

Regular Meeting
Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission
August 20, 2013
Martinez, CA

A regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission was called to order by Chair Radke at City Hall 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, on August 20, 2013, at 7:00pm

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair, Brian Eychner, Commissioner, Gay Gerlack, Commissioner, Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, Richard Patchin, Commissioner, and Dylan Radke, Chair.

EXCUSED: Commissioner Ingemar Olsson

ABSENT: John Fuller, Commissioner.

Chair Dylan Radke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with all members present except Commissioner Fuller, who was absent, and Commissioner Olsson, who was excused.

Staff present: Senior Management Analyst Michael Chandler, Recreation Coordinator Barbara Patchin, and Minutes Clerk Robin Agostino

PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg Staffelbach spoke again about the necessity for dog parks in Martinez, discussing a master thesis on dog parks from the University of Pennsylvania that he had emailed to City staff to provide to the Commission, and he discussed information in the thesis, as well as the benefits of dog parks. He asked how the process for the dog park was coming along, noting that it was not listed on tonight's agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

a. *Minutes July 16, 2013*

7-16-13 PRMCC minutes

Commissioner Gerlack noted regarding the REDS Subcommittee meeting that she had been unable to attend the meeting listed, and Chair Radke had attended instead.

Mr. Staffelbach requested two changes to the Minutes of the July 16 meeting, regarding the dog park discussion - Kaiser *might* be willing to let their property be used. He also disagreed whether the Commission had clarified ADA requirements for him, as in the minutes.

Chair Radke suggested alternative language, "Mr. Salts and the Commission clarified that any new parks in Martinez are required to be ADA-compliant."

Commissioner Pallotta noted that any further discussion needs to wait for another time.

On motion by Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, seconded by Richard Patchin, Commissioner, to approve the Minutes of July 16, 2013 as corrected. Motion unanimously passed 6 - 0. Yes: Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair Brian Eychner, Commissioner Gay Gerlack, Commissioner Donald Pallotta, Commissioner Richard Patchin, Commissioner , Dylan Radke, Chair.

b. [Staff updates](#)

i. [Recreation](#)

[Lorick staff report](#)

Commissioner Patchin asked about the single wall bat, and staff indicated they would have to research and get back to him with the answer, whether it was wall bat or wall ball.

ii. [Parks Maintenance](#)

[Parks report](#)

Commissioner Patchin had a question about the extent of the damage done to the vehicle at the Hidden Lakes soccer fields. Mr. Chandler said he would investigate and get back to him.

c. [Special Requests for Uses in Parks](#)

i. [St. Catherine of Siena Parish use of Ignacio Plaza for approval](#)

[St. Catherine Plaza request](#)

Event Coordinator Barbara Turcios discussed plans for the 4th annual Octoberfest fundraiser and car show.

Commissioner Pallotta asked whether there was a policy for the maximum number of cars on the plaza; staff confirmed 14-17. Ms. Turcios commented on the placement of the cars.

Commissioner Gerlack asked about neighborhood outreach, which Ms. Turcios discussed.

On motion by Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair, seconded by Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, to approve the request of St. Catherine of Siena Parish for use of Ignacio Plaza Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair Brian Eychner, Commissioner Gay Gerlack, Commissioner Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, Dylan Radke, Chair, Abstain: Richard Patchin, Commissioner.

(Commissioner Patchin abstained.)

PRMCC SUB -COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. [Measure H Updates](#)

[Measure H staff report](#)

Commissioner Gerlack informed the Commission that she attended Art in the Park at Susana Street Park, and she discussed a hazardous condition that should be addressed - much of the pathways are uneven due to tree roots, causing herself and many other attendees to stumble. She was concerned about liability issues and asked that the work at Susana Park be prioritized to be completed before the next big event.

Senior Management Analyst Michael Chandler said he would contact Public Works staff about the issue. Chair Radke said the trees and sidewalks were an issue that had been raised earlier at the subcommittee level. Commissioner Pallotta agreed and asked about the process, which Chair Radke discussed.

Mr. Chandler indicated he would see if something could be done in the interim.

b. [REDS Subcommittee Verbal Report](#)

Vice Chair Bell Patten updated the Commission about the upcoming concert at the John Muir Amphitheater, which has been approved by the City Council as a trial to see whether or not the amphitheater is a viable venue for a concert series. She noted that she had spoken to the Council Subcommittee and said that any profits should be reinvested into the amphitheater for much-needed improvements, which she reviewed.

Chair Radke asked if a band has been booked yet. Vice Chair Bell Patten said not yet, although the Tower of Power is being considered. Commissioner Gerlack said the concert was tentatively set for Friday, October 17th.

Commissioner Patchin discussed a private event by the Harvest Church, *Jesus Culture* Concert, that used the amphitheater last weekend, and he said it was a wonderful event with over 1200 in attendance, so the test has been done. Chair Radke asked Recreation Coordinator Barbara Patchin about the event, and she confirmed it was a great event and very well-done and well-attended. Commissioner Pallotta asked if the event made any money for the City, and Ms. Patchin said yes, through the payment of the Large Event fees.

There was further discussion of the proposed concert, especially if *Tower of Power* is the group.

c. [Parks Subcommittee Verbal Report](#)

Commissioner Patchin gave details about the choice of Dillingham Landscaping Company for the Waterfront Park improvements. Chair Radke asked about the scope of work, which Mr. Patchin discussed, including ballfield renovations and lighting. Commissioner Pallotta recommended a restroom at Ferry Point be included, but Commissioner Patchin indicated Ferry Point was not included.

Chair Radke discussed other issues covered by the subcommittee, including finances, ADA renovations and other potential projects.

NEW BUSINESS

a. [Status of the Old Train Station Depot](#)

[Train Depot staff report](#)

Chair Radke referenced the written report in the PRMCC packet.

Vice Chair Bell-Patten commented on public recommendations for the utilization of the train depot, and she asked that a member of the PRMCC be included on this subcommittee. Commissioner Gerlack reported that she attends the Historic Train Utilization Adhoc Subcommittee meetings as a member of the Historical Society's Board. She noted the Subcommittee will tour the train depot Wednesday, August 29th and will meet later in the evening at City Hall. She noted that the train depot has been promised to the Historical Society

to expand the Martinez Museum, and they have raised a substantial amount of money from the annual home tour for improvements to the train depot.

Commissioner Pallotta said that the agreement for the train depot was made through the now-defunct John Muir Festival Center project, about ten years ago. Commissioner Patchin said the Historical Society was one of four partners with the John Muir Festival Center, and there are City documents stating that the train depot will be used for the museum, maybe even as far back as the Intermodal project.

Vice Chair Bell-Patten suggested that Commissioner Fuller be notified of the tour of the train depot, as well as further meetings of the subcommittee.

The Commission further discussed needed repairs to the building, as well as the importance of the site as an historic site.

b. [*Recycling in City Parks Project*](#)
[Recycling in Parks staff report 8-20-13](#)

Mr. Chandler reported that the Sea Scouts are in the process of resuming recycling collections for the City and have already started collecting for large special events. He also reported that the City recently applied to the California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) for a \$60,000 grant for recycling bins, which could expedite the process of outfitting City parks. The Commission expressed concern about matching the aesthetics of the new garbage cans and other equipment at the parks, and they suggested the blue double-barrel recycling stations proposed for the grant were more appropriate for areas like Waterfront Park and ballfields.

Commissioner Pallotta discussed the possibility of a 4-cluster can, to allow for all waste recycling at one location, as a matter of convenience. He also noted that the success of the Sea Scout program may be somewhat dependent on the season of the year. He was appreciative of the grant possibility. Chair Radke reiterated earlier comments about the aesthetic concerns.

Mr. Chandler explained that if the City receives the grant funding (to be announced in December), he will return to the Commission with a comprehensive plan for placement of the recycling bins, how many to put at each location, and the type of bins proposed to be ordered. He also indicated he will continue the discussion with the PRMCC regarding what role Measure H funding can play to augment the recycling infrastructure needs in the parks.

[**OLD BUSINESS - None.**](#)

[**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**](#)

- a. *Revisit the meeting City Council and PRMCC*
- b. *Relocating entrance to Skateboard Park (park subcommittee)*
- c. *Marina Improvements (September meeting)*
- d. *Park Maintenance Overview and Goals*

- e. *Park Master Plan review*
- f. *Development of Cultural Plan*
- g. *Waterfront Planning (September meeting)*
- h. *General Plan and update review*
- i. *Marina Feasibility status (September meeting)*
- j. *Ferry point restrooms (September meeting)*
- k. *Joint meeting with the City Council*
- l. *Mural maintenance*
- m. *Consultant for the John Muir Amphitheater*

Vice Chair Bell-Patten asked about Item m, and Chair Radke suggested leaving it as is, since there are no firm dates set. Vice Chair Bell-Patten asked about the 2011 Agenda Plan and suggested it should be updated with future agenda items.

COMMISSIONER & STAFF COMMENTS

Vice Chair Bell-Patten asked for an update regarding a potential joint meeting between the City Council and the PRMCC.

Commissioner Gerlack informed the Commission about the PRMCC luncheon on September 10th in Rankin Park.

Commissioner Pallotta expressed appreciation to Marlene Haws for the success of the annual Art in the Park event.

CORRESPONDENCE

Staff noted a postcard had been received from Commissioner Olsson.

NEXT MEETING DATE: September 17, 2013

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, seconded by Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair, adjourn at 8:35 p.m., to the next Regular meeting on September 17th at 7:00 p.m. Motion unanimously passed 6 - 0. Yes: Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair Brian Eychner, Commissioner Gay Gerlack, Commissioner Donald Pallotta, Commissioner Richard Patchin, Commissioner , Dylan Radke, Chair.