

**Regular Meeting
Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission
June 21, 2011
Martinez, CA**

APPROVED JULY 19, 2011

A regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission was called to order by Chair Radke at 7:00 p.m. on June 21, 2011, at Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California 94553.

I. ROLL CALL

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

EXCUSED: None.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: Mitch Austin, Recreation Manager

*Note: Commissioner Fuller arrived at 7:03 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

III. PRMCC OUTGOING MEMBER CEREMONY

There was an outgoing member ceremony for Commissioner Van Loan. Mitch Austin, Recreation Manager, noted that commissioner appointments will be made at the July 20, 2011, City Council meeting.

Chair Radke thanked Commissioner Van Loan for her dedication and help. Commissioner Pallotta expressed his pleasure being able to work with Commissioner Van Loan on the Arts and Library Commission and with the Friends of the Library. He said she is a valuable asset.

Commissioner Patchin said he valued her insights and perspective and said she brought a lot of intelligence to the Commission. Commissioner Bell-Patten thanked Commissioner Van Loan for all her effort and energy.

Chair Radke called for a 5 minute break. The Commission reconvened at 7:09 p.m.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Minutes of May, 17, 2011

The Commissioners requested the following corrections to the minutes of May 17, 2011:

Page 2: Under Special Requests, Alhambra Hills Open Space, paragraph 1, line 3: Delete "the" after the word "to".

Page 3: Paragraph 2, line 3: Replace the word "is" before the word "which" with the word "are".

Page 3: Paragraph 2, line 4: Insert the word "the" after the word "into".

Page 3: Paragraph 3, line 1: Replace the word "schedule" with the word "scheduled".

Page 3: Under New Business, Prop 84 Grants, paragraph 1, line 5: Replace the word "outreaches" with the word "outreach".

Page 4: Under Marina Update, paragraph 2, line 2: Replace the word "they" with "there".

Page 4: Under BMX Park Discussion, paragraph 1, lines 1-2: Insert the word "asked" after "Commissioner Patchin" and replace the word "skate" with the word "BMX".

Commissioner Pallotta made a motion to approve the minutes with the changes of the May 17, 2011 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Olsson. The motion was approved by the following vote: All ayes.

b. Staff Updates
i. Recreation

Commissioner Patchin mentioned Patty Lorick gathered information about the recently built community pool in Placerville. He requested information about the maintenance it has needed over the 5 years it has been open.

ii. Parks Maintenance
c. Special Requests for Uses In Parks
i. Ferry Point Park for Wedding

Commissioner Gerlack made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner Fuller. The motion was approved by the following vote: All ayes.

ii. Susana Park for Concert

Commissioner Van Loan made a motion to accept the special request for the 3rd Annual Fall Music Festival with a fee waiver and advised Phil Ciaramitaro to notify neighbors of the event and use of amplified music, seconded by Commissioner Pallotta. The motion was approved by the following vote: All ayes.

iii. Waterfront Park for Company Picnic

Commissioner Pallotta made a motion to approve the special request, seconded by Commissioner Patchin. The motion was approved by the following vote: All ayes.

V. PRMCC SUB -COMMITTEE REPORTS
a. Measure H Updates

M. Austin reported they are aiming for a July 23 opening of the pool. He noted they are going try to extend the swim season to September 18 this year (depending on staff) and

will be open Mondays. He also noted there will be a soft opening or/and ribbon cutting before the grand opening on July 23.

M. Austin reported on the Library project. He said the elevator and shaft are being assembled, which is a 20-25 day process. He said the elevator inspection is scheduled for July 22.

Commissioner Van Loan inquired about the arrival time of the library furniture. M. Austin said it would be some time in July.

Commissioner Fuller expressed his disappointment with the missed project deadlines. Chair Radke concurred with Commissioner Fuller. Chair Radke requested reports and updates on the work that is scheduled to be done on the projects a month in advance.

Commissioner Bell-Patten stated she is extremely happy with the projects and pointed out that the minutes of July 2010 noted that the pool opening date was listed as early July, which is not far from the currently scheduled opening.

*Note: Following the meeting, Commissioner Bell-Patten requested that the page from the July 2010 minutes with the pool project deadlines be submitted into the minutes.

Commissioner Pallotta asked about contractor penalties for missed deadlines. M. Austin said such issues are addressed and settled at the end of the project. There was a brief discussion about the process of releasing retention for the projects and settling up between the City and the contractors.

b. Grant Subcommittee Update

M. Austin stated they are finalizing the grant language and summarizing the outreach findings in great detail. He said the cost estimates for the Center Avenue park improvements are under the \$5 million grant cap. He explained that the Historic Train Station renovation may come in over budget depending on the cost estimates for the restrooms. He noted the grant will be finalized by the end of the week and go to Sacramento next week.

c. Cultural Arts Subcommittee

M. Austin spoke about the Art Mecca Martinez proposal, which seeks to revitalize Martinez through art. He said art studios and exhibits downtown will attract visitors who will support restaurants and stores and provide economic stimulus.

The Commission discussed possible buildings and spaces downtown for artists. Commissioner Patchin expressed a desire to see venues featuring performing arts downtown as well.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. Martinez Bocce Federation Annual Report

The PRMCC discussed the Annual Report.

Ray Gaudenzi, representative for Martinez Bocce Federation, summarized court and

facility maintenance costs, vandalism, and restroom issues. He also discussed the league's rental policies and practices. **It was clarified that the courts themselves are free to use. The equipment owned by the Bocce federation is available.**

Commissioner Patchin pointed out discrepancies in the rental policy, to which M. Austin said rental language will need to be amended in the Bocce Brochure.

Commissioner Fuller mentioned that rental quotes he received were different than what Mr. Gaudenzi discussed. Mr. Gaudenzi said rates have changed since the beginning of the year.

b. July is Recreation and Park Month

M. Austin reported there is a proclamation that supports and affirms July as Parks and Recreation Month and the importance of recreation and parks in the community. On July 6, the proclamation will be presented to Chair Radke.

Commissioner Fuller noted that "Davis Parks" should be replaced with "Martinez Parks" in paragraph 3 of the proclamation. Commissioner Patchin suggested deleting the word "a" after "Creating and coordinating" in paragraph 4 of the proclamation.

Commissioner Fuller made a motion to forward the proclamation to City Council with the mentioned corrections, seconded by Commissioner Gerlack. The motion was approved by the following vote: All ayes.

c. Recreational Uses in Open Space

M. Austin discussed the proposal to install Frisbee golf in Hidden Lakes open space and the ambiguous language of the documentation regarding recreational use of Open Space area. He proposed the Commission consider coming up with key considerations and guiding practices for appropriate recreational uses for Open Space to guide specific activity selection in such areas.

Commissioner Patchin suggested looking at the Parks Master Plan for more information regarding the Open Space ordinance.

The Commissioner discussed the proposed location of the Frisbee Gold Course and whether it was a suitable activity for the area. Concerns about the degree of impact of the activity on the habitat were explored.

A representative for the Frisbee golf group stated that Stafford Lake Park in Novato, a designated wildlife preserve, has a Frisbee golf course. Commissioner Fuller requested a report or PowerPoint presentation on Novato and other wildlife preserves that have Frisbee ~~gold~~ **golf** courses. The attendees indicated they would contact other Cities and agencies that have course in open space and report back.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

a. Fishing Pier Path Condition/Shell Money

M. Austin discussed the various options for use of the \$50,000 in Shell settlement funds at the Martinez Marina or waterfront. He noted that items have been added to the February 2010 list of possible uses and the list of projects in the report. M. Austin asked the

Commission to consider options for funding use and provide recommendations to staff. He suggested the item be further discussed at the July meeting or forwarded to the Marina subcommittee.

The PRMCC discussed areas in need of improvement. Commissioner Fuller asked for cost estimates to fix the drainage issues at the parking lot adjacent to the pier. Chair Radke asked for the figures for the electrical work.

Commissioner Olsson made a motion to proceed with Option #1 as listed in the report, seconded by Commissioner Van Loan. The motion failed by the following vote: 1 aye, 8 nos.

M. Austin said he will convene the Marina Subcommittee meeting on-sight to discuss the item.

VIII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

a. Review Agenda Plan

M. Austin said the request for permission to build additional shade structures at the bocce courts has not been approved. He said City Council will be appointing PRMCC members on July 20, but noted he was unsure if it will be made an 8 member commission. M. Austin also noted that the joint meeting with City Council has been moved to September.

Commissioner Olsson requested a report on the dog park for the August meeting.

The Commission briefly discussed the engineer report for the pier.

Commissioner Patchin asked for cost figures to return the marina to its original state. He also asked for any updates regarding the construction of a parking lot by the Zocchi buildings.

Chair Radke requested that Measure H updates contain a list of tasks that are expected to be completed by the next meeting.

Commissioner Bell-Patten asked for support and volunteers to assist with the ~~Diablo-Runners~~ **scholarship** program, which provides swim lessons to those who cannot afford lesson.

Commissioner Pallotta expressed his displeasure with ~~the lack of progress on the 30-Million Dollar Measure H bond and the City's decision to cut back on park and maintenance staff.~~ **the City's decision to cut back on park maintenance staff while undergoing \$30 million in Measure H improvements.**

IX. COMMISSIONER & STAFF COMMENTS

None.

X. CORRESPONDENCE

a. State Park Closure

Commissioner Olsson stated he does not feel they should get involved in the issue.

Commissioner Pallotta wanted to make a recommendation, but could not because it is not an action item. M. Austin said the item will be on concurrent agendas (July 19 PRMCC meeting and July 20 City Council meeting).

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE: July 19, 2011

XII. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Commissioner Patchin, seconded by Commissioner Bell-Patten, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Jinelle LeSage, Minute's Clerk