIV/0!		8	8	Robert Brust	P	P	P	
#DIV/0!		2	9	Karen Rhodes	P	P	P	
#DIV/0!		1	9	Elisa Laird-Metke	P	P	P	
#DIV/0!		11	10	Roisin Isner	U	U	U	
#DIV/0!		12	10	Ieeshea Romero	P	P	P	
		21	11	VACANT				
#DIV/0!		22	11	Steven (Currier) Depont-Kalani	P	P	P	
#DIV/0!		23	At Large	Ancel Martinez	P	U		

Seat	District	Name	10/6/2020	11/10/2020	12/1/2020		
		Total Members Present:	**12**	**13**	**15**		
13	1	Wendy Aragon	P	P	P	4	80%
14	1	Richard Rothman	P	P	P	4	80%
5	2	Nick Belloni	P	P	P		
6	2	VACANT					
16	3	Rosa Chen	U	P	U	2	40%
15	3	Kenneth Maley	U	E	P	1	20%
3		Jordyn Aquino					
4	4	Julia Pfeiffenberger	U			0	0%
4	4	Susan Ryan	P	E	P	3	60%
20	5	Trevor McNeil	P	P	U	2	40%
19	5	James Falino	P	E	P	3	60%
18	6	Jane Weil	E	P	P	3	60%
17	6	Patrick Roddy	U	P	P	2	40%
9	7	Cally Wong	U	U	U	0	0%
10	7	Anthony Cuadro	P	P	P	4	80%
7	8	Mark Scheuer	P	P	P	4	80%
8	8	Robert Brust	U	P	P	3	60%
2	9	Karen Rhodes	P		P	3	75%
1	9	Elisa Laird-Metke	P		P	3	75%
11	10	Roisin Isner	U	U	U	0	0%
12	10	Ieeshea Romero	E	P	U	2	40%
21	11	VACANT					
22	11	Steven (Currier) Depont-Kalani	P	P	P	4	80%
23	At Large	Ancel Martinez	P	P	P	3	60%

End 3rd Q 2020

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING DATES FY 2012-2013

PROSAC Park, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Committee	1/17/20 [Regular Meeting]	2/4/20	3/4/20	4/7/20 [No Meeting]	Number attended	Percent attended		5/5/20 [No Meeting]	6/2/20 [No Meeting]	7/7/20 [Remote Meeting]	8/4/20 [Remote Meeting]	Number attended	Percent attended		9/1/20 [Remote Meeting]	10/6/20 [Remote Meeting]	11/10/20 [Remote Meeting]	12/1/20 [Remote Meeting]	Number attended	Percent attended		1/5/21 [Remote Meeting]	2/2/21 [Remote Meeting]	[Mtg Date]	[Mtg Date]	Number attended	Percent attended		Annual Present	Annual Absent	Annual Total Number	Annual Percent Attended
Wendy Aragon		P	P		2	100%				P	P	2	100%		P	P	P	P	4	100%		P				1	100%		9	0	9	100%
Nick Belloni		P	P		2	100%				P	P	2	100%		P	P	P	P	4	100%		P				1	100%		9	0	9	100%
Robert Brust		P	P		2	100%				P	P	2	100%		P	U	P	P	3	75%		P				1	100%		8	1	9	89%
Rosa Chen		P	P		2	100%				P	P	2	100%		P	U	P		2	67%		P				1	100%		7	1	8	88%
Anthony Cuadro		P	P		2	100%				P	E	1	50%		P	P	P	P	4	100%		P				1	100%		8	1	9	89%
Steven (Currier) Depont-Kalani		P	P		2	100%				P	P	2	100%		P	P	P	P	4	100%		P				1	100%		9	0	9	100%
James Falino		P	P		2	100%				P	P	2	100%		P	P	U	P	3	75%		P				1	100%		8	1	9	89%
Roisin Isner		P	E		1	50%					U	0	0%		U	U	U	U	0	0%		U				0	0%		1	7	8	13%
Elisa Laird-Metke		E	P		1	50%				P	P	2	100%		P	P	P	P	4	100%		P				1	100%		8	1	9	89%
Kenneth Maley		E	E		0	0%				P	P	2	100%		U	U	E	P	1	25%		U				0	0%		3	6	9	33%
Ancel Martinez		P	P		2	100%				P	U	1	50%		P	P	P	P	4	100%		P				1	100%		8	1	9	89%
Trevor McNeil		U	E		0	0%				P	U	1	50%		U	P	E	U	1	25%		P				1	100%		3	6	9	33%
Karen Rhodes		P	P		2	100%				P	P	2	100%		P	P	P	P	4	100%		P				1	100%		9	0	9	100%
Patrick Roddy		P	P		2	100%				P	P	2	100%		U	U	P	P	2	50%		U				0	0%		6	3	9	67%
Ieeshea Romero		E	E		0	0%				P	P	2	100%		P	E	P	U	2	50%		U				0	0%		4	5	9	44%
Richard Rothman		E	P		1	50%				P	P	2	100%		P	P	P	P	4	100%		P				1	100%		8	1	9	89%
Susan Ryan					0	#DIV/0!				P	P	2	100%		P	P	E	P	3	75%		P				1	100%		6	1	7	86%
Mark Scheuer		P	P		2	100%				P	P	2	100%		P	P	P	P	4	100%		P				1	100%		9	0	9	100%
Jane Weil		P	P		2	100%				P	P	2	100%		P	E	P	P	3	75%		P				1	100%		8	1	9	89%
Cally Wong		U	E		0	0%				P	P	2	100%		U	U	U	U	0	0%		P				1	100%		3	6	9	33%

End 1st Q 2020 | End 2nd Q 2020 | End 3rd Q 2020 | End of 4th Q FY 2020

Key: P = Present, E = Excused Absence, U = Unexcused Absence, T = Tardy, LE = Left Early

If a member was not seated for part of the year, change the cell color of the corresponding date to indicate

In Row 3: Please describe the special nature of any meetings (i.e. Retreat, District Meeting, etc.) If a meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum, please note who was absent in Row 3.

If you need to add more rows, Copy Row 13 in its entirety, then "Insert Copied Cells"

If you need to add more columns, Copy column C in its entirety, then "Insert Copied Cells"
Do not change any formulas in the red cells. If there are any errors in calculation, they will be corrected by the Mayor's Office according to the raw data.
To track committee attendance, make a copy of this worksheet in the tabs below.
Please email Rebecca.Peacock@sfgov.org with any questions about this form.

DISTRICT	SEAT	NAME	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY
1	13	Aragon, Wendy	X	X	X		X
4	3	Aquino, Jordyn	X	X	X	X	X
2	5	Belloni, Nick		X	X	X	X
8	8	Brust, Robert	X	X	X	X	X
3	16	Chen, Rosa					X
7	10	Cuadro, Anthony	X		X	X	X
11	22	Currier, Steven	X	X	X	X	X
	6	VACANT					
	2	Franz, Steffen	X	X	X		
6	17	Gee, Ana	X	X	X	X	X
10	12	Isner, Roisin				X	X
5	19	Jones, Katherine		X			X
9	1	Laird-Metke, Elisa	ABSENT	X	X		X
3	15	Maley, Kenneth	X	X		ABSENT	ABSENT
AT LARGE	23	Martinez, Ancel	ABSENT		X	ABSENT	
11	21	McGary, Ken	X			ABSENT	ABSENT
5	20	McNeil, Trevor	X	X	ABSENT		X
4	4	Pfeiffenberger, Julia	X		X	X	
	3	Rainer, Gisele	X				
9	2	Rhodes, Karen			X		X
10	10	Romero, Ieeshea					
1	14	Rothman, Richard	X	X		X	X
8	7	Scheuer, Mark	X	X	X	X	X
	11	VACANT					
6	18	Weil, Jane	X	X	X	X	
7	9	Wong, Cally	X	X		X	ABSENT

JUNE	JULY
X	
X	X
	X
X	X
ABSENT	X
X	X
X	X
X	X
X	
X	X
ABSENT	X
	ABSENT
ABSENT	ABSENT
X	
X	
X	X
X	X
	X
	X
X	
X	LEAVE

From: Richard Rothman
To: Young, Victor (BOS)
Subject: Monday May 8 Rules Committte item 3
Date: Friday, May 5, 2023 6:46:36 AM

Hello,
As a PROSAC from District One, I just learned of this legislation and am opposed to the rule change. We need diversity of the members on the committee.

The problem is that some Board of Supervisors members must appoint members to the committee. In several districts that have been waiting to have memberships for a long time, this is a problem. Supervisors need to appoint members to the committee. You should ask supervisors why they're not appointing members to the committee.

Best,
Richard

From:	Nick Belloni (PROSAC)
To:	Young, Victor (BOS)
Cc:	Summers, Ashley (REC); Wendolyn Aragon; DPH-Cyntia.Salazar-mff; Therese Oxford
Subject:	Proposed legislation for changing Prosac membership
Date:	Friday, May 5, 2023 2:33:34 PM

Victor if you could please forward this to the rules committee thank you

Supervisors Dorsey, Walton, and Safai,

I am writing to you today about the legislation for changing the membership to Prosac. While I appreciate the sentiment about working to help get the body a more consistent quorum, I feel this legislation is not the right path. It would basically halve the voting members and make alternates that seems a bit drastic. Members on this committee are park advocates, all have diverse backgrounds and bring different viewpoints to this committee. Making them alternates seems, in my opinion, to lessen their input and disfranchise them. It also divides the group and starts to make things more adversarial than one of advocacy.

Furthermore, it is concerning that Prosac was not informed or given any input. This group knows its membership and best practices as well as institutional knowledge of this group and its rich history. Not tapping into that seems a bit short-sighted and not inclusive.

I hope you see that the group is willing to work with the sponsor and the board to create a solution that will be beneficial to the Board of Supervisors, the Rec Park Department, and to the members of Prosac.

- Nick

David Pilpel
2151 27th Ave
San Francisco CA 94116-1730

Chair Matt Dorsey and Members, Rules Committee
Board of Supervisors
1 Carlton B Goodlett Pl Ste 244
San Francisco CA 94102-4689

May 5, 2023

Re: Mon 5-8-23 Rules Committee Item 3 BOS 230482 REC Park Code, PROSAC Membership

Dear Chair Dorsey and Members,

1. I support the idea of reducing the size of the Park, Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee (PROSAC) but disagree about several aspects of the proposed ordinance. First, I would set the size of PROSAC at 15 voting members, with one member appointed by each Member of the Board of Supervisors, each with a designated alternate, both of whom reside in the Supervisor District, and four members appointed by the Mayor, each with a designated alternate, all of whom reside in San Francisco, one of whom represents business or neighborhood merchant interests, one of whom represents environmental or park interests, one of whom represents neighborhood or neighborhood organization interests, and one of whom represents playground or recreation user interests. I would have all of these members appointed by letter, not subject to Board of Supervisors approval, and serving a two (or four) year term but also at the pleasure of the appointing authority (who could remove or replace them at any time without cause). Second, I would transition from the existing PROSAC membership by terminating all incumbent PROSAC members on a transition date (September 1, 2023, for example) and provide that each appointing authority make new appointments no less than 30 days prior to the transition date.

2. The changes I propose here would make PROSAC more like the Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) Citizens' Advisory Council and the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Citizens' Advisory Committee, while avoiding the awkward transition language and process in the current version of the ordinance. It would also avoid any formal Board of Supervisors approval for new members in the future, whether through the Rules Committee or the Adoption Without Committee Reference Calendar.

3. The current version of the ordinance appears to have no Section 2. Also, please clarify whether current Park Code section 13.01 (d), regarding the duties of PROSAC, would continue or be deleted.

4. I urge you to continue the ordinance to the call of the chair in committee and consider these ideas.

Thank you, as always, for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

/s/
David Pilpel

cc: Aaron Peskin, President, Board of Supervisors
Victor Young, Rules Committee Clerk, Board of Supervisors

From:	Steven Currier
To:	Dorsey, Matt (BOS); shaman.walton@sfgov.org; Safai, Ahsha (BOS); Peskin, Aaron (BOS)
Cc:	Young, Victor (BOS); Calvillo, Angela (BOS); Barnes, Bill (BOS); Angulo, Sunny (BOS); alisalaird@gmail.com; wendolyn aragon; John Somoza; Summers, Ashley (REC); stevencurrier@icloud.com; Nick Belloni (Gmail)
Subject:	Park Code - PROSAC Membership - Rules Committee, Item 3 - #230482
Date:	Friday, May 5, 2023 4:58:16 PM

Dear Supervisors Dorsey, Walton, Safai, and Peskin:

This note is in response to the hearing above-referenced.

I am a member of PROSAC representing District 11. I can say, with great pride, that since my appointment and re-appointment, that I have never missed a regular PROSAC meeting. I personally take my appointment to PROSAC very seriously, as should any appointee take seriously.

I have been very concerned, especially since covid-19 hit, that we have had a difficult time acquiring a quorum at our meetings. This makes it difficult in having a meeting on record and voting on specific items brought to us on agenda.

I understand the argument that having 12 voting members may be easier in reaching a quorum that having 23 voting members. One has to keep in mind, there are some positions that have been unfilled by some of the supervisors.

I propose that we have this hearing on Monday, May 8, look at other options, including having all positions filled, as the Charter states, and see what happens for a six month period. Also, there are rules on unexcused absences and the dismissal of those members not attending meetings regularly. This committee is important to the Recreation and Park Department regarding open space and recreational space for the residents of San Francisco.

I would also recommend that this item, after it is heard, to be continued at call of the Chair.

Thank you.

Steven R. Depont-Kalani
Member, PROSAC, District 11
415-420-3866

From:	Ken Maley
To:	Young, Victor (BOS)
Subject:	May 8th Rules Meting Agenda Re: PROSAC Mwmbwrship Changes
Date:	Sunday, May 7, 2023 3:49:58 PM

Mr. Young would you please fwd these comments from PROSAC D-3 representatives, Ken Maley and Terry Oxford to members of the Rules Committee?

Ken Maley
Media Consultants International
415 956 1069

Members of the Rules Committee:

As PROSAC committee members only recently (May 2nd) learned of the proposed changes to the committee's membership, no discussion or official position by the committee has been possible.The proposal was only sent to the Recreation and Park Department on May 4th, so members have not had an opportunity to review the proposed changes before you.

As committee representatives from D-3, we request Rules consider postponing action until the full committee can discuss the proposed changes with the Supervisor's staff in order to better understand the proposed changes and the committee’s comments may be presented to the Rules Committee.

The full committee meets again June 6th. We will request PROSAC's agenda committee add this item to the June agenda, As Rules meets weekly, we can present our comments shortly for the next available Rules meeting..

It is vital for PROSAC members to have the opportunity to review these proposed changes in membership and present their response to Rules.

Thank you for your understanding and consideration of our request for a delay of action on this proposal.

As representatives for Supervisor Peskin's D-3, we certainly appeciate our supervisor's concerns for PROSAC's performamnce and functionality
as public advisors to the Department on Open Space issues.

Ken Maley
Terry Oxford
D-3 PROSAC Representative

From: Elisa Laird
To: Young, Victor (BOS)
Cc: Herrera, Ana (BOS)
Subject: File # 230482 - Park Code - PROSAC Membership - Public comment
Date: Sunday, May 7, 2023 9:56:46 PM

Supervisors Dorsey, Walton, and Safai,
I am a PROSAC member representing District 9, and I write regarding the proposed changes to the Parks and Recreation Open Space Advisory Committee (PROSAC) membership, which although well intentioned, will cause unintended negative consequences that will hurt the mission of the Committee.

The proposed legislation undermines the voters' intent in creating the Committee.
PROSAC is unusual in that it has two representatives per District for an important reason. The Committee was created through a ballot initiative, which established two ways that members are nominated: in each district, one member is nominated directly by the Supervisor and a second is proposed to the Supervisor by a local community organization. Of those proposed by the nominating organizations, four PROSAC members are required to be from an organization representing environmental interests. The proposed legislation would strip the voters' intention of having community input and individuals with particular environmental knowledge for this important oversight committee.

The changes proposed will not address the primary reasons for the occasional lack of quorum.
Seven Districts have consistently had two active and regularly attending PROSAC members. The inability to consistently meet quorum requirements happened only occasionally, and was primarily due to the small number of Districts in which no member was seated. However, additional members were appointed in those Districts in the past month, making quorum much easier to consistently achieve. Despite this recent improvement, the proposed legislation will remove the ability of seven currently active members to vote (and count towards quorum), not effectively addressing the underlying quorum issue, which is resolved most effectively without legislation action, but instead by simply continuing to fill the remaining empty seats.

Reducing voting members to one per District will harm the geographic and demographic diversity of the Committee.
Many Supervisorial Districts are very diverse internally, with quite disparate neighborhoods contained within one District. Despite our efforts, we as volunteer members are not able to adequately understand and represent the park needs across all of a District's neighborhoods. Even if the alternate, non-voting, representative is permitted to attend meetings, it does not change the fact that only one person will be able to represent the interests of the entire District in a vote.

Updating the list of nominating organizations would help fill the remaining empty PROSAC seats and resolve the quorum issues.
Despite the mandate in 13.01(c) that the list of nominating organizations shall be updated by the Parks Commission and approved by the BOS annually, the list was last amended in 2013.

A substantial number of the existing nominating organizations on the list are no longer operating, and many newer groups have formed and remained active in the past decade. However, those community groups that aren't expressly named on this list do not have the ability to nominate potential PROSAC members. This is impacting the ability to find PROSAC members to serve, especially in the underserved Districts, where new advocacy groups have only formed more recently, and don't currently have the ability to recommend potential PROSAC representatives for their Districts.

If a legislative fix is desired, adding nominating organizations that fairly represent the variety of constituencies and interests within all Districts would be an effective action that could help address the quorum issue without creating structural change that risks exacerbating the problem it is trying to solve. It would also facilitate more robust representation of current constituent interests throughout the city.

Thank you for considering the perspectives of current PROSAC members in weighing the need for the current legislation.

Elisa Laird
District 9 PROSAC Representative

Current nominating organizations (last amended in 2013): https://sfbos.org/ftp/uploadedfiles/bdsupvrs/resolutions13/r0391-13.pdf

Below text found at: https://sfrecpark.org/420/PROSAC

ARTICLE 13
IMPLEMENTATION OF CHARTER SECTION 16.107
SEC. 13.01. CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
(a) **Membership.** There is hereby established a Park, Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee ("Committee") comprised of twenty-three members. Twenty-two members shall be appointed by the members of the Board of Supervisors and approved by the full Board, with one member appointed by each Supervisor from his or her supervisorial district and one member appointed by each Supervisor from a list, maintained by the Recreation and Park Commission ("Commission") of individuals nominated by organizations having as a primary focus park, environmental, recreational, cultural, sports, youth or senior citizen issues. Four of the members chosen from the list maintained by the Commission shall be individuals nominated by an environmental organization. If the system of district elections set forth in Charter Section 13.110 is discontinued, each Supervisor shall appoint one member of the Committee from the list maintained by the Commission and one member without restriction. One member of the Committee shall be appointed by the Mayor.
(b) **Terms.** The Committee members shall serve for terms of two years, at the will of the appointing authority, except that at the first meeting of the Committee the General Manager of the Recreation and Park Department ("Department") shall, by lot, designate twelve members to serve terms of one year. Thereafter, all members shall be appointed to two-year terms and no member shall serve more than four consecutive terms.
(c) **Transition Period.** From the effective date of Proposition C, which appeared on the March 7, 2000 ballot and until January 31, 2001, the Open Space Advisory Committee created by former Charter Section 16.107 shall serve as the Committee created in section (a) above. During this transition period the Open Space Advisory Committee shall take all steps necessary to ensure a smooth transition to the new

Committee. The Mayor and the members of the Board of Supervisors may fill vacancies on the Committee that occur during this transition period according to the requirements of former Administrative Code Section 590(a). By July 1, 2000, the Commission shall prepare, and the Board of Supervisors shall approve or modify, a list of organizations qualified to nominate individuals for Committee membership. Changes to the list shall be made by the Commission and approved or modified by the Board of Supervisors annually. The Board of Supervisors and the Mayor shall make their first appointments to the Committee by February 1, 2001.

(d) **Duties.** The Committee shall have the following duties:

(1) The Committee shall submit written comments to the Department on its proposed Strategic, Capital and Operational Plans, and all updates to such plans. The Committee shall submit comments on each such plan within 30 days after the plan is delivered to the Committee.

(2) The Committee shall assist the Department in conducting at least two public hearings on evenings or on weekends to permit the public to comment on the Department's full budget and programming allocations prior to adoption by the Commission.

(3) Members of the Committee appointed from supervisorial districts shall serve as liaisons between the Commission and the residents, neighborhood groups and organizations dedicated to park and recreational issues in their districts. Members may also serve as liaisons to the public at large and to citywide organizations that are concerned with park and recreational issues, and may assist the Department to arrange meetings with neighborhood groups, citywide organizations and the public at large to discuss such issues.

(4) The Committee shall select a representative of the Committee to make the Committee's quarterly report to the Commission on all significant park and recreational issues that have come to the attention of the Committee or its members.

(5) The Committee shall hold meetings at least once a month and shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

(6) In addition to the duties described in Charter Section 16.107 and set forth below, the Committee shall have such duties as maybe fixed by the Commission or the Board of Supervisors. (Added by Ord. 118-00, File No. 000478, App. 6/2/2000)

From:	Steven Currier
To:	Dorsey, Matt (BOS); shamman.walton@sfgov.org; Safai, Ahsha (BOS); Peskin, Aaron (BOS)
Cc:	Young, Victor (BOS); Wendy Aragón; Barnes, Bill (BOS); Chung, Lauren (BOS); Ginsburg, Phil (REC); Calvillo, Angela (BOS)
Subject:	Park Code - PROSAC Membership - Item #7 - File no. 230482
Date:	Monday, June 12, 2023 2:19:32 AM

Dear Supervisors Dorsey, Walton, Safai, and Peskin:

I represent District 11, as one of Supervisor Safai's appointee o PROSAC. I was excused from the June 6th meeting of PROSAC members voted regarding the above-referenced item for this hearing. Fortunately or unfortunately, depends on how you see it, I was in Europe without internet connection. I hope to be at the hearing this morning since the Internet that I am on is a little better and I will try to ZOOM in.

I am writing on behalf of myself. I agree that this hearing should be continued until the author or his/her representative can meet with our PROSAC members at its next meeting in July before proceeding with this item.

My thoughts, as I stated at the May Rules committee hearing is (1) 11 members be appointed from each supervisor (11), (2) two members be appointed by the President of the BOS, (3) One member be appointed by the Mayor, (4) PROSAC meetings be held at City Hall.

Number 1 above's reasoning is that PROSAC sparingly has met quorum. With fewer members would make it easier to ascertain a quorum so that PROSAC can fulfill its duties to the Recreation and Parks Commission and the citizens of San Francisco.
Number 4 above makes it clearer to, not only PROSAC members but to the general public, that these hearings are public hearings with public comment and easy accessibility to hearings at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Depont-Kalani
PROSAC Member, District 11
415-420-3866

Dear Members of the Rules Committee,

My name is John Somoza and I am a PROSAC member representing District 11.

We at PROSAC do not know what the motivation has been for the proposed changes to the PROSAC membership rules. However, there has been some speculation that it is partially due to some sporadic problems in getting quorum, especially during the shift back from virtual to in-person meetings.

Quorum requires that at least 12 members be physically present at each meeting and we generally average around 13 attendees.

However, throughout the last year only 16.75 out of 23 PROSAC seats have been filled. Therefore, the average attendance of seated members has been about 80%, suggesting a high level of engagement.

Based on this, I suggest that the emphasis should be on filling the empty seats. Also, the current 80% attendance suggests that only rarely will there be a need for alternate members.

PROSAC's projects tend to be complicated, involve complex trade-offs and span months or years. If the alternate members have no power except in rare cases, I think it will be hard for them to remain meaningfully engaged in PROSAC's work.

Thank you for your time.

John

From: LINDA SHAFFER
To: Board of Supervisors (BOS)
Subject: Communnication re item 32 on the Agenda for the 6/27/23 Board Meeting
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 9:47:57 AM

Clerk of the Board:
Please accept this communication re item 32 [230482] on the Agenda for the Full Board meeting on June 27, 2023. It has already been sent to each Supervisor individually. Thank you. Linda Shaffer
---
Supervisors: Please vote to table this item until some important issues related to the proposal to restructure PROSAC can be addressed.
****

Comments:
The instinct to ask how this large Committee can deal even better with its wide-ranging remit is understandable. However, is this proposal really the best way to accomplish that goal? I submit the following remarks, meant as constructive thoughts, for your consideration.
1. As others have pointed out, it is hard to improve member attendance at meetings of an advisory body when vacant seats go unfilled.
2. There are two possibly serious problems with the proposal to change the current appointment process to one that would have each district Supervisor appoint one voting committee member and one non-voting alternate,

Problem #1: **Incentives for alternates?**

Under this proposal, alternates are encouraged to "attend and participate in" meetings. But if they usually cannot vote, what INCENTIVES are there for them to do so? Or to even accept an appointment as an alternate?

It seems to me one of two things is likely to happen. IF alternates (despite the lack of incentive) mostly DO attend meetings, the number of attendees will still be large, continuing a "problem" the authors of this proposal allege they are trying to solve. On the other hand, IF alternates mostly do NOT attend meetings, on the rare occasions when they do attend, it is likely they will not be as well prepared as they should be, and their district will suffer from less adequate or less informed representation. Neither of these outcomes is good; instead they are counter-productive.

PROBLEM #2: **If the size of the committee is cut in half, valuable input to the Committee from city-wide organizations would be lost.**

There is a reason why each Supervisor currently gets to appoint two members to PROSAC. Each member has a different job description.

One member is envisioned as primarily representing specific concerns of their district. The job of such members is to act as liaisons among district park support groups, the Supervisor's office, and RPD. This is a big job.

The other member is envisioned as representing the concerns of a constituency that is naturally more CITY-WIDE -- members of environmental organizations,

devotees of a particular form of recreation, groups working toward improving equity in access to parks, etc. [Note that the distinction between district and city-wide is routinely made by RPD in the language of its bond issues. There are $$ allocated to capital projects that are carried out within districts (ex. a specific local playground or park upgrade), and $$ allocated to projects that are described as city-wide (ex. trail upgrades, work done in Golden Gate Park or McLaren Park.] In recognition of the different nature of the constituency for such a position, it has not been a requirement that such appointees live in the district of the Supervisor who appointed them.

Presumably, with only one voting seat on PROSAC to appoint, most Supervisors would choose someone focused on their district rather than representing a city-wide constituency. But restricting opportunities for city-wide organizations to suggest nominees for seats on PROSAC would deprive the Committee of the opportunity to receive the valuable input and perspectives that such broader-based organizations can provide. In particular, in a time when the world is focused on climate change and other pressing environmental issues, eliminating the requirement that some minimum number of PROSAC members be representatives of environmental organizations seems inexplicable.

Note -- I haven't yet mentioned the fact that cutting the size of the committee in half necessitates that other steps occur. A specific appointment must be made by the President of the Board of Supervisors in order to once again have an odd number of committee members; additional language is needed to specify how to decide which of two active members in a district would lose their right to vote at committee meetings. Why do things have to be so complicated?

3. A suggestion for a less complicated proposal.

An intention of the proposal as written seems to be to dispense with the outdated list of organizations that are qualified to nominate people for the 11 city-wide seats [currently to be found in RESOLUTION NO. 391-13, FILE NO. 131042, dated 11/5/13)] and just leave it up to Supervisors to choose nominees who have required experience, hopefully with input from appropriate groups and organizations.

This seems a reasonable idea. It would greatly simplify the nomination process and make it easier for Supervisors to fill vacant seats.

In fact, I suggest that is pretty much ALL that is needed to address alleged "problems" with the Committee.

In the proposal before us, language in the Park Code giving a list of areas with which nominees for seats on PROSAC should "have relevant experience" would be modified to read "park, environmental, recreational, cultural, sports, youth, <u>disability,</u> <u>racial equity,</u> or senior citizen issues. (The two underlined terms are proposed additions). Why not simply add "environmental justice" to that list as well, eliminate the 391-13 List as described above, and leave the total number of committee members at 23? This would preserve representation of both district based and city-wide perspectives, greatly simplifying the process by which Supervisors nominate members, and no one would lose their vote.

PROSAC has managed to accomplish many important things over the years. (A sample: completely revising and standardizing RPD's Acquisition Policy; providing input into bond language; encouraging RPD to file a Strategic Plan; participating in Community Grant programs.) Like most consultative bodies, the committee ran into difficulties during the pandemic. Let's not over-react by "throwing out the baby with

the bathwater!"
Thank you for listening.
One additional question: Is the wording "racial equity" in the list above intended? I ask because "environmental justice" is often the wording used to refer to many different kinds of equity issues.
Linda J. Shaffer
San Francisco resident, District 1
Former member of PROSAC, 2008 to 2016.
Originally appointed by Supervisor Sophie Maxwell to represent D10 as a member of an environmental organization.

From:	Robert Hall
To:	Board of Supervisors (BOS)
Subject:	6/27/23 BOS Meeting, Park Code – PROSAC Membership, Item 230482
Date:	Monday, June 26, 2023 5:52:14 PM
Attachments:	PROSAC Committee Changes Letter 62623.pdf

June 26, 2023

Clerk of the Board and Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, Ca. 94102-4689

RE: Park Code – PROSAC Membership, Item 230482

Dear Supervisors,

I'm writing on behalf of the Yerba Buena Chapter of the California Native Plant Society. We have over 600 members in San Francisco and Northern San Mateo County and are committed to protecting and expanding biodiversity, even in highly-degraded urbanized areas.

Our chapter has just learned that the Board of Supervisors will be holding a hearing on how the Park and Recreation Open Space Citizens Advisory Committee (PROSAC) members are appointed. Our organization understands that the proposal is to eliminate the list of potential appointees that is created by citywide environmental organizations. The Yerba Buena Chapter of the California Native Plant Society is one of the participating organizations. We feel that it's imperative that park advocates and environmentalists sit on this committee.

We feel that the stakeholders in appointing members to PROSAC should have been informed that this proposed change was going to be on the agenda. There should be an opportunity for the public to share input on this issue and we ask for a delay in the vote. There needs to be more discussion with the public and the stakeholder environmental organizations before this is voted on.

Sincerely,

Bob Hall
CNPS Yerba Buena chapter Conservation Chair

Cc: Eddie Bartley CNPS Yerba Buena chapter President

http://cnps-yerbabuena.org

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY | Yerba Buena Chapter

June 26, 2023

Clerk of the Board and Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, Ca. 94102-4689

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Sincerely,

Bob Hall
CNPS Yerba Buena chapter Conservation Chair

Cc: Eddie Bartley CNPS Yerba Buena chapter President

http://cnps-yerbabuena.org

From: Nick Belloni (Gmail)
To: Board of Supervisors (BOS)
Subject: Item 32 on Tuesdays agenda
Date: Sunday, June 25, 2023 3:32:02 PM

Supervisors

I am writing to respectfully request that you table or vote against the change of the membership to PROSAC for a few reasons.

Firstly, there has been little discussion with PROSAC or with the community over these changes. No one has ever come to PROSAC and worked with us to create this legislation. It was just put up without input from us at all. We did talk about it in a PROSAC meeting and we voted on a resolution asking the sponsors to come to our July 10th meeting, but that was ignored at the rules committee hearing.

Secondly, as it stands now, the committee's two representatives work within the districts having one voting member and one alternate. This takes away a voice for the district. No one is going to want to talk to the alternate; they will want to talk to the voting member. The alternate will quickly become disenfranchised and either resign or just not show up. Basically creating a new problem of finding ways to keep the alternates engaged.

Over the years I have been on this committee there is a lot we have done for the parks department, from little fixes of parks that have been needed to bond forums to working to support the apprentice gardener program.

PROSAC has always looked out for the community taking away half of that will limit and hinder the good work PROSAC can do in the future.

Thank you for your time.

Nick Belloni
Chair Emiratis and current d2 representative

From:	Linda D"Avirro
To:	Board of Supervisors (BOS)
Subject:	Comments Urging You to Reject Item 32 - Changes in the PROSAC membership/appointees - Until Further Broader Discussions Are Held
Date:	Saturday, June 24, 2023 9:23:10 PM

To the Members of the Board of Supervisors:

Please vote against approving Item 32 - Park Code - PROSAC Membership File No. 230482 - Instead, vote to table it until PROSAC, the Recreation and Parks Commission, and the public, have an opportunity to discuss and possibly amend the legislation before you.

We respectfully ask you to consider what is the urgency today to approve this major restructuring of an important committee without PROSAC members or RPD Commissioners having an input?

At the May 8th rules committee Supervisor Peskin, with support from Supervisors Connie Chan and Ahsha Safai, introduced this legislation changing the structure of PROSAC.

Saying it is necessary to "optimize governance structure, fix a frequent lack of quorum, eliminating District reps holding opposing views, canceling the other's votes, and eliminating its unwieldy processes, Legislation File# 230482 was introduced and is now before you.

As much as this - and many of the City's Committees and Councils - may need to be reviewed and updated from time-to-time, a wider discussion of this important Committee needs to take place in a forum that considers changes that produce real positive results.

For example, the lack of quorum this legislation claims to fix: Each District Supervisor is the "appointing authority" to appoint people to serve on committees. A significant reason PROSAC may not be able to meet quorum is often the result of no one being appointed in a timely manner to fill vacancies on PROSAC.

Under Park Code 13.01(b) § 3 and 4 PROSAC's bylaws very clearly spell out the Chair is required to notify the "appointing authority" after a member misses 3 meetings and when a vacancy occurs, so the widest representation is seated, the broadest viewpoints can be brought, and quorum is maintained.

Should this legislation pass today, what process is now in place to "fix a

frequent lack of quorum" ensuring vacancies going forward are filled quickly under the new, smaller committee member make-up?

Another reason to table this legislation and have a broader discussion, is the proposal to reduce the number of PROSAC reps to “optimize governance structure and eliminate canceling each other’s vote.”

Why is having and voting based on different points of view considered a failing and "canceling out each other's vote?"?

Different points of view often lead to the best solution. Even if two district members don't agree on one item, many times on others they agree. For those PROSAC members who regularly discuss parks and open space issues with their supervisor, this usually isn't an issue.

Besides, after any vote by the majority, Park Code 13.01(b) § 5 allows for **any** member of the **majority** or the **minority** "to revise and extend their remarks in the form of an advisory opinion to be made part of the record for the meeting."

Certainly, a good look at this committee (and many of the other committees not mentioned here) may lead to changes. However, this hasty legislation isn't ready to be passed until there's time to come up with real solutions to issues that aren't addressed here. This legislation can be tabled with enough time to listen to suggestions and solutions offered by the volunteer citizens who serve on this committee.

Please do not approve this legislation at this time. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Linda J. D'Avirro
Past PROSAC Chair
Co-Founder, Friends of the Jerry Garcia Amphitheater
Co-Founder, McLaren Park Collaborative

Sharon Eberhardt
Past PROSAC Member
Member, Friends of the Jerry Garcia Amphitheater
Member, McLaren Park Collaborative