

Regular Meeting  
Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission  
August 19, 2014  
Martinez, CA

**APPROVED September 16, 2014**

Chair Dylan Radke called the Regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission to order at 7:03 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 Don Pallotta

EXCUSED: Commissioner John Fuller, and Commissioner Brian Eychner

ABSENT: Vice Chair Karen Bell-Patten

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

**2. PRESENTATION(S)**

- a. **Mural: Colleen Gianatiempo in memory of Jenna Betti:** Artist Colleen Gianatiempo presented to the Commission a proposed mural in honor of 14 year old Jenna Betti, a Martinez resident killed by a train in March, 2014. Ms. Gianatiempo requested the mural be near Mt. View Park as Jenna played here and also played soccer in this park. The Commission is supportive of a mural at this park. Ms. Gianatiempo suggested a wall could be built for the purpose of painting the mural. Ms. Gianatiempo explained funds would be raised if needed to pay for such a wall. Chair Radke will agendaize this item for a future meeting and referred the mural to the Cultural Arts Subcommittee, which is comprised of Commissioners Bell Patton, Gerlack, and Pallotta.  
The Commission thanked Ms. Gianatiempo and Mrs. Betti for attending the meeting and presenting the concept.
- b. **Marina update Harbormaster Craig Paulsen Marina Operator:** Mr. Paulsen gave an overview of the Marina financial report and business activity. He reported revenues are down but so are expenditures. He went on to say dredging remains a key issue that limits potential for more slip rentals and revenue. Commissioner Olsson remarked on Mr. Paulsen professionalism as a Harbormaster. Commissioner Pallotta thanked him for always helping out with the fishing derby and tour of the Marina and Harbormasters office with the City day camp program.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT: No Public Comments Made**

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Motion to approve the minutes of July 15, 2014, Motion to approve minutes with corrections Commissioner Olsson seconded by Commissioner Patchin passed 4– 0 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Olsson, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Gerlack, Commissioner Pallotta abstained. Absent Commissioner Bell-Patten Excused Commissioner Fuller, and Commissioner Eychner.

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

- a. Mary Harms requesting use of Rankin Park Gazebo on August 30, 2014 for a fundraiser for Contra Costa County Community Fund with a fee waiver. Motion to approve fee waiver. Commissioner Gerlack seconded by Commissioner Pallotta Passed 5– 0 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Olsson, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Gerlack and Commissioner Pallotta, Absent Commissioner Bell-Patten Excused Commissioner Fuller, and Commissioner Eychner.

- b. Hidden Valley Elementary Parent Club requesting use of Hidden Valley Park on September 20, 2014 for the Color Dash 5K Run at Hidden Valley School for a fundraiser. Motion to approve use of Hidden Valley Park. Commissioner Olsson Seconded by Commissioner Patchin Passed 5– 0 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Olsson, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Gerlack and Commissioner Pallotta, Absent Commissioner Bell-Patten Excused Commissioner Fuller, and Commissioner Eychner.

## 6. SUBCOMMITTEE(S) REPORTS

- a. **Measure H:** It was reported there was a meeting with a couple concerned citizens regarding the removal of the concrete benches at Susana Park. The benches are proposed for removal for a few reasons including deteriorated condition and they create a secluded area in the center of the park. It was agreed that the top portions of the benches could be preserved and used as borders between the entrance landscaping grass areas of the park. An inclusive historical theme will be available with interchangeable panels approved as part of the schematic design. Construction plans for Susana Park and Mt. View Parks are 85% complete. The projects are anticipated to be constructed over this fall and winter. Commissioner Patchin explained that Susana Park will have metal and iron benches within the park. Commissioner Pallotta asked if the benches will have separators to prohibit sleeping on the benches. Chair Radke and Commissioner Patchin will bring this to the attention of the architect.
- b. **Measure H Bond Oversight:** City Treasurer Carolyn Robinson included in her staff report information about the Measure 2008 H Bond Oversight Committee. The City established a Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee to provide enhanced accountability of the \$30,000,000 bond, to inform the public regarding the expenditure of bond proceeds and to ensure that said bond proceeds will be used only for the purposes specified in the ballot measure.  
The Committee is comprised of seven members appointed by the Mayor and based on a criteria established by the City Council. The Committee is comprised of: Chair Carolyn Robinson, City Treasurer, Allen Boyce, Brian Griffin, Keith George, Edward Keegan, Marta Van Loan and Richard Patchin. The Committee is required to meet annually, review expenditures and provide the public with a written report of the expenditures of the bond proceeds. This report is done after the audit of the Financial Statement of the City. The Committee meets in October and the report is submitted to Council at the next scheduled City Council meeting. The Committee may decide to meet quarterly to review the expenditures on a quarterly basis. Meetings are scheduled by emailing the committee members of the meeting date and time. With the upcoming October meeting, Ms. Robinson will reach out to the Committee Members by phone for their attendance at that annual meeting. The Committee appointments were made in May 2009 and September 2011. The Deputy City Clerk will be soliciting applications for possible appointment at the November 5th meeting, which is after the annual report is presented. Commissioner Patchin noted that he has been the only non-city employee attending meetings, and expressed a need for the Commission to meet quarterly. Chair Radke would like to see more advanced notice of the meetings and suggested that perhaps the quarterly meetings could be on some kind of a set schedule e.g. third Monday of the first month of the quarter at 5 p.m. at City Hall to help improve attendance. Mr. Chandler will contact City Treasurer Ms. Robinson and propose that perhaps the October meeting could be the first meeting on some kind of a set schedule that would be maintained going forward.
- c. **Park Subcommittee regarding Disc Golf:** Chair Radke reported to the Commission that on July 23rd the City held a "Disc Golf" workshop in Council Chambers concerning the proposed course suggested by the Martinez Disc Golf Club. The Disc Golf Club had approached the PRMCC to install a disc golf course at Hidden Lakes Open Space. The City Council authorized the PRMCC to hold a public workshop on the proposal. A majority of the speakers were against the use of the open space for disc golf for a variety of reasons. The primary objections to the proposal centered on the potential impact to wildlife and the environment. Other concerns mentioned included traffic and safety of walkers. The Disc

Golf Club withdrew their request for a course in the Hidden Lakes Open Space. The Commission will continue to work with the Disc Golf advocates to find an alternative location in Martinez. However, it was expressed by the Commission that it will be difficult to find a location because of the “Not in my back yard” sentiment that was found in searching for a location for a dog park in Martinez. Commissioner Gerlack mentioned there is still a lot of popular support for disc golf in Martinez, and she continues to get emails requesting a possible location.

## 7. PUBLIC HEARING(S) NONE

## 8. CITY AND STAFF COMMENTS

- a. **Recreation Monthly Staff Report, Recreation Supervisor Patty Lorick:** Commissioner Patchin informed the Commission that the Day camp program has had over 50 children attending each day and over 200 children have participated in the program.
- b. **Park Maintenance Monthly Staff Report, Park Supervisor Dave Lusty** Commissioner Pallotta expressed concerns over whether the Police Department was being notified in the event of vandalism or graffiti at the parks, or if the Corpyard workers were just repairing or cleaning up the problem. Mr. Chandler explained to the Commission he has relayed his concerns to both Public Works and the Police Department. Commissioner Pallotta asked that the Commission be provided some level of information on the Police action taken in response to vandalism and graffiti. Mr. Chandler will follow up with Police and Public Works to see what additional information can be provided in the Parks Maintenance Monthly reports whenever these situations occur.
- c. **Library Meeting Room Policy, Michael Chandler:** Mr. Chandler explained the policy/procedure for reserving the downstairs Community Meeting Room at the Library. He provided an overview of the history of the space and a proposal for establishing a Use Policy and Procedure for reservations. He explained that according to the intent of the Joint Use and Service Agreement from 2009 between the City and the County, the space was to be primarily used by the Library for its own programs, or by Community groups following guidelines established by the City. He went on to say that the City had tried using an attendant in the past, but the space was poorly utilized and no additional funding was authorized to support such a position. He said unsupervised after-hours use of the Library is not a viable option due to a variety of concerns including significant risk exposure to the City and its insurance pooling authority; ADA issues; and lack of security for Library collections as mentioned by Branch Librarian Karen Hansen-Smith. He went on to say the reservations for the Community Meeting Room must be made for use during normal Library hours of operation. He suggested that the Policy establish eligibility for the Community Groups as local non-profit or not-for-profit organizations in good standing that serve a community benefit. Scheduling the room would follow a format similar to what the City has done with the Martinez Unified School District over the past 5 years as part of that Joint Facilities Agreement. Applicants would fill out, sign and submit an official request form to the City through the Recreation Division. The City would review and approve (or deny) the use based on the established eligibility criteria, then forward to the Library for its review and approval/denial based on availability of the room. He went on to explain the signed application would then be returned to the applicant, and if its request was approved, it would have a reserved space on the Library’s schedule for the room. Mr. Chandler believed the intent for the room was that it would be available free of charge to these groups. Insurance coverage would not likely be required from be groups for this use during normal Library hours. The Commission agreed with the proposal and requested the item go before the Library Subcommittee and representatives from the Friends of the Library and the Branch Librarian for further discussion. Chair Radke and Commissioner Gerlack wanted to make sure the room would still be available to the public for casual use whenever the Library was not running a program or the space was reserved by a community group. Mr. Chandler told them that based on his discussion with Karen

Hansen-Smith, the space is and will continue to be open to the public during those times nothing is scheduled or reserved, and that he would encourage the Library to continue with this practice. Chair Radke asked that the Library Subcommittee meet and Friends of the Library President Marlene Haws be included in the meeting.

## **9. PRMCC**

- a. Commissioner Comments** Commissioner Patchin wanted to know the quality of the water in the lakes at Hidden Lakes Park, if the water is tested, how often and where the water comes from and how much of it is runoff water. He was concerned about the impact of feral cats in this park on the surrounding wildlife. Chair Radke mentioned he noticed a significant amount of dog excrement at the park during a recent visit.

Commissioner Patchin suggested that plans for upgrades to Highland Avenue and Golden Hills Parks be developed so improvements to these parks and perhaps others can be started in 2015-2016. Chair Radke also reported that one of the step machines at Hidden Valley Park is broken it needs a new shock. Commissioner Gerlack invited the Commissioners and City staff to the PRMCC Appreciation Luncheon September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Rankin Park beginning at 11:30 a.m.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn Commissioner Patchin seconded by Commissioner Gerlack passed 5– 0 by the following vote: Chair Radke, Commissioner Olsson, Commissioner Patchin, Commissioner Gerlack and Commissioner Pallotta, Absent Commissioner Bell-Patten Excused. Commissioner Fuller and Commissioner Eychner.

Adjourned at 8:30pm to a Regular PRMCC Meeting on September 16, 2014 at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez California.

**Respectfully submitted by**

**Robin Agostino**