

Regular Meeting  
Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission  
July 15, 2014  
Martinez, CA

**APPROVED AUGUST 19, 2014**

Chair Dylan Radke called the Regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission to order at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, CA.

**1. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Chair Dylan Radke, Commissioner Ingemar Olsson, Commissioner Richard Patchin, Commissioner Gay Gerlack, Commissioner John Fuller, and Commissioner Brian Eychner.

**EXCUSED:** Vice Chair Karen Bell-Patten and Commissioner Don Pallotta

**ABSENT:** None

Staff present: Deputy Public Works Director Don Salts, Recreation Coordinator Barbara Patchin, and Minutes Clerk Robin Agostino.

**2. PRESENTATION(S) None**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**No one from the Public coming forward

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Motion to approve the minutes of May 20, 2014, with corrections; Motion Commissioner Olsson seconded by Commissioner Fuller passed 5 – 0 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Olsson, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Fuller, and Commissioner Eychner. Excused Commissioner Bell-Patten and Commissioner Pallotta, Commissioner Gerlack abstained.

Motion to approve the minutes of June 17, 2014with corrections: Motion Commissioner Gerlack seconded Commissioner Olsson by unanimously passed 5 – 0 1 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Olsson, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Gerlack, Commissioner Fuller, and Commissioner Eychner. Excused Commissioner Bell-Patten and Commissioner Pallotta, Commissioner Fuller abstained.

**5. CITY STAFF COMMENTS**

- a. Blues by the Bay Concert taken out of order:** Interim City Manager Anna Gwynn Simpson presented an overview of the Blues by the Bay Concert at the Martinez Amphitheater on May10, 2014. The Festival included five artist performances on a main stage and two artist performances on a side stage sponsored by Armando’s. The Festival began at noon and ended at 9:00pm. In addition to musical performances, there were food booths from local restaurants in Martinez, food trucks, arts and crafts booths, wine sales operated by the Martinez Rotary, and beer sales operated by Creek Monkey Tap House from Martinez. The Festival received its primary financial sponsorships from Shell, Republic Services, and Wells Fargo Bank. Many other local businesses contributed in-kind services and materials. Ms. Simpson went on to explain the breakdown of the number of tickets sold and the number of attendees at the event. A total of 1,212 tickets were sold representing 81% of the target to sell. Attendance at the event, including participants that received tickets provided free of charge to artists and sponsors (“Ticket Comps”), totaled 1,265 or 84% of the target. Ms. Simpson provided a comparison between the budget for the Festival and the actual revenue and expenditures incurred. She said that although the expenses were more than what was allocated from the General Fund, the revenue from the Festival resulted in a net of

\$14,605 back to the General Fund. She reported the Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Councilmember Mark Ross and Councilmember Lara Delaney discussed setting up a special revenue fund to segregate these funds for use for future productions at the Amphitheater.

She reported that the Ad Hoc Committee met on May 30, 2014 and reviewed this information in detail. She further explained staff time allocated to the production of the festival, was also reviewed by the Committee. The findings of the Committee were that the Amphitheater was a viable and popular location for another festival and possibly other future concerts, but that the City needs dedicate less staff time to future events. Therefore, the Committee recommended that the City Council to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a promoter to take on the primary responsibility of producing another Blues by the Bay Festival in 2015; the RFP will go out in the Fall 2014.

Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Patchin asked for staff hourly rates Ms. Simpson will provide figures. Chair Radke asked if Jim Blair could respond to the RFP. Ms. Simpson said that he could. Chair Radke asked if there would be less staff time if there was a promoter chosen. Ms. Simpson answered yes, but there would still be invoices to pay, meetings to attend and financial reports by City staff.

**Chairperson Radke opened and closed Public Comment with no speakers coming forward.**

The Commission thanked Ms. Simpson for attending the meeting.

**6. ACTION ITEM (S) FOR REQUEST**

- a. Motion to approve Mary Harms request for use of the Gazebo in Rankin Park for August 30, 2014, fundraiser for Contra Costa County Community Fund. Ms. Harms was not present to answer questions. Commissioner Gerlack made a motion to approve the rental and the fee waiver with the condition that Ms. Harms attend the next meeting to explain the need for the fee waiver. Motion Commissioner Gerlack Seconded Commissioner Olsson. Unanimously passed 6 – 0 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Olsson, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Gerlack, Commissioner Fuller, and Commissioner Eychner. Excused Commissioner Bell-Patten and Commissioner Pallotta.

**Commissioner Comments: None**

**Chairperson Radke opened and closed Public Comment: With no speakers coming forward.**

**7. SUBCOMMITTEE(S) REPORTS**

- a. **Marina Subcommittee:** Commissioner Olsson reported that the Marina Subcommittee had met. At this time there is nothing to report. In September there will be answers from the State. Chair Radke stated a location for the Joltin Joe was discussed, none was identified. He went on to say that the Marina could be put into a Public Trust in September. The Marina Subcommittee hopes that if the Marina is in a public trust this might entice developers, but this would be far down the road. Chair Radke stated that the Council sees a role for the PRMCC in the marina.

**b. Measure H: Waterfront Park**

Mr. Salts reported that on July 16<sup>th</sup> city staff is requesting the Council to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager execute an agreement in an amount not to exceed \$405,586 for consultant services with Dillingham Associates for the design of Waterfront Park. City Council approved a contract to Dillingham Associates for the schematic design of Waterfront Park. City Council approved the schematic design of the park as recommended by the Commission. The next phase of the project is the development of construction drawings.

Mr. Salts went on to say that the Waterfront Park is one of three parks scheduled for construction over the next year. The scope of the project includes the ball and soccer fields, group and individual picnic areas, play field, paths, landscaping, irrigation, concession and restrooms, play equipment area and parking lots. The project excludes work on the bocce courts.

Mr. Salts reported that May 21, 2014, the Council reviewed the schematic designs for Susana Park. This Commission had recommended a historical theme for this park. Four interpretive panels will be placed

within the project along with a brass plate honoring the parks namesake, Susana Martinez, in the central park plaza. The park entry monument sign will include an inscription on the back side attributed to Colonel William M. Smith. The Council indicated the focus of the park should be a Mexican/Mexican American theme. City Staff is working with Councilmember Avila Farias to refine the design. In addition there is a push from some residents to preserve some of the concrete rock benches and include other ethnic groups.

**Chairperson Radke opened Public Comment:** Barbara Kapsalis is not totally happy with the removal of the benches in Susana Park. She stated that change is not always a good thing and she was not happy that a Councilmember remarked that the removal of the benches is a done deal. She thanked City Engineer Tim Tucker, Landscape Architecture Frank Kluber and Commissioner Patchin for the invitation to the Park Subcommittee meeting, and reluctantly agreed with the decisions of the Subcommittee.

**Commissioner Comments:** Commissioner Gerlack thanked Ms. Kapsalis for stepping up and for expressing her interest in preserving the benches in the park.

- c. **Measure H Bond Oversight.** Commissioner Patchin asked for a report on who is on the Oversight Bond Committee and would like to see more of the Bond Oversight Subcommittee members who are not city staff start attending meetings. If some members of the Subcommittee want to leave the Subcommittee, there will be a need to have more non-city staff appointed. This item will be agenzized for the August PRMCC meeting.

**d. Dog Park:**

Mr. Salts explained the Dog Park Subcommittee has been discussing the location of a dog park for the last two years. Subcommittee members have visited dog parks, interviewed other agency staff and investigated potential sites in Martinez. The Subcommittee reviewed all City owned property and evaluated recommended sites submitted by an interested party. The only site the Subcommittee recommends that is viable is the Alhambra Avenue Detention Basin site. Mr. Salts explained that the Commission is now at a critical decision point in the process. The Commission can either maintain the Dog Park being mentioned in the current Park System Master Plan under Section J4 “Proposed Park Additions, Amenities, Facilities & Design Elements” or include Dog Park in Section K “Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) & Priorities.”

**Chairperson Radke opened Public Comment:** Bill Nichols on behalf of the Alhambra Valley Estates Neighborhood said the site on Alhambra Ave. and Pleasant Hill Road East is a thriving wetland and has wildlife, including a family of Coyotes. Mr. Nichols went on to say that Briones Park is within a mile from this site and is a dog off leash park. He asked the Commission if the area is to be a slated for Dog Park that the City be mindful of the neighborhood.

**Commissioner Comments:** Commissioner Olsson and Chair Radke asked for clarification of the staff report. Mr. Salts explained that staff recommends to maintain the Dog Park being mentioned in the current Park System Master Plan under Section J4 “Proposed Park Additions, Amenities, Facilities & Design Elements.”

Motion: to maintain the Dog Park being mentioned in the current Park System Master Plan under Section J4 “Proposed Park Additions, Amenities, Facilities and Design Elements.” Commissioner Fuller Second Commissioner Olsson. Unanimously passed 6 – 0 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Olsson, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Gerlack, Commissioner Fuller, and Commissioner Eychner. Excused Commissioner Bell-Patten and Commissioner Pallotta

- e. **Library:** Mr. Salts updated the Commission on its requests for additional information regarding the status of the public's use of the downstairs meeting room at the Martinez Library. City staff Mike Chandler will provide a full update and discussion of the issues and concerns regarding this item at the August 19, 2014 PRMCC meeting.

**Chairperson Radke opened and closed Public Comment:** With no speakers coming forward.

**Commissioner Comments:** Commissioner Fuller wanted to know who is on the Subcommittee as Commissioner Gerlack and Commissioner Fuller were not contacted for a meeting of the Library Subcommittee. Chair Radke requested a meeting of the Library Subcommittee. He wanted to make certain the library use policy is not solely driven by the librarians.

**Park Subcommittee regarding Disc Golf:** Chair Radke explained to the Commission and the public in attendance that a workshop regarding the proposed Disc Golf Course in Hidden Lakes Park will be held on July 23, at 6:30pm in these Council Chambers.

**Chairperson Radke opened Public Comment:**

Tammy Graziano: Good idea bad location.

Heather Kenward: Good idea bad location.

Warren Rose: Disc Golf is already being played in the Park and it is a very invasive sport. Much wildlife makes Hidden Lakes its home. He went on to say Disc Golfers will trample the gullies and hills; it is a good idea but the wrong location. He shared with the Commission photos of the wildlife in the Park.

Jan Weiss: The Park is a slice of heaven and the last thing she wants to do is dodge discs while she walks in the Park.

Michelle Danley: The Park is perfect the way it is.

Saaud Fakharzadeh: Opposed to the idea of Disc Golf and is concerned about injuries associated with Disc Golf.

Kevin Doran: is concerned with the lack of an environmental impact study at the Park.

Lisa Muller: Encouraged the Commission to walk the Park and see for themselves that Disc Golf does not belong in this Park.

Sue Bleakley: If Disc Golf is allowed there will be damage to the trees she added that it is a good idea but wrong place.

Connie Whiting: The City needs to leave the Park as open space, but the area next to Kaiser Hospital on Center Ave. is better suited for a Disc Golf course.

Cathy Malkin: Thanked the Commission for letting this group be heard. She stated that it is a great game, wrong location and is concerned this game will cause damage to Hidden Lakes habitat. She was also concerned about flying objects hitting children walking through the Park.

George Currea: There must be a better place for a Disc Golf course.

Brian Dandley: He expressed his concern with maintenance of the course, erosion potential and pollution. He felt that there could be a better site than the Hidden Lakes Park for Disc Golf.

**Commissioner Comments:** Commissioner Patchin and Chair Radke thanked the speakers for attending the meeting and speaking their minds. Chair Radke explained there are no proposed location, size or number of holes set, and urged the public to attend the Disc Golf Workshop on July 23, 2014 at 6:30pm. Commissioner Gerlack asked to have a walkthrough to see just where the proposed course would be located. Commissioner Olsson stated he will vote against any changes to open space. Chair Radke explained that the Commission is an advisory body and makes recommendations to the City Council.

## **PUBLIC HEARING(S) NONE**

### **8. CITY STAFF COMMENTS**

- a. Recreation Monthly Staff Report: Commissioner Patchin asked Ms. Patchin how many children attended the Playground Program. She answered that the average is 56 children each day. She explained the

program is a lot of fun featuring a variety of experiences. The program has swim days, and recently toured the Harbor Master Office. The next tour will be to the bait shop. Chair Radke asked how we get independent instructors for classes; Ms. Patchin stated that she contacted Recreation staff.

- b. **Park Maintenance Monthly Staff Report:** Commissioner Patchin said that the biggest issue with the parks is we do not have the staff to maintain them. Our Parks are beautiful and City Council needs to see that they are maintained. Commissioner Fuller asked if Park Supervisor Dave Lusty could give the Commission an overview of what is needed in the way of staff. Chair Radke stated that City Council went to great lengths to insure that if Measure H was passed, there would be plenty of staff to maintain the parks. Mr. Salts said at this time the maintenance department has eight full time staff members, and two part-time employees.
- c. **Discussion: PRMCC regarding its role with the Marina:** Chair Radke explained essentially the Council does see a role for the Commission in handling Marina issues, once current issues are resolved. The Commission will be involved in developing a Marina Master Plan. Commissioner Olsson suggested that an annual report be provided from the Harbor Master.
- d. **Commissioner Comments:** Commissioner Gerlack wanted to set a date for the annual PRMCC luncheon and she will contact staff. Commissioner Olsson was very encouraged with the amount of people who attended this meeting for the Disc Golf discussion. Commissioner Fuller noted that he was unaware of the amount of wildlife in the park. Commissioner Patchin indicated that there are over 150 species of birds that visit Hidden Lakes Park, and the Park is full of wildlife as well many fish in the pond.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 9:05pm to a Regular PRMCC Meeting on August 19, 2014 at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez California.

**Respectfully submitted by**

**Robin Agostino**