

**Regular Meeting
Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission
March 2, 2010
Martinez, CA**

APPROVED APRIL 6, 2010

A regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission was called to order by Chair Radke at 7:03 p.m. on March 2, 2010, at Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California 94553.

I. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Karen Bell-Patten, Commissioner, John Fuller, Commissioner, Gay Gerlack, Commissioner, Ingemar Olsson, Commissioner, Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, Richard Patchin, Commissioner, Dylan Radke, Chair, and Marta Van Loan, Commissioner.

EXCUSED: Brian Eychner, Commissioner and Katherine Hern, Vice Chair.

STAFF: Karen Majors, Assistant City Manager
Tim Tucker, City Engineer
Terry Blount, Planning Manager
Mike Chandler, Senior Management Specialist

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Phil Ciaramitaro suggested that the building near the skate park be considered for housing Joltin' Joe.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Minutes of February 2, 2010

The Commissioners requested the following corrections to the minutes of February 2, 2010:

Page 2: Under Universal Sports Academy, Paragraph 2, line 1: Delete the word "with" and replace with the word "will".

Page 2: Under Universal Sports Academy, Paragraph 2, line 2: Insert the word "the" before the word "city".

Page 5: Under Grants Subcommittee Update, paragraph 2: Replace the word "Commission" with the word "Commissioner".

Commissioner Pallotta made a motion to approve the minutes with the changes of the February 2, 2010 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Olsson. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes.

b. Staff Updates

Commissioner Pallotta asked about the vandalism at Nancy Boyd Park. Ms. Majors said that vandalism is an ongoing problem. Commissioner Pallotta asked if they need to institute something. Ms. Majors stated that they are looking at putting in security when they redo the parks under Measure H. Commissioner Van Loan asked if surveillance cameras have been considered. Ms. Majors answered that they have talked about cameras being a possible necessity.

c. Special Events Permits

i. Chamber Use of Ignacio Plaza

There is a proposal from the Chamber of Commerce to utilize Ignacio Plaza on May 14th for the Martinez Martini fundraiser event. The Chamber asked that the park fee be waived. Commissioner Pallotta asked how they will control the number of people going in and out of the event. Ms. Majors replied that there will be an ingress and digress to regulate the flow of people.

Commissioner Patchin asked if flyers were distributed in the neighborhood surrounding the plaza to notify residents of the event so that they may come to the meeting to express their concerns. Ms. Majors said she was unsure if flyers were sent. The Commission agreed to postpone voting on the item until Ms. Majors was able to verify if flyers had been sent.

ii. First Light Christian Center Use of Nancy Boyd Park

Commissioner Patchin made a motion to approve the special request of First Light Christian Center for the use of Nancy Boyd Park on April 3, 2010, seconded by Commissioner Van Loan. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes.

iii. Star Touring and Riding Association Use of Rankin Park

Victor Tibbs spoke on behalf of the Star Touring and Riding Association. He requested the use of Rankin Park on May 8, 2010 and asked for a fee waiver. Mr. Tibbs noted that there will be no alcohol at the event and that they are raising money for the Contra Costa Food Bank.

Commissioner Patchin made a motion to approve the use of Rankin Park by the Star Touring and Riding Association on May 8, 2010, and grant the fee waiver, seconded by Commissioner Olsson. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes.

IV. PRMCC SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Playground Subcommittee Update, Tim Tucker, City Engineer

Tim Tucker, City Engineer, informed the Commission that they have been working with consultants on the scope of the projects and preliminary designs. Mr. Tucker stated that Holiday Highland Park will have a small bathroom. He noted that there will not be a playground upgrade because it was upgraded in 2002. Borrecco Killian & Associates has been assigned to Rankin Park. Mr. Tucker said they ~~have~~ had a meeting tonight to talk about layout of the park, which does not meet ADA requirements.

Mr. Ciaramitaro asked if the project will include work ~~include~~ on the retaining wall. Mr. Tucker replied that there was some discussion on the issue, but explained that it may not be functionally needed. He said they will investigate it further.

b. Pool Subcommittee Update, Tim Tucker, City Engineer

Tim Tucker provided the Commission with drawings from Arch Pac of the pool showing the color and texture of the major building elements. Mr. Tucker said the designer will begin the structural building permit plans and update cost estimates. He told the Commission that they have talked about energy efficiency, but that there is no real opportunity to heat water with solar panels. He noted that they will be using natural lighting, working with PG&E directly on energy efficiency, and looking for other ways of making it a green project. Mr. Tucker said the next step is to take the sample board to the Design Review Commission and City Council.

Commissioner Bell-Patten noted that they have isolated the shower area as an area in which **currently** they can incorporate art.

c. Grants Subcommittee Update, Michelle Wierschem, Recreation

Commissioner Van Loan stated that the grant application amounting to almost \$5 million in park improvements will include improvements to the old train station, multi-use sports field, amphitheatre, and paths of travel to the amphitheatre and sports field. She noted Michelle Wierschem, Recreation Manager, was going to hand deliver the project proposal on March 1st.

Ms. Majors said they will have another opportunity to apply for Proposition 84 funds in October. She wanted to thank Tim Tucker for providing them with project cost estimates on short notice.

Mr. Ciaramitaro asked when they will know if they have been awarded the funds. Ms. Majors said they will not know officially until August, but that they will probably get some kind of word in a few months. Commissioner Pallotta asked if they can apply for the same project in October if it is rejected or if they must apply with a new project. Ms. Majors said they can apply with either the old project or a new one.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Grazing Land Lease in Virginia Hills, Mike Chandler, Sr. Management Specialist

Michael Chandler, Senior Management Specialist, explained that the Grazing Lands License Agreement is a continuation of an existing arrangement with Patricia Hornung, which will be extended another 3 years. Mr. Chandler explained the terms and conditions of the lease in detail. He noted that they will allow up to nine horses and that the number may be expanded at the City's sole discretion. Mr. Chandler also noted that the security deposit has been increased from \$500 to \$1,000, rather than up to \$2,000.

Chair Radke asked if there was an indemnity in the contract. Mr. Chandler said yes.

Commissioner Olsson made a motion to approve the Grazing Lands License Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Patchin. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes.

b. Use of Shell Settlement Fees, Mike Chandler, Sr. Management Specialist

Mr. Chandler outlined the possible options for improvements to the marina using Shell Settlement Funds. He explained the three options identified by staff. The Commission had an extensive discussion on the three options and what kind of improvements for which the funds can be used.

Commissioner Patchin asked if there is a “sunset” on these funds. Mr. Chandler said no.

Rachel Ford explained in detail the proposed Delta Estuary Research Center (option #3) and how the funds would be used to support the project.

After some discussion, the Commission agreed that option one would be the most viable option.

Chair Radke asked that instead of committing to a shade structure (part three of option #1) they look at what can be done to make the pier more esthetically appealing.

Commissioner Van Loan stated she would like to see staff look into how the various options fit in with the master plan relative to the Marina and Ferry Point Park.

Commissioner Patchin expressed concern about the stability of the ground on which the paving for the pathway to the pier would be done. He asked that public works investigate the stability. Mr. Chandler said that they will be investigating it.

Commissioner Pallotta made a motion that part 1 and 2 of Option #1 be approved with consideration as to whether paving is going to cost more if the ground is stabilized and that the remaining money is held back for review by the Marina Subcommittee, seconded by Commissioner Van Loan. The motion was approved by the following vote: All Ayes.

At 8:54 p.m. the Commission agreed to take a 5 minute break. The Commission reconvened at 9:01 p.m.

c. General Plan Update Work Program, Terry Blount, Planning Manager

Terry Blount, Planning Manager, gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation on the Master Plan. He stated they have a limited budget for updating the plan so they must be strategic. Mr. Blount noted that they have been working with a consultant to put together a work program. In the presentation he outlined the proposed objectives for the general plan update, proposed directions for the general plan update, proposed roles and responsibilities, proposed participation modules for the process, a proposed sequence of steps and schedules (3 phases), a proposed work program with a ~~list of~~ detailed list of tasks, a proposed work program for management/staffing, and a proposed work program budget for the update.

Mr. Blount noted that they have a compilation of planners outside of staff. He also noted that they will be asking the PRMCC to help them as much as possible with outreach.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

a. Martinez Marina State Lands Lease Update, Karen Majors

Ms. Majors informed the Commission that a new 46 year lease agreement was approved on February 1st. She said they have not determined the number of live aboard renters, but stated they would like to have 16 live aboards.

Ms. Majors said they will be looking down the road to make the marina a Land Grant from the State. She explained that they can now move forward with the Department of Boating and Waterways and a sublease. Starting at the end of this month they will continue work on a sublease contract. Ms. Majors said they are looking to get approval of the amendment to the lease regarding live aboards on April 6th.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

a. Revised Agenda Plan

Commissioner Patchin asked that a report about seismic upgrades for the Zocchi Building be included on a future agenda.

VIII. COMMISSIONER & STAFF COMMENTS

Chair Radke asked for an update on the batting cages, security issue, and signage at Hidden Lakes Park. Ms. Majors said she spoke with Commanders Ghisletta and Peterson, who made a commitment to her to get some of their officers to try to patrol the area. She suggested that they come up with a larger sign to get the attention and participation of pet owners. Commissioner Gerlack suggested that they put the ordinance number on the sign. The Commission discussed the possibility of a dog park in another area of the park.

Ms. Majors said she heard from Kellogg's, which has selected the Hidden Lakes Park baseball field and soft ball field for improvements. Chair Radke asked about the sign issue. Ms. Majors said she has not heard back about whether they want to put up a sign at the park. Commissioner Patchin stated that the Commission will need to see plans before Kellogg's does any work at the park.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE - Agenda for March 17th Joint Meeting with City Council

X. NEXT MEETING DATE: April 6, 2010

Chair Radke recommended that the special request by the Chamber of Commerce to use Ignacio Plaza come back to the Commission at the next meeting. The Commission agreed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Commissioner Patchin, seconded by Commissioner Fuller, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jinelle LeSage
Minutes Clerk