

Regular Meeting
Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission
September 17, 2013
Martinez, CA

APPROVED November 19, 2013

A regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission was called to order by Chair Radke at 7:00p.m. on September 17, 2013, at Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California 94553.

ROLL CALL

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

EXCUSED: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vince Garambone spoke about the proposed dog park in Golden Hills Park. He stated that there are many children who use the park, and he was opposed to the idea since there is a dog park two miles away on Paso Nogal in Pleasant Hill. He added that the park can easily be used for walking dogs, etc but is inappropriate for a dedicated dog park.

Kristin Henderson discussed a letter from Mayor Schroder regarding the General Plan and correspondence with the Office of Historic Preservation. She stated that the letter was written without input from the Council or the public, and she asked that the PRMCC review the letter and the proposed historic inventory. She thought the environmental process had been circumvented, and she reviewed her accomplishments on behalf of historic resources in Martinez.

Chair Radke commented on a letter from Ms. Henderson regarding an event at the pool when a Councilmember's child(ren) were swimming during the aerobics class, noting that it was not open swim time at that moment. Chair Radke indicated that the issue has been addressed, and the email will be attached to the minutes for this meeting. Commissioner Fuller thanked Ms. Henderson for her work with the tile on the District Attorney's building.

CONSENT CALENDAR

. [*Minutes August 20, 2013*](#)

[Minutes for the August 20, 2013 meeting](#)

Commissioner Eychner corrected the minutes to reflect that he was not present at the meeting. Chair Radke noted that Commissioner Fuller's absence should have been noted as "Excused." Commissioner Patchin made additional corrections to page 2, under Parks Maintenance, the vote regarding St Catherine Sienna parish (which recorded his abstention twice), comments by Commissioner Gerlack regarding Susana Street Park, and comments about restrooms at Ferry

Point Park attributed to him had actually been made by Chair Radke.

On motion by Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, seconded by Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair, to approve the Minutes of August 20, 2013, as corrected. Motion unanimously passed 7 - 0. Yes: Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair Brian Eychner, , Commissioner Gay Gerlack, Commissioner Donald Pallotta, Commissioner Richard Patchin, Commissioner , Dylan Radke, Chair.

Commissioner John Fuller abstained as he was absent for the August 20, 2013 meeting

b. [Staff updates](#)

i. [Recreation](#)

[Rec. Staff report](#)

Commissioner Bell-Patten thanked Ms. Lorick for the pictures included in the staff reports. Chair Radke confirmed with staff that the Family Festival report will be included with Ms. Lorick's September report. Commissioner Pallotta asked that a report from the Subcommittee be included on the next agenda.

ii. [Parks Maintenance](#)

[Parks staff report](#)

Commissioner Gerlack asked about maintenance to the sidewalks at Susana Street Park, and Chair Radke indicated it will be discussed at the Parks Subcommittee meeting.

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

i. [Request for use of Ignacio Plaza, Kate Mehl for approval](#)

[Request for the Plaza](#)

Ms. Mehl discussed the request for use of the park for a wedding next June. Chair Radke confirmed that the neighbors were notified, with no objections expressed to date. Commissioner Patchin asked about use of the restrooms at the Boys & Girls Club, and Ms. Mehl said they would follow up with the Boys & Girls Club.

On motion by Richard Patchin, Commissioner, seconded by Gay Gerlack, Commissioner, to approve the Request for use of Ignacio Plaza, Kate Mehl for approval Motion unanimously passed 7 - 0.

[PRMCC SUB -COMMITTEE REPORTS](#)

a. [Measure H Updates](#)

[Measure H update 9-17-13](#)

Chair Radke asked for more information in future reports about the current status of the park projects. Commissioner Eychner asked about the schedule for the restroom improvements at the Bocce courts, which was discussed between staff and the PRMCC.

Commissioner Bell-Patten expressed concern about losing sight of public art and funds allocated. Commissioner Fuller asked the Park Subcommittee to add public art as a priority.

Chair Radke also asked for a list of the \$1.2 million (out of \$25 million) in Measure H bonds still unallocated. Commissioner Pallotta asked for a list of completed and incomplete projects to help the Commission recommend and prioritize the remaining funds. Chair Radke noted that \$5

million was built in for contingency projects, and the Council will make the decision about remaining projects.

Kristen Henderson commented on the roots of trees in Susana Street Park, which could be contributing to the maintenance issues.

Commissioner Gerlack noted that staff had been made aware of the root issues, adding that preserving the trees is important.

b. [REDS Subcommittee Verbal Report Bell-Patten](#)

Vice Chair Bell-Patten reported that the "Tower of Power" band is not available for a concert in October, and the plan is to have a concert in 2014, as well as a summer series still to be determined. Commissioner Patchin asked for clarification from staff regarding improvements made to the seating areas. Staff confirmed the work had been done by the Corp Yard.

c. [Parks Subcommittee Verbal Report Patchin](#)

Chair Radke indicated there was no report, as the Subcommittee had not met in the interim.

NEW BUSINESS

[Recreation fee subcommittee](#)

[Fee Subcommittee](#)

Recreation Supervisor Patty Lorick explained the need for a subcommittee to be formed to evaluate Rankin Aquatic Center fees and sports group use fees. She discussed the impact of a potential raise in the minimum wage, which will affect costs for temporary staff. Commissioner Fuller asked if a City Councilmember will be included in the subcommittee, and Ms. Lorick said not at this time. Commissioner Fuller discussed past fee increases that were reduced when they went to the Council for action.

Commissioner Eychner indicated he was willing to serve on the subcommittee and would do the legwork with the Council. He noted that the Council had turned down past Rankin Pool fees recommended by the PRMCC.

Chair Radke explained that the Commission usually presents recommendations to the Council, based on an earlier fee survey. The Commission discussed the best process and agreed with the importance of having a Councilmember serving on the subcommittee. Staff confirmed that tournament fees were also included.

On motion by Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, no second required create a User Fee Subcommittee consisting of Vice Chair Bell-Patten and Commissioners Eychner, Gerlack and Patchin. Motion unanimously passed 7 - 0.

a. [Marina update - No comments made.](#)

b. [General Plan update Verbal Report Commissioner Pallotta](#)

Commissioner Pallotta discussed the background of the Martinez General Plan Update Taskforce, consisting of 18 volunteer members and a contract facilitator that met monthly for over 2 years in an effort to update the 37 year old document. He also explained that a

Transportation Element was recently passed in order to satisfy requirements of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. He indicated that many members of the Taskforce were upset about the request for them to pass the Transportation Element without any input or expertise, so letters have been written to the Council and staff regarding the status of the General Plan Update, and the Taskforce may begin meeting again soon.

Ms. Kristin Henderson disagreed with Commissioner Pallotta as to whether the Taskforce represents a cross-section of Martinez citizens, and she was concerned that the downtown will be torn down.

OLD BUSINESS

a. *Status of the Old Train Depot Verbal Report Gerlack*

Commissioner Gerlack reported that a meeting was held at the end of August with City staff, Councilmembers Farias and Menesini, the director of the Martinez Museum and members of the Martinez Historical Society. She noted that the Historical Society made a presentation about the restoration of the old train depot for use as an extension of the Martinez Museum. She also indicated that Shell Oil has agreed to paint the building if the Council determines it will be used by a non-profit organization. The Historical Society has been fundraising for the restoration and use of the building.

Commissioner Fuller asked what the City's intentions are for the building, since it has replaced the roof and completed prep work for the painting of the building. Commissioner Gerlack added that there are many items in storage for the museum, donated by Martinez citizens.

There was brief discussion between the Commission and staff regarding the restoration standards and potential asbestos in the building's siding, as well as concern about additional weather damage if the restoration is delayed for another season.

Chair Radke opened public comment on the item.

Ms. Henderson indicated she thinks the building also has asbestos shingles.

b. *Marina Update*

Chair Radke said he will contact Mr. Austin to be certain the Marina Subcommittee and the PRMCC will be notified about upcoming meetings between City representatives, state staff, and legislators. Commissioner Pallotta noted that the Marina Subcommittee is notified about marina meetings. Vice Chair Bell-Patten noted that the report from Mr. Austin states that the PRMCC and the Marina Subcommittee are not included on the list of groups attending these meetings, and the issue is moving forward without PRMCC input. She questioned why the Commission needs to be updated if neither the Subcommittee nor the Commission are included in the representation meeting. Commissioner Pallotta expressed that with a rotating staff contact, there is no follow-through on the issues, and the PRMCC has lost direct contact with Assistant City Manager Alan Shear. Ms. Lorick indicated she will discuss the issue with Mr. Shear.

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*

The Commission asked that Items H and I be removed from the future items list and placed on the agenda under New Business. Commissioner Fuller asked for a report on the concert series. Chair Radke asked for an update on art in the park, restrooms at Waterfront, and a Park Subcommittee update.

Vice Chair Bell-Patten asked that Development of the Cultural Plan be moved up as the Marina Feasibility has been moved under new business. She noted that former Planning Manager Terry Blount had told her the Cultural Plan would be completed as part of the General Plan; she wanted to be sure it is not overlooked. The Commission asked staff to ensure that an update on the General Plan and the Cultural Plan be given at a future PRMCC meeting.

COMMISSIONER & STAFF COMMENTS

Commissioner Pallotta thanked Commissioner Gerlack for her work providing the lunch for the annual PRMCC Appreciation meeting for City Park & Recreation staff. Chair Radke also thanked her.

CORRESPONDENCE

Information was provided on the Recreation Department's upcoming Restaurant Tour.

NEXT MEETING DATE: October 15, 2013

ADJOURNMENT On motion by John Fuller, Commissioner, seconded by Brian Eychner, Commissioner, adjourn at 8:25 p.m., to the next Regular Meeting on October 15, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers.

Motion unanimously passed 7 - 0.