



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Mel Pincus, 1st District
Marico C. Enriquez, 2nd District
Neil Merrilees, 3rd District
Marian Vanden Bosch, 4th District
Michael J. Cooney, 5th District

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Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Thursday, July 12, 2012

4:00 PM

County Government Center

455 County Center, Room 101, Redwood City

MINUTES

Chair Vanden Bosch called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Led by the Chair.

2. **Roll Call**

Commission: Cooney, Enriquez, Merrilees (Arrived at 5:01), Pincus (Vice Chair), Vanden Bosch (Chair)

Staff: Porter, Bennett, Choi, Hallett, Harris, Herzberg, Lockman, Lombardi, Schoof, Tourel

3. **Oral Communications**

None.

4. **Agenda Amendments**

None.

5. **Consideration of the Minutes**

A. April 5, 2012

Commissioner Pincus suggested the minutes reflect on page 3 that the \$10,000 check from Wells Fargo Bank to support the Conservation Corps' Summer Youth Program was given to the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Foundation.

Commission Action: M/S Cooney/Enriquez to approve the minutes as modified.

Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Merrilees not yet in attendance.

6. **Correspondence and Presentations**

There were none.

7. Director's Report

Director Porter reported the Department would be opening a Park Ranger II recruitment noting that there were seven vacancies, two of which were proposed to be filled. He said that the Board of Supervisors would hold a study session on July 31, 2012 to discuss future funding strategies for Parks including revenue enhancements and efficiencies toward a self-sustaining budget.

Superintendent Lockman said the Board of Supervisors' interest in Parks and the additional funding they authorized this budget cycle were appreciated.

Chair Vanden Bosch, on behalf of the Commission, thanked staff for their hard work and resourcefulness.

8. Action Items

- A. Review and Recommend to the Board of Supervisors Certain Changes to Park and Marina Fees

Director Porter said the Department was recommending some adjustments to the Park and Marina fee schedules that were expected to increase Park revenue by 1.5% and Marina revenue by .2%.

Commissioner Pincus asked about the proposed change to the fees for the Magic Mountain picnic sites. Superintendent Lockman said that the fee for off-season use had previously been decreased to 50% as a revenue incentive but had proven not to increase revenue when compared to previous years' earnings. He said that the same incentive had increased family camping revenues during the off-season.

Commissioner Enriquez asked if the prior year's increase to \$6 for the vehicle entry fee had caused a decrease in attendance. Superintendent Lockman said that there had been a slight increase in attendance.

Commission Action: M/S Pincus/Enriquez to recommend to the Board of Supervisors certain changes to Park and Marina fees as presented by staff.

Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Merrilees not yet in attendance.

- B. Review and Approve a Conceptual Plan for the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve Parking Lot Improvement Project

Planner Herzberg provided the Commission with a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed conceptual plan for the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve Parking Lot Improvement Project. (Commissioner Merrilees arrived during the presentation.)

Commissioners asked about parking and if the plan would create sufficient parking, and where an education center might be located in the future so there would not be a need to remove paving. Superintendent Lockman said that there were concerns from some members of the public that the Reserve not become a destination location and were generally opposed to any development; others were concerned with bus parking and the safety of children in the parking area.

Public Comment: Ms. Lennie Roberts, Committee for Green Foothills, said there were questions about the initial plans and the application for a Coastal Development Permit. She said the project had to comply with the 50-foot riparian setback and that should be measured from riparian vegetation. She said the proposed plan for landscaping did not show which type of trees would be removed and what species added.

Ms. Marcia Cohen, a docent at the Reserve, said her concern was whether the overflow parking area would be enough noting that there were less buses bringing children for tours and more private cars and vans. She said that if cars parked on both sides of the overflow parking area and there was only one way traffic circulation that cars might not have enough width in that area to get through. She asked if parking was not used for buses whether that area might be designated for car parking.

Chair Vanden Bosch to close the public hearing.

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Cooney moved to approve the conceptual plan as recommended in the staff report. Commissioner Enriquez seconded the motion. .

Commission Action: M/S MC/ME to approve the conceptual plan for the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve Parking Lot Improvement Project.

Motion carried 5-0.

9. Marina

A. Harbor Master's Report

Harbormaster Hallet reported that the fuel dock at the Marina had failed, but fortunately there had been no fuel spillage. He said this was an important and unexpected project. He said that while the Marina has reserve funds that fund this project that other projects such as the restrooms would need to wait.

The Commission agreed that it was very fortunate no fuel had spilled.

10. Operations and Maintenance Activities

A. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Lombardi reported that the Woodside Fire District had used equipment off-road at Edgewood Park and Nature Preserve for a training exercise. He said that although there was no scarring there was damaged vegetation. He thanked Mr. Drew Shell with the California Native Plant Society for his assistance in assessing the damage and providing input on guidelines for such training exercises. He said that staff was working with the Fire District to restore the area and to establish guidelines for future training events. He said there had been two emergency incidences in the parks recently and thanked staff for their excellent work as first responders.

B. Volunteer Program Report

Volunteer Programs Coordinator Schoof said in addition to the written report that Nestle Water as a corporate sponsor for SCA would host a special volunteer event at Coyote Point Park. She said there would be speakers in the morning and a volunteer project in the afternoon. She invited the Commission to participate.

11. Support Services

A. Alternative Funding and Programs Report

Financial Services Manager Harris said she had no additions to her written report.

Commissioner Merrilees said he had attended the Coastal Commission's meeting at Marin recently and had spoken as an individual about enlisting their support to fix the area near Surfer's Beach and Hwy. 1 that the Commission had heard about at their last meeting. He said he had other ideas about how to broach the Coastal Commissioners.

B. Park Planning Activities Report

Planner Herzberg said related to Commissioner Merrilee's comments about Surfer's Beach and Highway 1 erosion that Caltrans also was interested in finding a solution to that problem area. He said he had no additions to his written report.

12. Friends and Subcommittees

A. Report on FY 2011-2012 Foundation Activities and Fund Raising*

Foundation Executive Director Bott said the Foundation Board has approved \$25,000 in funding for FY 2012-13 for the Volunteer Program. She said their fundraiser at the Whole Foods on Hillsdale was successful, noting they had raised \$6,100. She thanked staff for getting the message out to the County employees. She invited the Commission to join the volunteer efforts for the Tour de Peninsula that would take place on August 5.

She said that would raise funds to support bicycling in San Mateo County Parks such as Bicycle Sunday.

13. Commissioner Reports*

Chair Vanden Bosch noted that the trails in Edgwood looked very good.

14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.