

REGULAR MEETING
PARK, RECREATION, MARINA AND CULTURAL COMMISSION
February 16, 2016

- 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE CALL TO ORDER ROLL CALL** Vice Chair Bell-Patten called the meeting to order at 7:09pm, in City Hall, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, CA.

Present Vice Chair Karen Bell-Patten, Commissioner Brian Eychner, Commissioner Gay Gerlack, Commissioner Don Pallotta and Commissioner Richard Patchin.

Excused Chair Dylan Radke, Commissioner John Fuller and Commissioner Ingemar Olsson.

Absent None.

City Staff present Recreation Coordinator Barbara Patchin and Administrative Aide III Robin Agostino.

- 2. PRESENTATIONS(S)** Worth a Dam founder Heidi Perryman presented a PowerPoint on the proposed Marina Vista Bridge Beaver Mural project to be located near the Alhambra Avenue Park located on the south facing side of the north concrete wall of the Marina Vista Bridge at Alhambra Creek. Ms. Perryman's presentation gave background of the arrival of the beavers in 2007. The presentation explained the mural will be 74.7 square feet. The mural is being painted by Artist Mario Alfaro and includes cleaning and sand blasting the bridge's cement surface, preparing the cement with Gessup sealant, sketch artwork, painting the artwork, final changes as needed, vandalism resistant varnish sealant, cleanup, annual maintenance and one month painting time (depending on weather). The Commission thanked Ms. Perryman and Mr. Alfaro for the presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS No comments made.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS Commissioner Pallotta and Commissioner Gerlack supported the project.

- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT** Tim Platt asked for clarification concerning the current park inventory. Mr. Platt stated the Park Master Plan lists 165 total acres, the General Plan lists 226 acres, and he wonders where the extra 60 acres came from. Mr. Platt presented the Commission pertinent pages from each document. He said with the new 226 acreage there is a tremendous dollar impact on our City. Mr. Platt stated with the Quimby Act the City will no longer be able to charge park dedication fees.

Rick Marrazzani stated that a Dog Park does not seem to be on any radar and is stuck off to a corner by City Council, PRMCC and Dog Park Subcommittee. He urged the Commission to have more workshops or not have workshops until one of the two locations at the Marina is approved by Council.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

- a) **Motion approving PRMCC minutes of January 19, 2016** with changes, by Commissioner Gerlack, Seconded by Commissioner Pallotta. All Ayes: Vice Chair Bell-Patten, Commissioner Eychner, Commissioner Gerlack, Commissioner Pallotta, and Commissioner Patchin.
Excused Chair Radke, Commissioner Fuller and Commissioner Olsson.

PUBLIC COMMENTS No comments made.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS No comments made.

5. NEW ITEMS None.

6. ACTION ITEMS

- a) **Dan Watson from Creekside Church** requested use of Hidden Valley Park Sycamore and Poplar areas prior to April 2nd start of the picnic season. Motion approving request by Commissioner Gerlack, Seconded by Commissioner Pallotta. All Ayes: Vice Chair Bell-Patten, Commissioner Eychner, Commissioner Gerlack, Commissioner Pallotta, and Commissioner Patchin. Excused Chair Radke, Commissioner Fuller Commissioner Olsson.
- b) **Worth a Dam Mural** Recommendation to the City Council to approve the “Worth a Dam” mural concept for the Marina Vista Bridge wall by Commissioner Gerlack, Seconded by Commissioner Pallotta. All Ayes: Vice Chair Bell-Patten, Commissioner Eychner, Commissioner Gerlack, Commissioner Pallotta, and Commissioner Patchin. Excused Chair Radke, Commissioner Fuller and Commissioner Olsson.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS Commissioner Pallotta said it is a great piece of art.

7. SUBCOMMITTEE(S)

- a) **Measure H updates** City Engineer Tim Tucker’s report covered Hidden Lakes Soccer Field and Waterfront Renovations. The report on Hidden Lakes Soccer Field stated the City had opened bids for the grading, drainage and site improvements for the Soccer Field. Five contractors were prequalified based on experience, financial strength and other factors and four of the prequalified companies submitted bids. The City Council is scheduled to award the construction contract to Brothman Construction at the February 17th City Council meeting. The report also stated that concurrently, the City has advertised for a Request for Proposal for the installation of the synthetic turf, infill and pad portion of the field. He noted there are many types of synthetic turf systems and infill available. To maximize and develop a better understanding of the options, the City has elected to request information on proposed alternate systems. The City received three proposals. Staff will review the proposals with the PRMCC Parks Subcommittee. The Subcommittees recommendation will be forwarded to the City Council on March 2nd so the Project remains on schedule and within budget.

Mr. Tucker’s report about the Waterfront Park Renovation included some background indicating that Cris and Wayne Franklin met with former City Manager Rob Braulik to

explore the possibility of expanding fields and adding amenities to provide a venue for "Showcase Tournament Baseball." Mr. Tucker reported staff reviewed three options provided by the Franklins and noted staff refined Option 3, which expands Fields 1 and 3. In addition to expanding the fields, several upgrades to the facility would be required to make it a showcase facility; enhanced lighting, improved bleachers, batting cages, bullpens, dugout upgrades, seating, storage areas and electronic scoreboards. His report also briefly commented on field constraints, cost considerations and staff recommendations. He explained the Franklins gave a presentation to Council on January 2nd outlining their plan and discussed the benefits to the community. The Council decided to postpone any decision on the proposal until their February 17th meeting. He noted in this report the Fiscal Impact of the changes at Waterfront. The City's Consultant provided a detailed estimate of the proposed revisions. The estimate includes upgrading the proposed lighting system. The lighting system upgrade is only needed to enhance the spectator experience and to allow filming of games. The currently budgeted lighting would be adequate from a player's perspective. The total cost of the upgrades is estimated to be \$817,600 this enhanced lighting. The cost would be approximately \$678,600 without lighting upgrades. He concluded in his staff report as of October 2015, the City had a balance of approximately \$563,000 in park funds. Based on current estimates, to implement the proposed improvements, the Council would need to allocate additional Park and General Funds to the project prior to awarding a construction contract.

PUBLIC COMMENTS No comments made.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS Commissioner Pallotta asked about the upcoming date for the next Parks Subcommittee. Commissioner Patchin stated the next Park Subcommittee meeting will be on Tuesday, February 23rd.

- b) **Pickleball** City Engineer Tim Tucker reported the City Council created an Ad-Hoc Pickleball Committee, comprised of Councilmembers DeLaney and McKillop. A meeting was held on January 29th. One representative from Pickleball was in attendance. The agenda included short term measures and long term goals. The Committee is recommending short term measures of re-stripping the second Hidden Valley Park tennis court for dual tennis and pickleball use. They set priority hours for pickleball (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 5PM – 7PM, Friday 8:30 AM – Noon and Saturday 8AM – Noon). With Non-priority hours will be on a "first come first serve" basis. Signs will state "Courts for Tennis and Pickleball use only." He noted temporary signs were placed as a test of effectiveness. The Pickleball representative indicated the temporary signs were working. He noted two Pickleball courts will be striped once weather and staff schedules allow. Mr. Tucker noted the Committee is recommending the following long term measures; Construct six to eight, (preferably eight), new pickleball courts, install lighting that is designed for pickleball use (9PM curfew), provide parking (tournament parking overflow to use County lot on Glacier). Hidden Valley Park, north of existing courts, is the preferred site. The Committee will evaluate alternate sites and fundraising once a site is approved. The Committee reviewed potential sites for Pickleball. He reported that the Committee came to the conclusion the Hidden Valley linear park was well suited for four dedicated Pickleball courts. The Committee also directed staff to investigate the portion of Hidden Lakes Park adjacent to

Morello Avenue, northwest of the baseball fields.

PUBLIC COMMENTS No one from the public coming forward.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS No comments were made.

8. CITY STAFF COMMENTS

Recreation Ms. Patchin announced a Recreation job fair is scheduled for February 27, 10:00am to 12:00pm at the pool and the annual Arbor Day scheduled for March 9, 10:00am at Susana Park.

PUBLIC COMMENTS No comments made.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS Commissioner Gerlack stated Recreation's Ice Berg Swim was a great event. Ms. Lorick said a group of children jumped in and jumped out very quickly. Vice Chair Bell-Patten asked if the amount of participants were the same as last year. Ms Lorick said there were less as it was raining.

9. CORESPONDENCE

Mt View Park dog issues Staff updated the Commission as to the Mt. View Park gates. The ball field gates are now locked open as to discourage dogs being off leash. There will be signage to advise citizens of the Martinez ordinance "Control of Dogs and Other Domestic Animals".

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS Commissioner Pallotta noted that he approached a dog owner whose dogs was off leash, and was met with animus when he pointed out that dogs should not be off leash. He requested code enforcement make more of a presence at the parks, so that the ordinance would be enforced.

Commissioner Gerlack noted that this highlights the need for a Dog Park in Martinez. She encouraged the group keep working and not give up.

PUBLIC COMMENTS Jackie Johnston she noted that without a dog park, ball fields have become "do it yourself" dog parks as there is not a safe place to let dogs off leash. She and others are disappointed with the lack of direction from City Council. Her groups have proposed two areas at the Marina, and are waiting for a third dog park workshop and none have been scheduled. The group would love to see a dog park move forward.

10. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Patchin asked when the Marina was added to the park master plan.

Commissioner Pallotta questioned how Cris and Wayne Franklin who met privately with former City Manager Rob Braulik to explore the possibility of expanding fields and adding amenities to the Waterfront Park Renovation Project were able to have their proposition considered. Commissioner Pallotta wondered why the City Council has not sent this item back to PRMCC as there have been public workshops on the prior design.

Vice Chair Bell-Patten requested Interim City Manager Jim Jakel attend the next PRMCC meeting to discuss how the Marina was added to the Park Master Plan and Waterfront Renovations.

Vice Chair Bell-Patten questioned the termed out Commissioners reappointments to PRMCC.

Commissioner Gerlack stated she understood a meeting with City Council for interviews is to be scheduled in March.

Commissioner Patchin sympathized with the dog park supporters as he is a member of the Martinez Historical Society. The Society is in the same boat with the uncertain future of the Old Martinez Train Station.

The Commission encouraged the dog park supporter's in the audience to continue to pursue a dog park.

11. ADJOURNMENT Motion to adjourn at 8:06pm.

Adjourned to a Regular meeting on March 15, 2016 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, CA.

Respectfully submitted by

Robin B. Agostino, Minutes Clerk