

CITY OF MARTINEZ
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

August 26, 2008

APPROVED OCTOBER 7, 2008

A regular meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chair Patchin at 7:04 p.m. on August 26, 2008, in the Conference Room (downstairs), 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California 94553.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Richard Patchin
Commissioners Dylan Radke, Sherry Sank, Katherine Hern, John Fuller, Brian Eychner and Gay Gerlack

Absent: None

Staff: Joann Tool, Deputy Director of Park and Community Services

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 3, July 1, 2008

Chair Patchin stated that the minutes of June 3 were not provided in the packet as outlined and also requested the approval of minutes be moved down on the agenda.

** see below after Item D, under New Business.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

a. Special Request ◇ Waterfront Group Area ◇ Sunday, September 28, 2008

Staff recommends the special request be approved and that a fee waiver has been requested.

Commissioner Gerlack moved to approve the special request by Al Boyce on behalf of the Martinez Education Foundation with a fee waiver for the Waterfront Group Area on Sunday, September 28, 2008, seconded by Commissioner Hern. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes

b. Special Request ◇ Rankin Park, Olive Grove ◇ Saturday, September 6, 2008

Staff recommends the special request be approved as it falls within stated guidelines.

Ms. Post spoke on behalf of Seal Tel, Inc. stating that the hours have now been changed and they are requesting the hours of 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Commissioner Sank moved to approve the special request of Rankin Park, Olive Grove with the amended hours by Sharon Post on behalf of Sea Tel, Inc., for Saturday, September 6, 2008, seconded by Commissioner Fuller. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes

- c. East Bay Regional Park District Signature on Special Event Requests
Discussion of the addition of a requirement to have approval from EBRPD for events over 5000 at Waterfront Park and possible approval

Ms. Tool explained that this was put on the agenda at the request of the Park and Recreation Commission for discussion.

The Commission discussed ideas and policies for Special Event Requests for recreational purposes.

Commissioner Fuller asked if a joint meeting could be scheduled with East Bay Regional Parks and City Council in order to discuss this issue as well as Chelsea Pier.

Ms. Tool explained that East Bay Regional Parks has a liaison who is in the process of trying to coordinate a meeting with City Council and will notify the Park and Recreation Commission should this be scheduled.

- d. Issues Regarding the June 2008 King of the County Barbeque
Discussion about the recent Chamber of Commerce use of Waterfront Park

Chair Patchin spoke on the fact that things that were promised in the request of this usage were not followed through.

The Commission reviewed the letter from Bill Nichols regarding this issue.

The Commission discussed other areas that this event might be able to take place in order to alleviate the problems that occurred such as by the amphitheater.

Commissioner Fuller says he believes that the Chamber needs to start the dialogue for this event in now instead of only three months prior to the event and would like to invite the Chamber to attend the October meeting.

**** Back to Approval of Minutes – July 1, 2008**

Chair Patchin requested the following corrections to the minutes of July 1, 2008:

Page 2: Under Item d, second line: insert the word "Area" after the word "Group".

Page 3: Under Item b, second line: delete the word "Street" after the word "Susana".

Page 4: Under Item g, sixth paragraph, second line: add the word "the" before the word "apartments".

Commissioner Fuller moved to approve the minutes with changes of the July 1, 2008 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Sank. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes

- e. Endorsement of and Recommendation to Council regarding Pool, Parks and Library Bond
Discussion and possible approval of an endorsement and recommendation to Council regarding a Parks Bond Informational brochure

Ms. Tool handed out a draft informational brochure of the factual information regarding the bond to the Commission. The Commission reviewed the brochure.

Public Comment: Little League spoke on the necessity of this bond passing as he believes it is very important for not just now but for future generations of the City of Martinez for park safety.

Commissioner Hern asked if the ADA regulation for the elevator can be added to the language regarding the elevator.

Commissioner Radke asked about maximum versus average costs for the tax payers.

Ms. Tool explained that the maximum was used as this is what was presented to Council and it needs to be kept consistent. This also shows the tax payers this is the maximum, so when the numbers fall below the maximum, it provides positive results.

Commissioner Sank asked about the order of the issues presented inside the brochure as the cover states: Parks, Library and Pool and when you open brochure the order is Pool, Parks and Library. She feels it should be consistent with the title.

Commissioner Radke says he also thinks that "expenditures will be overseen by a Citizens Advisory Panel" and "payments will begin in April, 2009" should be added to the brochure.

Commissioner Gerlack moved that the Park and Recreation Commission endorse the bond and recommend that City Council provide an Informational Brochure to the citizens of Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Hern. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes

V. OLD BUSINESS

- a) Retreat Report
Review and discuss the report submitted by the facilitator used at the Park and Recreation Commission Retreat

Chair Patchin asked if a meeting can be scheduled with the new City Manager.

Ms. Tool stated that he should be attending the October meeting.

Commissioner Fuller stated that he would like to remove the Chelsea Pier Subcommittee and replace it with a Recreational Economics Development Subcommittee "REDS". He said he this is

something he found very interesting at the Retreat and would like to follow through on this. He also stated that the retreat report was excellent.

Ms. Tool said she would add the Retreat report to the back of their binders.

Chair Patchin would like to re-visit the park fees in October.

f) STAFF REPORTS

a) Deputy Director, Parks and Community Service

Ms. Tool stated that the park fund balances as of August 20, 2008 are \$228,747 in Park in Lieu of Land Fees which can be used for capital only and \$48,502 left in Park and Recreation Impact Fees which can be used for other than capital.

Ms. Tool said that Hidden Valley Park Playground is started and the Nancy Boyd Park construction is on time and everything seems to be lining up. She said the Summer Programs went very well and there was an increase in all areas except for park rentals. The summer camps are now closed and she is working on getting the numbers done in time for the October meeting.

The Commission discussed the pool use hours and the hopes of these hours being increased.

Chair Patchin asked about the \$1.6 million bond money from East Bay Regional Parks. Ms. Tool explained that this will come to the City of Martinez with some strings attached. At this time, the strings are unclear.

Chair Patchin asked about the silt relocation project and if the soil was tested. Ms. Tool said that the soil had been tested, but she does not know the outcome yet.

Chair Patchin asked again about the park dedication fees generated from the construction at the Via de Sol and the apartments on the DMV property. Ms. Tool said she was not able to obtain this from finance yet, but will ask again.

The Commission also asked staff to provide information regarding the PUD's with regard to providing less park dedication fees verses single family dwellings.

VII. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

a) Youth Sports Committee (Fuller)

Commissioner Fuller said that Little League had a great year with no complaints. The Girl's Softball League went to the Cal Regional Championships and the PONY league was excellent. AYSO has come to the table and established great communication between Little League and PONY.

Chair Patchin commented on the success of the Youth Sports Committee stating that it has provided a voice and opportunity for each sport group to see the needs of the others.

b) Bond (Hern)

Commissioner Hern said that the Youth Sports Group is in support of the bond and are waiting for the formal endorsements at this time. Heritage Soccer is in the process of getting on board in an office capacity as well. The swim season has ended and they are now changing their focus

towards the campaign season. Commissioner Hern said they are currently seeking donations and will follow up on the organizations they have previously asked.

Commissioner Hern said that the argument in favor was presented two weeks ago and then an argument for opposition was submitted in response and then a favor rebuttal regarding the opposition's response was submitted.

Commissioner Hern said they have been setting up booths at every possible event in order to advertise the bond. She says the overall response has been positive. It appears that 1 out of 10 people appear not to be in support of the bond. At this time, the bond campaign is in need of money in order to promote the need of the bond.

c) Chelsea Pier Subcommittee (Fuller)

Commissioner Fuller is now removing the Chelsea Pier Subcommittee and will replace it with the Recreational Economic Development Subcommittee "REDS".

d) Playground Subcommittee (Patchin)

Commissioner Radke said that the approval for the final design has been provided for the playground at Hidden Valley.

Commissioner Fuller said that he had seen that the fence has already been installed.

Chair Patchin said that the demolition is complete and the cement slide is now gone as well.

e) Marina (Radke)

Commissioner Radke said there was nothing new to report.

f) Swimming Pool (Eychner)

Commissioner Eychner said there was nothing new to report.

g) Other

Commissioner Hern wanted to thank the staff for the summer programs.

Commissioner Fuller also stated that the summer programs were successful and thanked the staff.

Commissioner Hern asked about the oversight committee and how it works. Ms. Tool explained that it is all Council generated and not decided until the bond actually passes. Once the bond passes, it will be discussed at the meeting immediately following the passing. The Park and Recreation Commission would like to discuss the possibility of the Commission acting as the Oversight Committee at the November meeting.

Commissioner Sank commented on the number one accident for children is drowning. She also commented on the need for the dog park and feels that this issue needs to be revisited. She asked Commissioner Eychner if he would like to form a Dog Park Subcommittee once again with her. Commissioner Eychner said he would.

Commissioner Eychner said that he read in the Times that the City Council wants to look into BMX again and is talking about the gravel lot which he found interesting.

Commissioner Gerlack brought in an article regarding a dog park and shared with the Commission.

Chair Patchin asked about the Beaver Celebration and the fact that there was amplified music at this event, but that a request did not come through Park and Recreation for approval. Ms. Tool said that the City Manager approved this event. Chair Patchin asked that a review of the Special Events permit related to parks and the what the role of the Commission is for these requests. He said there is a process in place and believes that it needs to be followed by all and would like to know if there is a municipal code allowing for administration to approve without going through the proper request requirements.

Chair Patchin stated that he still has the information from the dog park he visited down South and offered it to the Dog Park Subcommittee if they were interested in looking at it.

The Commission discussed the fact that the catch basin might be the perfect place for the dog park.

Chair Patchin said he heard the Youth Sports Subcommittee talking about year round activities and wanted to know the impact of this with regard to the fields as there was a firm policy regarding the resting of fields. He would like to put this on the next agenda.

Commissioner Eychner asked about charging higher fees during the winter months for field usage as this requires higher maintenance during this time.

Commissioner Radke asked if City maintenance staff could provide information on the resting of fields and the recovery time for the fields.

Commissioner Hern asked if background information could be obtained with regard to opportunities or limitations on those groups with regard to providing donations or maintenance. Ms. Tool said Little League and park maintenance has already worked out the Little League mows the lawns.

Chair Patchin reminded the Commission of the Commission/staff lunch for Tuesday, September 23, 2008, at Susana Park and asked if the Commission would visit a park or two prior to this luncheon so that any questions you may have can be answered at that time.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Diablo Road Runner donation, thank you letter to Diablo Road Runners from Patty Lorick, newspaper articles: cartoon, "You must whip it, whip it good" Wild West Show tonight, cartoon, "Martinez Marina to hold its annual fishing derby"
- b) California Association of Parks and Recreation Commissioners and Board members, East Bay Regional Parks fact sheet
- c) City Council minutes, June 4, June 18, 2008

IV. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Assess feelings from the Park and Recreation Commission with regard to the combining of the Commissions
- b) The time frame and issues surrounding "resting fields"
- c) Updates on park projects
- d) King of the BBQ
- e) Bill Nichols e-mail regarding the King of the BBQ be provided again.
- f) Commissioners' reports

g) Bond Update

X. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Commissioner Fuller, seconded by Commissioner Eychner, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Karen Jennings
Minutes Clerk