

CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ROLL CALL

Mayor Schroder called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT: Councilmembers DeLaney, Menesini, Ross, Vice Mayor Kennedy, and Mayor Schroder.

ABSENT: None.

PRESENT: Commissioners Fuller, Gerlack, Radke and Chair Patchin.

EXCUSED: Commissioner Eychner.

ABSENT: Commissioners Hern and Sank.

Councilmember Menesini arrived at 6:10 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(COMPLETE SPEAKER CARD AND GIVE TO CLERK) Reserved only for those requesting to speak on items not listed on the Agenda.

Mayor Schroder opened and closed public comment with no one wishing to speak.

I. DISCUSSION

1. Presentation and discussion of the Parks Master Plan.

Park and Recreation Chair Richard Patchin reviewed the Parks Master Plan and recognized past and present commissioners who worked on the Plan.

Deputy Director of Parks and Community Services Joann Tool stated that the Park Master Plan was the culmination of five years of hard work. It brought to the forefront the need to upgrade all of our City parks to bring them to a state that provides for safe equipment for children and meets ADA standards. Ms. Tool indicated that staff estimated \$18,766,250 to accomplish these improvements and upgrades.

Mayor Schroder clarified "public" open space and "private permanent" open space and requested that staff determine how many parcels are private open space. He also requested staff to create a map of public and private open space property.

Councilmember DeLaney indicated that there was no prioritization or specific needs for the parks as indicated on Page 212. She requested that the needs for each park be listed with more detail. Commissioner Fuller stated that it was not detailed in order to secure grants. Vice Mayor Kennedy suggested adding a matrix of all park needs.

Councilmember Ross suggested better and more signage for more efficient use especially in the open space.

Vice Mayor Kennedy questioned the staff titles as indicated in the document noting that many no longer exist. Ms. Tool stated that they used the titles as indicated in the City's Municipal Code. City Manager Blubaugh recommended that staff amend the Plan to reflect current department titles, and later the Municipal Code can be amended.

Councilmember DeLaney requested that the parks and open space trails be placed on the GIS System. Ms. Tool agreed that it would benefit users, but would check if the graphics are compatible with the System. Councilmember DeLaney also requested replacement of tennis nets and resurfacing of the tennis courts be added to the list.

Chair Patchin extended his appreciation and recognized the Public Works Parks and Maintenance personnel for their excellent work.

Mayor Schroder spoke on the Community Services bond issue that may be going before the voters and asked the status of the item. City Manager Blubaugh responded that the information will be coming to the Council in December or the first meeting in January.

Councilmember Ross requested staff to contact the Filipino Community to see if they would be interested in contributing to the restoration of the "Globe" (water fountain) at Nancy Boyd Park.

Mayor Schroder opened public comment.

Igor Skardoff described different concepts that might be considered in the Parks Master Plan that would somehow include the Alhambra Creek in the Plan in order to obtain additional grants.

Marta Van Loan urged the Council and the Commission to integrate the Library as part of the Park Master Plan. She commented that the bathrooms did not meet ADA requirements, and that the building falls short of the State's recommended ratio of library square footage per resident.

Barbara Hannafan echoed Ms. Van Loan's sentiments and had concern about drinking fountains.

Paul Wilson criticized the City for its inability to maintain public facilities. Commissioner Radke responded that many of the City's parks are 50 to 60 years old. They can no longer be fixed, but need to be replaced and upgraded. Vice Mayor Kennedy pointed out that in back of the document there was a list of all maintenance and repairs performed.

Public Works Director Dave Scola provided Mr. Wilson with a copy of the Plan.

*Commissioner John Fuller left the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

A discussion was held regarding field maintenance and equipment. City Manager Blubaugh commented that most cities and special districts were struggling with appropriable funding for maintenance of park facilities.

There being no further speakers, Mayor Schroder closed public comment.

Councilmember DeLaney indicated that on Page 180, Recommendations, #2: Increase the acreage of new parkland...was not a realistic goal and should be amended to a lower number. Vice Mayor Kennedy suggested the deletion of #2. Councilmember DeLaney suggested that a dog park be developed. Chair Patchin indicated that the Commission has looked into that possibility, but was not a priority at this time.

Don Blubaugh indicated that formal adoption of the Park Master Plan will be delayed for feedback from EBRPD and the Martinez School District.

2. Other Comments.

No other comments were made.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 6:52 p.m. The Council adjourned to a Regular City Council Meeting on November 7, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The Park and Recreation Commission adjourned to a Regular Meeting of November 6, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California.

Approved by the City Council,

Approved by the Park & Recreation Commission,

Rob Schroder, Mayor

Richard Patchin, Chair

Mercy G Cabral, Deputy City Clerk – 11/07/07