

**Regular Meeting
Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission
September 20, 2011
Martinez, CA**

A regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission was called to order by Chair Radke at 7:01 p.m. on September 20, 2011, at Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California 94553.

I. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Karen Bell-Patten, Commissioner, Brian Eychner, Interim Vice Chair, Gay Gerlack, Commissioner, John Fuller, Commissioner, Ingemar Olsson, Commissioner, Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, Richard Patchin, Commissioner, Dylan Radke, Chair.

EXCUSED: None.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: Mitch Austin, Recreation Manager
Patty Lorick, Recreation Supervisor

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Stacy Corning presented the Commission with a request for a dog park at the marina. Commissioner Olsson said it is scheduled to be discussed at the November 15, 2011 PRMCC meeting.

**III. CONSENT CALENDAR
a. Minutes of August 16, 2011**

The Commissioners requested the following corrections to the minutes of August 16, 2011:

Page 3: Under Sub-committee Reports, Measure H Updates, paragraph 4, lines 1-2: Delete all words after the word "whether" and replace with the following: "the granite stonework bordering the fountain at Rankin Park was saved. T. Tucker said he would see if it is recoverable".

Page 4: Old Business, Fishing Pier Path Condition, paragraph 2, line 1: Replace the word "commuting" with the word "communicating".

Page 4: Future Agenda Items, Review Agenda Plan, paragraph 1, line 4: After the word "agenda" add the words "and the Martinez Yacht Club lease update on the September agenda".

Commissioner Gerlack made a motion to approve the minutes with the changes of the August 16, 2011 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Fuller. The motion was approved by the following vote: All ayes.

b. Staff Updates
i. Recreation .

Patty Lorick, Recreation Supervisor, said Jessica Bradley, who has a master's degree in library science, has been hired on as Library Staff.

Commissioner Eychner inquired about issues regarding parties held at Rankin Pool. P. Lorick said there has been a large response for use of the pool picnic area and that staff will be developing a rental system for the picnic tables.

ii. Parks Maintenance

c. Special Requests for Uses In Parks
i. Ignacio Plaza - Wedding

Mitch Austin, Recreation Manager, reported that Sarah Albano noticed the neighborhood of the June 30, 2012 event, which was conditionally approved by the Commission at the August 16 meeting. He said staff received a letter from a neighbor, who suggested limiting amplified sound until 9 p.m. Commissioner Pallotta noted that the City ordinance's standard cut-off time for amplified sound is 10 p.m.

Commissioner Pallotta made a motion to approve the special request as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Patchin. The motion was approved by the following vote: All ayes.

ii. Hidden Valley Park - Fee Waiver Boy Scouts

M. Austin said the event will take place on September 24, 2011, from 3-6 p.m. He noted the group is requesting a fee waiver and meets the 501(c) criterion.

Commissioner Olsson made a motion to approve the special request with a fee waiver, seconded by Commissioner Bell-Patten. The motion was approved by the following vote: All ayes.

IV. PRMCC SUB -COMMITTEE REPORTS
a. Measure H Updates

M. Austin said an updated Gantt chart will be presented in October.

Brian Kilian, landscape architect of Hidden Valley Park, provided the Commission with an overview of the amenities of the schematic layout for the park.

Commissioner Fuller raised concerns about making sure the park has an adequate sight-line for security and blocking unauthorized 4-wheel vehicles from going into the park. He suggested they consult with the Martinez Police Department about the sight-line of the park.

There was a brief discussion about possible areas for the inclusion of public art at the park.

Commissioner Patchin made a motion to approve the schematic layout of Hidden Valley Park with the inclusion of an aesthetically pleasing block to restrict car access into the park and to provide adequate view lines for security, seconded by Commissioner Pallotta. The motion was approved by the following vote: All ayes.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Rankin Aquatics Complex Use and Feedback

M. Austin stated the success of the pool has given rise to an interest in expanded use of the aquatic center. He presented the Commission with key considerations for extending the aquatic season. M. Austin noted that by extending operation beyond the season maintenance and operations costs become a major consideration. He noted staff is compiling a cost analysis of operational and maintenance costs and the projected cost associated with extending the pool season, which will be brought forward for review and discussion.

Cooki Telles thanked the Commission for extending the season until September 30 this year. She encouraged them to be pro-active in developing more uses of the aquatic center beyond the regular season. Ms. Telles asked them to consider different programs and hours for the pool. She presented the Commission with the signatures of citizens who signed the Petition to Extend the Use of the Large Pool at Rankin Aquatic Center.

The Commission discussed the possibility of extending the aquatic center season, possible programs, and the problems they may encounter by extending the season.

M. Austin said staff will do a maintenance and operations cost comparison between the new and old pool. He also said they will need to do a comprehensive outreach regarding a season extension and concurrently discuss it with budgeting.

Commissioner Patchin suggested the PRMCC review the cost analysis of the pool before proceeding. M. Austin said they are aiming to have the figures in November.

b. Special Request Policy Review and Update

M. Austin reviewed the recommended revisions to the Ignacio Plaza Policy and Special Request Policy. Revisions include applying the Ignacio Plaza Policy to Susana Park, noticing requirements, and receipt of applications 30 days or more before the date of the event.

Commissioner Patchin pointed out the policy restricts the rental of Susana Park and Ignacio Plaza by the same party on the same day, which he suggested they revise. He also noted the policy states that fee waivers are granted by City Council, not the PRMCC.

Commissioner Bell-Patten suggested a summary of the City's sound ordinance be included in item 1, under Special Facility Use Guidelines for Ignacio Plaza.

The Commission discussed policy options regarding the rental of Ignacio Plaza and Susana Park, which currently allows one special event per month (except for September, which allows 2 events on non-consecutive weekends).

M. Austin said staff will do outreach and provide the neighborhood with a list of the different rental options for Ignacio Plaza and Susana Park that were discussed. He said neighbors will be asked to provide feedback and invited to attend a PRMCC meeting.

Commissioner Bell-Patten suggested providing specific dates of availability from which applicants can choose to rent the facilities.

c. Park Staff Appreciation Luncheon

M. Austin said the City does not have money in the budget for food or staff time to host the luncheon this year.

Commissioner Olsson suggested each Commissioner donate \$10 for the luncheon.

Commissioner Patchin offered to coordinate the luncheon or breakfast. Also, he asked that PRMCC members contact him with any suggestions and that this item be continued to the next PRMCC meeting.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

a. Zocchi Update

M. Austin reported that the initial study on the impacts created by intensification of use (traffic/parking and air quality) for the facility has been completed. He said the study is being analyzed by the Planning Commission and staff is in negotiation with the perspective vendors.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

a. Review Agenda Plan

Commissioner Olsson requested that a Martinez Yacht Club Lease update be added to the December agenda.

Commissioner Fuller asked that the Santa House be added to the October agenda to discuss updating the house and possible funding sources.

VIII. COMMISSIONER & STAFF COMMENTS

Commissioner Pallotta inquired about the Marina Subcommittee meeting regarding the Blue Eagle boat placement. M. Austin said the PRMCC gave direction to incorporate the boat into the train depot idea. He stated staff is putting together a plan and will bring it forward to the Commission.

Commissioner Bell-Patten asked about the vacant PRMCC position. M. Austin said it is not determined whether the vacancies will be filled.

Commissioner Gerlack stated that members of the community have made remarks about a desire to see more PRMCC members at community events. She noted Saturday is the opening of the new visitor center at John Muir and a fundraising dinner will be held at the Shell Center at 5 p.m.

M. Austin stated a Library Subcommittee meeting will be held October 11, 2011. He

suggested a meeting of the Parks Subcommittee at the end of October to discuss a possible dog park.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE: October 18, 2011

XI. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Commissioner Olsson, seconded by Commissioner Eychner, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:26 p.m.