

Regular Meeting  
Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission  
March 18, 2014  
Martinez, CA

Chair Dylan Radke called the Regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission to order at 7:04 p.m., in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, CA,

**1. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Commissioner Brian Eychner, Commissioner Gay Gerlack, Commissioner Richard Patchin, Commissioner Donald Pallotta, Chair Dylan Radke

EXCUSED: Commissioner Ingemar Olsson, Vice Chair Karen Bell-Patten and Commissioner John Fuller

ABSENT: None

Staff present: Recreation Supervisor Patty Lorick, Recreation Coordinator Barbara Patchin, and Minutes Clerk Robin Agostino.

**2. PRESENTATION(S)**

- a. Presentation made to the PRMCC from President of NorCal Courts Dan Middleton and Pickleball Resident Karen Siemsen. Mr. Middleton and Ms. Siemsen provided a presentation regarding Pickleball and use of Morello Park tennis courts. They explained the game is a combination of Ping Pong, tennis and badminton and is for all ages and skill levels. There are 100,000 members in the National USA Pickleball Association, with over 130 members in the local Diablo Valley Pickleball Association. Ms. Siemsen shared a diagram of the courts and what it would take to make the Tennis Court into a Pickleball Court. She explained that the estimated costs are less than \$5,000. Red lines would need to be painted on the court, holes and covers would need to be installed and two nets and four poles provided. They would also need a TUFF BOX with a combination lock to store the nets and poles at the park. Ms. Siemsen said that she would run a Pickleball clinic to kick off the program. Rules and hours of play would be posted along with a city phone number to obtain information or report an issue. Pickleball Courts are now in Santa Rosa, Albany, Discovery Bay, and Rudgear and San Miguel Parks in Walnut Creek. Concord is budgeting for Pickleball Courts in Willow Pass Park.

**Chairperson opened and closed Public Comment concerning the presentation:** with no public speakers.

**Commissioner Comments concerning the presentation:**

Commissioner Gerlack asked about the holes in the courts to hold the poles and if it would be a tripping hazard. Ms Siemsen answered that there would be a metal flap that is flush with the court surface. Chair Radke asked if the tennis nets are the same height as the Pickleball nets. Ms. Siemsen explained the nets are slightly lower than those for tennis.

- b. Rankin Aquatic Swim Center California Park and Recreation Society Facility Design Award

Award: Patty Lorick shared her experience about the trip to Ontario, CA March 5-7, 2014, to accept the Rankin Aquatic Swim Center California Park and Recreation Society Facility Award. She explained that the Aquatic Center was one of only eight facilities throughout the State of California chosen for an award in the category of Park Planning. The pool was presented to approximately 600 recreation professionals at the Opening Session of the Conference, March 5 in a photo display called "Best of the Best." She went on to say, later that afternoon, the facility was part of an educational session called "Best of the Best Award Winning Displays." Ken Moeller, Rankin Aquatic Swim Center's project architect, built a detailed model of the project to display. Jane Adams, Executive Director of CPRS, stopped by the pool display, specifically to see pictures of the mosaic showers and ask questions about placement and design. She was very complimentary of the project and congratulated the City on receiving the award. She noted this was our first award and was pleased that we were recognized. Commissioner Pallotta said that Commissioner Bell-Patten will be pleased. Ms. Lorick went on to share that on March 7, the City of Martinez was presented the Class Facility Design Award for the pool at a conference dinner. She showed the award to the Commission and said the award can be seen at the Recreation Office. Ms. Lorick shared that a former Martinez Recreation employee and intern, Kristin Roundy, was named Rising Professional for CPRS. Kristin was the first person to receive the newly created award. She was recognized for her contributions to the field of Parks and Recreation in her community and to the State. Ms. Lorick finished her presentation noting that it was a very proud night for Martinez Recreation and thanked Commissioner Patchin for help with the application. Chair Radke said that this is very exciting and it goes to show that you do not need to spend a ton of money for a top rated facility.

NO public comment on this presentation.

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Kristen Henderson commented on the Rankin Aquatic Swim Centers tile art work and will include the art work in the next printing of her pamphlet *Tile of Downtown Martinez*. Ms. Henderson presented a copy of the Bisio - City of Martinez contract for the Campbell Theater noting there is no rent required of the theater group now using the building. The city has paid half of a million dollars. The Commission might want to read the contract. She informed the commission that parts of the Downtown Post Office have been painted with more improvements to come. She went on to report the County Finance Building is in need of retrofitting and rust removal from the roof. Veterans Building is getting an ADA entrance and perhaps a lift. Ms. Henderson reported that she had read the *Gazette* and there are two people who report on history who are getting awards who, have at times, when it's been conducive to please the city, misrepresented historic fact or not researched facts and have given official conclusions without much education and experience and one has received financial benefits. Also Ms. Henderson made comments about the Chamber of Commerce.

CEO of the Martinez Chamber of Commerce John Stevens stated that he was unaware of what Ms. Henderson was speaking about and will speak with Ms. Henderson in the future. He stated that the Chamber is not rewarding anyone more than anyone else.

Phillip Ciaramintaro said the Food Mafia Trucks was a wonderful addition. He introduced the idea of the Friends of the Fishing Pier. He explained the organizations goals are to draw attention to the importance of the Martinez Fishing Pier as a regional destination. He informed the commission that Friends of the Fishing Pier will be sponsoring dances and pasta feeds to raise funds to improve the fishing pier. Mr. Ciaramintaro's organization will set up a tent at the Food Truck Mafia on Saturdays with a banner "Save the Pier donate here". Mr.

Ciaramintaro asked if the WW funds administered by East Bay Regional Parks, could be used for the pier. Ms. Lorick explained that the deadline for 2014 had passed. Commissioner Pallotta explained to the commissioners and Mr. Ciaramintaro that it is his understanding Council wants to locate a Ferry Terminal at the Marina in the next five years. Any large capital improvement might be knocked out by the terminal. Mr. Ciaramintaro said that he is ready to slay the dragon and go forth with his plans. He went on to say that he is grateful for the repaving of the turnaround at the Marina.

#### **4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Motion to accept the minutes of February, 2014 to approve as amended Commissioner Pallotta seconded by Commissioner Gerlack, Motion unanimously passed 5 – 0 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Eychner, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Pallotta, Commissioner Gerlack Yes; Excused, Commissioners Karen Bell-Patten, John Fuller and Ingmar Olsson

#### **5. ACTION ITEM (S) FOR REQUESTS:**

- a. Martinez Chamber of Commerce requested use of Ignacio Plaza September 26 to September 28, 2014. A discussion was held concerning fee waivers for the Martinez Chamber of Commerce and Main Street. Annual Martini Festival: Motion to approval of use of Ignacio Plaza and fee waiver, Commissioner Patchin seconded by Commissioner Gerlack , unanimously passed 5 – 0 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Eychner, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Pallotta, Commissioner Gerlack Yes; Excused, Commissioners Karen Bell-Patten, John Fuller and Ingmar Olsson.
- b. Martinez Chamber of Commerce requested use of the Waterfront Group picnic area and Waterfront Lawn area June 12 to June 15, 2014, Annual King of the Barbeque: Motion to approve use of the Waterfront Lawn, Waterfront picnic area and fee waiver, Commissioner Gerlack seconded by Commissioner Patchin, unanimously passed 5 – 0 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Eychner, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Pallotta, Commissioner Gerlack Yes; Excused, Commissioners Karen Bell-Patten, John Fuller and Ingmar Olsson.
- c. Boy Scouts of America requested use of Waterfront Lawn area and half use of the Waterfront Picnic area August 9, 2014, Family Flight Day: Motion to approve use of the Waterfront Lawn and fee waiver, Commissioner Pallotta seconded by Commissioner Eychner , unanimously passed 5 – 0 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Eychner, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Pallotta, Commissioner Gerlack Yes; Excused, Commissioners Karen Bell-Patten, John Fuller and Ingmar Olsson.
- d. Rankin Aquatic Center fee schedule: Ms. Lorick presented a PowerPoint Presentation with expenses, fees, and new schedules for the Rankin Swim Center. The Commission discussed a \$1 for children ages 0-2 and Ms. Lorick will remove the fee. Chair Radke questioned Ms. Lorick about the pool party fees, after a discussion Ms. Lorick agreed and will adjust the fees. Motion to approve proposed fees for the Rankin Aquatic Center removing the \$1 fee for ages 0-2, adjust the pool party fees and to expand the pool season to October, Commissioner Eychner seconded by Commissioner Gerlack, unanimously passed

5 – 0 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Eychner, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Pallotta, Commissioner Gerlack Yes; Excused, Commissioners Karen Bell-Patten, John Fuller and Ingmar Olsson. The Commission thanked Ms. Lorick for her report and recognized that this is a very complex report.

## **6. SUBCOMMITTEE(S) REPORTS**

- a. Waterfront Park Subcommittee: Commissioner Patchin updated the commission about the March 12, Public Workshop for the Waterfront Park Renovation, a Measure “H” Project. He reported that over 50 people attended the workshop. Plan B was supported by the majority present. This plan included relocation of the soccer field to the track side of the park, ball fields moved to the north and an attempt to tie these improvements to the picnic area. Commissioner Patchin said the lights and noise were a big issue with neighbors, with a law suit mentioned at least three times. He reported that there will be a third public hearing workshop with a sound and lighting engineer present. This workshop will be presented before the plans go to the City Council for the fourth and final workshop. The public was interested in separating the idea of a Professional Ball Team using a field and keeping with Measure H improvements to the park. Commissioner Patchin explained that the Council asked the Commission to collect information about the lights at the ballfields. Chair Radke said that it is unfortunate that the public was under the perception, Measure H money was going to be used to facilitate a proposed ballclub coming to town and that it was a done deal. At the workshop lights and sound were a main focus, with a recommendation for restrooms to be closer to the play area. Commissioner Pallotta wanted more bocce parking. Commissioner Pallotta went on to say that he felt that the next workshop should be run as the first meeting, from the dais for better control, with City Engineer Tim Tucker and Mr. Dillingham from Dillingham Assoc. to stand on the floor and made a recommendation to staff that control be turned over to the Commission for a more formal workshop. Chair Radke explained to Commissioner Pallotta, workshops are not a formal meeting. The idea of the workshop is to brain storm ideas with input from the public. Commissioner Pallotta explained by following an agenda the meeting would be structured and eliminate repeated ideas. Chair Radke will mention this at the next Waterfront Park Subcommittee

## **7. PUBLIC HEARING(S) NONE**

## **8. CITY STAFF COMMENTS**

- a. Recreation Monthly Report: Chair Radke was pleased to see that the city will be having the annual 4th of July fireworks this year and reported that Concorde's Annual 4th of July Singing Flag Program has been cancelled.
- b. Parks Monthly Staff Report: No report given
- c. Measure H updates: Bocce Restrooms: Commissioner Pallotta asked if the Amphitheatre Restrooms can be moved to the bocce courts during restroom construction. Recreation Coordinator Barbara Patchin informed Commissioner Pallotta the restrooms cannot be moved. He asked that portable restrooms have ramps and be well lighted. Ms. Patchin will contact City staff concerning the portable restrooms.
- d. Pacific Association of Professional Baseball Club update: Ms. Lorick reported the Professional Baseball Club has moved to the City of Pittsburg, as the club could not

afford the 60 foot light poles. She went on to say the baseball club will return to the City to see if the new park fits their needs.

#### **9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Pallotta was happy about the turnout at the Waterfront Park Workshop. Commissioner Patchin reported the Arbor Day Celebration had over 150 participants. The event celebrated the foliage in Martinez. Chair Radke commented on the beautiful newly completed Hidden Valley Park. He reported that the parking lot adjacent to the park was locked. This lower parking lot has ADA accessible parking spaces and is the property of the Mt. Diablo School District. The City does not have a key to access this parking lot. He is hoping the City can work with the Mt. Diablo School District to have this parking lot open.

#### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn at 9:05pm Commissioner Patchin seconded by Commissioner Gerlack , unanimously passed 5 – 0 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Eychner, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Pallotta, Commissioner Gerlack Yes; Excused, Commissioners Karen Bell-Patten, John Fuller and Ingmar Olsson

Adjourned at 9:05pm to a Regular PRMCC Meeting on April 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez California.