

Regular Meeting  
Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission  
July 17, 2012

A regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission was called to order by Chair Radke at 7:00 p.m. on July 17, 2012 at City Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California 94553.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Brian Eychner, Commissioner, Gay Gerlack, Commissioner, Ingemar Olsson, Commissioner, Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, Richard Patchin, Commissioner, and Dylan Radke, Chair.

EXCUSED: Karen Bell-Patten, Commissioner.

ABSENT: John Fuller, Commissioner.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marlene Hawes asked the Commission about the status of some items at the library - the intercom system, partitions, and the media system. The Commission directed staff to report back to Ms. Hawes and the Commission about the items.

Chair Radke explained the need for an emergency addition to the agenda.

On motion by Richard Patchin, Commissioner, seconded by Brian Eychner, Commissioner, the Commission present voted unanimously to approve addition of an emergency agenda item (III.c.ii) regarding a request by the Martinez Arts Association for use of Susana Park for the annual "Art in the Park."

CONSENT CALENDAR

a. *Minutes June 19, 2012*

Commissioner Patchin made spelling corrections and suggested one clarification to the minutes.

On motion by Ingemar Olsson, Commissioner, seconded by Brian Eychner, Commissioner, the Commission present voted unanimously to approve the Minutes of June 19, 2012, as corrected.

b. *Staff updates*

i. *Recreation*

Commissioner Pallotta asked if the problem where the children had inflammation on their toes from the pool surface has subsided. City Engineer Tim Tucker said he would ask Recreation Supervisor Patty Lorick and report back.

ii. *Parks Maintenance*

Chair Radke asked if the vandalism reported by Commissioner Patchin had been repaired. Mr. Tucker deferred to the Parks Supervisor Dave Lusty who will attend the next PRMCC meeting.

- c. *Special request for uses in Parks*
  - i. *Chamber of Commerce Martini Festival: for approval*

A member of the Chamber of Commerce gave a brief presentation. Commissioner Gerlack commented on the success of past events. The history of the martini was discussed as well. Commissioner Eychner expressed appreciation for the public outreach that was done. Mr. Tucker reviewed the special requests included with the application.

On motion by Gay Gerlack, Commissioner, seconded by Ingemar Olsson, Commissioner, the Commission present voted unanimously to approve the request by the Chamber of Commerce for the Martini Festival, including fee waiver, non-picnic uses, sale of alcohol, attendance greater than park capacity, and use of Ignacio Plaza.

- ii. *Art in the Park use request for Susana Park by the Martinez Arts Association*

Commissioner Gerlack recused herself, since she is a member of the Arts Association.

Marlene Hawes, Martinez Arts Association, gave a short report, discussing the details of the event and notification. She also thanked the Commission for allowing the emergency addition to the agenda.

On motion by Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, seconded by Brian Eychner, Commissioner, the Commission present voted to approve Use request by the Martinez Arts Association for the "43rd Annual Art in the Park" at Susana Park, including fee waiver, non-picnic uses, sale of alcohol, and greater than park capacity, with the condition that the applicant will work to resolve neighbor concerns. (Abstain: Gay Gerlack, Commissioner.)

#### PRMCC SUB -COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. *Measure H Updates: Tim Tucker*

Mr. Tucker informed the Commission about the progress of the Measure H projects. He also answered questions and concerns raised by the Commission related to restroom repairs and scheduling.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- a. *Bocce Federation: President Gene Rittberg*

President Gene Rittberg answered questions from the Commission regarding the tournament process, schedule and monthly reports to Recreation staff, proof of the Federation's non-profit status, and private rentals of the bocce courts. The Commission asked to be informed of any vandalism at the bocce courts and fees collected and that the information be included in the annual report. Mr. Rittberg agreed to the request.

- b. *Marina update: Mitch Austin*

Recreation Manager Mitch Austin updated the Commission on Marina issues and responded to questions about placement of a restaurant, the purchase of a dredging machine, the future of the Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW), and how it will affect agreements currently in place

between the City and DBW. Mr. Austin also explained there has been a steep decline in revenue from the guest docks and slips at the Marina, the status of the City's loans from DBW, and the status of the East Bay Regional Parks WW bond money.

c. *Cameras in city parks: Chief of Police Gary Peterson*

Police Captain Eric Ghisletta reported that the City currently has six existing public safety cameras, and he reviewed the locations, including new ones to be installed in and about Rankin Park. He discussed the cameras' capabilities and indicated the cameras have been working wonderfully, especially the one at the Amtrak Station. He also discussed with the Commission night images from the cameras, the total cost for the cameras, funding sources, what age group is causing the damage, and publicity to the citizenry to help with deterrence.

Chair Radke opened public comment on the item. Gene Rittberg asked if there are plans to have cameras at the bocce courts, Waterfront Park and the skate park. Captain Ghisletta said that is the goal. The Commission discussed public safety and privacy issues. Commissioner Radke questioned the cost-effectiveness, which staff discussed.

d. *Recreation and Park staff luncheon: Gay Gerlack*

Commissioner Gerlack indicated the Commission will coordinate a luncheon date in August or September at Rankin Park, and the Commission will be funding it. The Commission discussed the scheduling, timing, and costs for the event.

OLD BUSINESS

a. *Subcommittee chart: Dylan Radke*

The Commission made corrections and additions to the chart and directed staff to bring the corrected version to the next meeting.

b. *Dog Park update: Tim Tucker*

Mr. Tucker reported on the recent Subcommittee meeting. Commissioner Olsson shared with the Commission possible criteria for dog parks and dog-friendly parks, in terms of shape, size, surfacing, signage, fencing, activities, shade, benches, water, waste bags, trash cans, parking, restrooms and maintenance. Mr. Tucker indicated the Subcommittee will be visiting dog parks in the area with staff, and an update will be provided to the Commission in September.

Commissioner Patchin expressed optimism about visiting other parks and learning as much as possible about the concept. Commissioner Pallotta commented on the social benefits for the owners as well as the dogs.

c. *Points of Historical Interest: Kristen Henderson*

Mr. Tucker expressed appreciation for the work done by Ms. Henderson. Kristen Henderson presented a report on the Rankin Park Olive Grove, which she believes is eligible to be listed as a California Point of Park, Recreation, Marina, and Cultural Commission

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Interest because of its significant to the development of downtown Martinez and Contra Costa County socially, economically and geographically. The Commission thanked Ms. Henderson for her research and her report, and the application on behalf of Rankin Park Olive Grove as a California Point of Historical Interest. They also discussed other potential historical sites in the City, as well as the process for the designation.

On motion by Richard Patchin, Commissioner, seconded by Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, the Commission present voted unanimously to recommend that the City Council support the application for inclusion of the Rankin Park Olive Grove as a California Point of Historical Interest.

#### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. *Revisit joint meeting with City Council and PRMCC*
- b. *Play equipment at the Kiwanis Building*
- c. *Relocation of cement picnic tables*

In addition to the three items already listed, the Commission also suggested that library amenities (audio visual, intercom and partitions), the Marina Master Plan and the makeup and size of the PRMCC be included on the next agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

#### COMMISSIONER & STAFF COMMENTS

Commissioner Patchin commented on pool attendance, as evidence that it is well appreciated. Commissioner Gerlack reminded the Commission of upcoming events in the City. Chair Radke asked about garbage removal after park rentals, which Mr. Tucker responded to. Mr. Tucker also reported on positive comments from the public regarding the park improvements.

There was some discussion with members of the public regarding earlier actions in the meeting regarding the bocce courts.

NEXT MEETING DATE: August 21, 2012

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.