

Regular Meeting  
Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission  
May 19, 2015  
Martinez, CA

Approved June 16, 2015

Chair Radke called the Regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission to order at 7:05 pm, in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, CA.

**1. ROLL CALL**

2. Present Chair Dylan Radke, Vice Chair Karen Bell-Patten, Commissioner Gay Gerlack, Commissioner Ingmar Olsson, Commissioner Donald Pallotta and Commissioner Richard Patchin. Excused Commissioner Brian Eychner. Absent Commissioner John Fuller

City Staff present: Recreation Supervisor Patty Lorick, Recreation Coordinator Barbara Patchin and Administrative Aide III Robin Agostino.

**3. PRESENTATION(S)**

- a. Rankin Aquatic Swim Center. Recreation Supervisor Patty Lorick provided a recap of the 2014 pool season. She reviewed the accomplishments from 2014, including: the California Park and Recreational Society Award of Excellence, a grant for thirty life jackets and an instructional sign for life jacket use from the Drowning Prevention of the Bay Area, increased recreational swim participants, decreased lifeguard rescues, additional Saturday and Sunday water aerobics classes and 22 additional family swim nights. Ms. Lorick reviewed the total number of participants for all programs of 39,398 patrons, which does not include swim meet contestants or parents of participants. She indicated the water aerobics teachers worked very hard in trying to recruit and retain students. The revenues for the calendar year were \$228,934 and the expenses were \$273,794. Ms. Lorick explained that due to the earthquake in August, the pump had to be repaired twice and additional safety lighting was installed, along with other various repairs. Staffing is the greatest expense for the pool. The City subsidized \$44,840, or 16.4%, of the total expenditures. Ms. Lorick reviewed the programs for the upcoming 2015 season of April through October. The 2015 pool season began with the Iceberg Swim, where 80 people attended and about half jumped in the 45 degree water. The pool season will conclude on Sunday, November 1st; Early Lap Swimming (5:30 - 6:55 a.m. for June and July and 6:00 -8:00 a.m. for August, September and October) will be eliminated; Adult Group Swim Lessons will be offered in the evenings at the request of the public. Finally, Ms. Lorick recently worked with City information technology staff to implement a point of sale system to replace the outdated cash register.

**Commissioner Comments** Commissioner Pallotta requested clarification on expenses concerning repairs and maintenance. Ms. Lorick explained the cost of cleaning each heater is \$1000 and door repairs were needed. Lorick noted that the pool is four years old and is in a very harsh environment. Pallotta asked about the fees for contract instructors. Ms. Lorick mentioned the increase is due to additional class registrations, which is a positive trend. Pallotta inquired about the revenue increase from the Martinez Community Swim Team and water aerobics. Lorick responded there are more participants in both programs. Commissioner Patchin asked if the repairs to the recreation pool bucket are listed in the 2014 report. Lorick stated the repairs were completed in 2015 at a significant savings because they were done by City staff. Commissioner Bell-Patten inquired about the pool temperature and Lorick replied 82 degrees. Bell-Patten further asked about the pool schedule, and Lorick responded the schedule is available online, at the pool, and the recreation office at City Hall.

**Public Comment:** No comments were made.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Kristen Henderson informed the Commission that the Martinez Post office is slated to be plastered. She further stated the Borland House nomination for the Multiple Property Submission was accepted. Ms. Henderson stated she has acquired artistic, large scale art deco tile pieces from the demolished Contra Costa County Assessor's building. She is requesting the PRMCC recommend placing the tile at the Martinez library. Chair Radke suggested the Cultural Arts and Library Subcommittee agendaize the item for discussion and recommendation.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR: Minutes of April 21, 2015**

On a motion by Commissioner Pallotta, seconded by Vice Chair Bell-Patten, to approve the PRMCC minutes of April 21, 2015. Motion passed 4-0-2-1-1 Yes: Vice Chair Karen Bell-Patten, Commissioner Gay Gerlack, Commissioner Richard Patchin, and Commissioner Donald Pallotta; Abstain: Chair Dylan Radke and Commissioner Ingmar Olsson. Excused: Commissioner, Brian Eychner; Absent: Commissioner John Fuller.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No comments were made.

**6. NEW BUSINESS:** None

**7. ACTION ITEM (S) FOR REQUEST: Martinez Arts Association, Sandy Sherwood Art in the Park**

a. On a motion by Commissioner Patchin, seconded by Commissioner Olsson, approve request from Martinez Arts Association to waive fees for use of Susana Park, on August 16, 2015. Motion passed 5-0-1- 1-1. Yes: Chair Dylan Radke, Vice Chair Karen Bell-Patten, Commissioner Ingmar Olsson, Commissioner Donald Pallotta and Commissioner Richard Patchin. Excused: Commissioner Brian Eychner. Absent: Commissioner John Fuller. Recused: Commissioner Gerlack.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No comments were made.

**8. SUBCOMMITTEE(S)**

a) Measure H: City Engineer staff report informed the Commission the construction bid for the Susana and Mt. View Parks project was awarded to Suarez & Munoz Construction, and work has begun. Susana Park will be completed in time for the Art in the Park annual event held on August 16th. Improvement at the park include: new entry landscaping, reuse of the concrete bench tops as landscape borders, and new pathways and sidewalks. Curbs surrounding the project will be replaced to provide additional room for existing mature trees. Construction at Mt. View Park is underway. The playground, sidewalk and picnic areas in the large lawn area will be constructed first. The parking lot, ball field picnic areas, field fencing and other improvements will begin after June 15th.

b) Hidden Lakes Soccer Field: In February, staff issued a request for qualifications (RFQ) to design the artificial turf soccer field at Hidden Lakes Park. The existing turf field does not stand up to normal use due to soil conditions and high demand. The City received four responses to the RFQ. The section was narrowed to three very qualified respondents. Staff conducted interviews and recommended Siegfried Consulting to design the field. A meeting was held on May 13th with staff and Siegfried to review invoicing procedures and the project schedule. The goal is to have the field open for use in August 2016 for the beginning of the AYSO soccer season. A workshop with the PRMCC parks subcommittee and interested stakeholders is currently scheduled for the second week of June.

**Commissioner Comments:** Commissioner Pallotta mentioned credible studies linking artificial turf and cancer. Pallotta is concerned that in a few years evidence will indicate the artificial turf contains carcinogens. Ms. Lorick said, she is sure that Mr. Tucker has looked into all aspects of artificial turf. Chair Radke requested that staff place "Funded by Measure H" signs be posted at Susana and Mt. View Parks construction sites.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No comments were made.

- c) Schedule meeting of Parks Subcommittee to discuss pickleball: Patty Lorick asked the Parks Subcommittee to schedule a meeting to discuss pickleball use at the tennis courts. Chair Radke informed the public there will be no decision made this evening. Tonight's discussion is only to set a meeting of the Parks Subcommittee to discuss pickleball and to update the relevant sections of the municipal code for park usage.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Scotty Wallace stated his son plays tennis at the Nancy Boyd courts. He is concerned about sufficient time on the courts if pickleball has exclusive use of the courts. Mr. Wallace also stated painting pickleball lines is messy for the courts.

Matt Pickup emphasized a substantial number of people feel strongly about replacing tennis courts with pickleball courts. He cited pickleball representative Karen Siemsen's report of Nancy Boyd courts being underutilized by tennis players. Random checks of the courts have shown only one or two being used. The largest number of tennis players at one time has been five, and there are never other players waiting to use the courts. Mr. Pickup disagrees with Ms. Siemsen's report stating the courts are used; her statement is untrue. He went on to say tennis players are strongly objecting to a potential change and will not be silent. Pickup suggested the courts at Cappy Ricks Park would be suitable for pickleball.

Commissioner Pallotta asked if there is a way to have certain hours set aside for tennis and certain hours for pickleball. Mr. Pickup answered more lines painted on the courts cause challenging bounces for the ball.

Bill Sherrard stated the Nancy Boyd courts are becoming very popular. He went on to say the Morello Park courts are not used for tennis and could be used for pickleball. Chair Radke replied the Morello Park courts are frequently used for tennis.

Shelly Lipman mentioned how the tennis players at Nancy Boyd are becoming a community, but pickleball is very exciting. She also said the NorCal courts might be a good place to play pickleball.

Steven Young said pickleball players want to convert two of the Nancy Boyd courts and urged the Commission not to change any of the courts. He also noted the parking challenges at the park.

Lisa Gaifaut said she cleans the Nancy Boyd courts regularly and consistently sees people playing tennis. She noted the tennis courts on Brown Street are used as much as the Nancy Boyd courts. She asked the Commission to protect the Nancy Boyd courts.

Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Pallotta noted pickleball came to the Commission with a presentation and pickleball took it to the City Council. Commissioner Pallotta asked if Council will send this item back to PRMCC. He added there are no funds in Measure H to reconfigure the courts. Commissioner Gerlack said it is important to attend the City Council meeting when the item is agendaized for discussion. Chair Radke said it is important to attend the Subcommittee meeting as well. Tennis players will be notified of the date of the Parks Subcommittee meeting.

- d) Municipal code update: Patty Lorick will contact the Parks Subcommittee to schedule a meeting to discuss updating the sections of the municipal code regarding park usage.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No comments were made.

**9. PUBLIC HEARING(S) NONE**

**10. CITY AND STAFF COMMENTS**

a) Recreation Staff Report:

Commissioner Patchin and Chair Radke complimented the Recreation division for participating in the Annual Lions and Lionesses Egg Hunt. The event is open and free to everyone, unlike other cities where a fee is charged.. Ms. Lorick stated it is always a fun event and Recreation staff stays until every face is painted.

Commissioner Gerlack stated she is a member of the Lions Club and it is great fun to fill eggs for the event.

Commissioner Patchin noted Mini Motorland was a tremendous event.

b) Park Maintenance Report:

Commissioner Bell-Patten asked staff if the recently installed trash receptacles at the parking lot of Ward Street, and the bus stop in front of the County Hospital were for recycling or landfill. Commissioner Pallotta replied they are for the landfill. The recycling receptacles are not yet available.

Commissioner Pallotta requested staff to personally thank Parks Supervisor Dave Lusty and Public Works Director Dave Scola for the maintenance crew repairing the loose and missing boards on the park benches at Ferry Point.

Chair Radke asked if cameras in Rankin Park are capturing the vandalism mentioned in Parks Supervisor Dave Lusty's staff report

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No members from the public coming forward

**11. PRMCC**

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Olsson informed the Commission about the upcoming Memorial Day program.

Commissioner Gerlack thanked Ms. Lorick for her annual pool report.

Commissioner Bell-Patten stated future agenda items seem to have fallen into a black hole and go nowhere. She also pointed out that the majority of the Commission will be termed out in June 2015.

Chair Radke, Commissioner Patchin and Commissioner Pallotta requested details of the Waterfront Park improvements. There are questions concerning the final plans, funding and the funding sources for particular improvements.

Chair Radke requested the Cultural Arts Subcommittee to set a meeting date to discuss placement of the Art Deco tile mentioned under Ms. Henderson's public comments. Commissioner Bell-Patten will contact the Subcommittee.

**12. CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn 8:35pm

Adjourned to the Regular PRMCC Meeting on June 16, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California.

**Respectfully submitted by**

**Robin Agostino**