

Regular Meeting  
Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission  
August 21, 2012  
Martinez, CA

**APPROVED: September 18, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Dylan Radke called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair, Brian Eychner, Commissioner, John Fuller, Commissioner, Gay Gerlack, Commissioner, Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, Richard Patchin, Commissioner, and Dylan Radke, Chair.  
**EXCUSED:** Ingemar Olsson, Commissioner.  
**ABSENT:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Joan Cassidy complained about the parking and traffic situation around their homes (Buckley and Talbart) since Rankin Community Pool has opened. She indicated she has brought this matter to the attention of the Council. Tim Tucker City Engineer updated the Commission on the situation, reviewed the street conditions, and indicated that signage and stop signs will be placed. Chair Radke requested that the traffic conditions be placed on a future agenda as an update.

Kristin Henderson stated that the RCD project may cause further traffic congestion. She also noted that the Office of Historic Preservation made their preliminary report indicating that the criteria for Rankin Park should be focused on so she will be combining Rankin and the Olive Grove for consideration; however the Council had to approve the project before she can go forward. City Engineer Tucker stated that he has been working with Ms. Henderson and that the information she has provided is exceptional. Mr. Tucker further stated that he will be taking the item to Council and there should be no problems. Ms. Henderson requested that Tree Removal, due to overcrowded conditions, in Susana Park be placed on a future agenda; she also mentioned the uneven paths in the park are potential hazards.

Philip Ciaramintaro reiterated his points of importance of improving and developing the Ferry Point Park. He suggested that the East Bay Regional Park take control of the area. He commented about the potential dog park efforts. Commissioner Pallotta stated that the Subcommittee is still studying the matter.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

a. Minutes July 17, 2012 for approval

Commissioner Patchin noted spelling correction on Page 4.

On motion by Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair, seconded by Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, to approve the Minutes of July 17, 2012 as corrected. Motion unanimously passed 7 - 0. Yes: Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair Brian Eychner, Commissioner John Fuller, Commissioner Gay Gerlack, Commissioner Donald Pallotta, Commissioner Richard Patchin, Commissioner, Dylan Radke, Chair; Absent: Ingemar Olsson, Commissioner.

b. Staff updates

i. Recreation

ii. Parks Maintenance

Commissioner Pallotta asked about increased vandalism in the parks to which Mr. Tucker noted that his answer to his question would be covered in the Special Report from Dave Lusty.

c. Special Requests for Uses in Parks

i. St. Catherine's Church/School use of the Ignacio Plaza for a car show for approval

St. Catherine's School Principal Sandy Wright requested the use of the park on Saturday, October 6, 2012, for the October Festival which is an annual fundraiser. She also requested the crosswalk in between Castro and Henrietta to be closed. She requested the park fee to be waived. Commissioner Patchin stated he was not in favor of a fee waiver because the fees help recover costs of city maintenance and recreation programs.

On motion by Gay Gerlack, Commissioner, seconded by Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, to approve St. Catherine's Church/School use of the Ignacio Plaza for a car show and waive the Park Fee of \$105. Motion passed 6 - 1. Yes: Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair Brian Eychner, Commissioner John Fuller, Commissioner Gay Gerlack, Commissioner Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, Dylan Radke, Chair; No: Richard Patchin, Commissioner; Absent: Ingemar Olsson, Commissioner.

Commissioner Gerlack paid the \$105 fee cost for the park.

## **PRMCC SUB -COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. Park Maintenance Supervisor Dave Lusty - oral report for information.

Supervisor Dave Lusty explained Measure H, maintenance, play areas, and the central control system for watering.

Mr. Lusty described the central control system, a computerized watering system that is based at one central location (his office) and communicates electronically from the various locations. The computer adjusts the water amounts in areas needed; therefore, it saves and conserves water throughout the entire city. Commissioner Patchin questioned if the software program selected would become outdated in upcoming years. Mr. Lusty assured the system is well tested and there are unlimited software updates available for the system.

Commissioner Fuller asked if the system will solve the problem of over watering at the various city soccer fields. Mr. Lusty indicated that currently the system is not installed at the soccer fields, but will be looked into in the future. Chair Radke asked what parks are on the system, and Mr. Lusty responded Rankin Aquatic Center, Rankin Park and Tavan Field.

Mr. Lusty reviewed parks play areas indicating some are out of date and now considered unsafe, i.e., Mountain View, Nancy Boyd, and Highland Park need to be replaced.

Commissioner Pallotta asked that the Kiwanis Play Area be added to a future agenda to discuss using reusable safe pieces from the other parks. He spoke on the current vandalism problem throughout the parks. Public Works Superintendent Bob Cellini commented that the cameras will be installed soon allowing for more surveillance at Rankin Aquatic Center. Staff discussed the process for reporting and removing graffiti and other vandalism acts.

Mr. Lusty reviewed Measure H and how it is connected to maintenance; including the hazards that need to be addressed, safety measures, and the parks with most safety issues be placed as priority. When Measure H monies are allotted, the unsafe parks will be improved. Chair Radke and Commissioner Patchin agreed it would be helpful to have a list of the most important needed items to be addressed with Measure H funding. Commissioner Gerlack suggested Susana Street Park be put high on the list of the parks needing attention. Commissioner Fuller asked about the possibilities of getting larger trees planted at the Brittany Hills Park. Mr. Lusty stated that it could be accomplished.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Bocce Federation Agreement review and approve.

Contract Recreation Manager Mitch Austin mentioned the Bocce Federation agreement has been in place since April. The Federation worked diligently on the rules to ensure that non-members leave the courts when the official games begin. Mr. Austin reviewed the changes in the agreement, i.e., fee increases, season schedule guidelines, and new permits for game days.

Commission discussed the fees and how they relate to the youth fees and made some minor edits. On motion by Donald Pallotta, Commissioner, seconded by Richard Patchin, Commissioner, to approve recommended approval of the Bocce Agreement and that it be forward to the Council as corrected. Motion unanimously passed 7 - 0. Yes: Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair Brian Eychner, Commissioner John Fuller, Commissioner Gay Gerlack, Commissioner Donald Pallotta, Commissioner Richard Patchin, Commissioner, Dylan Radke, Chair; Absent: Ingemar Olsson, Commissioner.

An unidentified speaker from the Bocce Federation thanked staff and the Commission for cooperating and approving the agreement.

- b. Vacant Commission seats for information.

The Commission discussed the current and future vacancies on the Commission. It was reported that Commissioner Eychner was approved for an additional term. Commissioner Pallotta questioned the details behind the restructuring of the Commission. Commissioner Gerlack pointed out that the staff report mentions as Measure H projects are completed, the Commission will be restructured. Commissioner Gerlack stated for the record that restructuring of the Commission was not due to Measure H, but rather a blend of three past separate Commissions which included the Parks and Recreation, Marina, Arts & Library Commissions. Commissioner Bell-Patten requested a letter be sent to the Mayor voicing their concerns about the restructuring and reforming and initial purpose of the Commission.

The Commission agreed to draft letter to the City Council regarding the Commission vacancies for approval on the next agenda.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. PRMCC standing subcommittee for approval.

Commissioner Fuller voiced his concern about the struggles with the Recreation Economic Development Subcommittee (REDS) and collaborating with Council. Commissioner Gerlack stated that the Commission is moving forward on some items. The Subcommittee List was reviewed and discussed. Commissioner Pallotta asked that the Amphitheatre be placed on a future agenda to discuss potential improvements. Commissioner Bell-Patten noted misspelling of her name.

On motion by Gay Gerlack, Commissioner, seconded by Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair, to approve the Subcommittee List with correction. Motion unanimously passed 7 - 0. Yes: Karen Bell-Patten, Vice Chair Brian Eychner, Commissioner John Fuller, Commissioner Gay Gerlack, Commissioner Donald Pallotta, Commissioner Richard Patchin, Commissioner, Dylan Radke, Chair; , Absent: Ingemar Olsson, Commissioner.

- b. 1994 Marina Master Plan - document provided at request of Commission.

Chair Radke stated there was no action required, but the document was requested by the Commission.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Condition of the trees in Susana Park
- b. Relocation of cement picnic tables in Rankin Park
- c. Play equipment at the Kiwanis Building
- d. Revisit the meeting City Council and PRMCC
- e. Library Issues
- i. Media system
- ii. Intercom system
- iii. Partitions

Chair Radke reviewed the future agenda items and added the parking traffic issues at Rankin Aquatic Center; and the letter to the City regarding Commission vacancies.

Commissioner Pallotta requested a list of future Measure H projects.

Commissioner Bell-Patten requested an update on the staff luncheon. Commissioner Gerlack stated that it is tentatively scheduled for September at Rankin Park. Recreation staff will confirm a date.

Commissioner Fuller requested an update on the Zocchi properties.

## **COMMISSIONER & STAFF COMMENTS**

Commissioner Patchin noted the success of the “Alice in Woggleland” event. This event is an example of what can happen at the Amphitheatre.

Unidentified public member requested that the cement tables from Rankin Park be moved down to the bocce court areas once they are replaced with different style. The Commission agreed.

Commissioner Bell-Patten asked about the East Bay Master Plan meeting and encouraged the Commissioners to attend the meeting in Concord.

Commissioner Pallotta asked that the new Minutes Taker be introduced. Ms. Agostino introduced Meghan Bailey.

Commissioner Gerlack announced that she will be hosting a fundraiser at her home on August 26, 2012, with the music of Melody Walker and Jacob Group who need money to tour the U.S.

Chair Radke expressed how great the Alhambra multi decade reunion event was—Kudos to the organizers.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Letter from Heidi Perryman and John Rider
- b. Letter to Heidi Perryman and John Rider from Chair Radke

Items included for information.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m. to the next regular meeting on September 18, 2012.