



County of Santa Cruz

PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

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BARRY C. SAMUEL, DIRECTOR

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, August 13, 2007

7:15 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Government Center, Board Chambers

701 Ocean St., 5th Floor

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 p.m.

Members: Janet Doten, Dave Mercer, Katharine Minott, Michael Rosenberg
Francisco Serna

Present: Janet Doten, Dave Mercer, Katharine Minott, Michael Rosenberg

Staff: Barry Samuel, Clark Beattie, Gretchen Iliff, Beth Porter

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS OR APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as modified – Agenda item #3 was postponed until the new director reports to Parks Department (options for dogs off leash). (Minott/Mercer 4/0)

III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes of July 9, 2007 were approved as presented (Mercer/Minott 4/0)

B. Information and Reports (Accept and File)

- 1) Facilities Division – Status Report
- 2) Maintenance Division – Status Report
- 3) Planning Division – Status Report
- 4) Recreation & Cultural Services Division – Status Report
- 5) Arts Commission Agenda August 6, 2007

The Information and reports were accepted and filed as written after a brief discussion with Gretchen Iliff concerning the water leaks as reported in the August Status Report of Maintenance Division (Minott/Doten 4/0).

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - None

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Acting Director Barry C. Samuel reported that the CAO is actively interviewing candidates on the existing list for Parks Director. A decision will be made soon.

Clark Beattie responded to Kate Minott's questions about the Mesa Village carnival that took place August 1. It was the first carnival at Mesa Village and a huge success. The Sheriff's Sergeant was very pleased with the turnout and has already pledged additional

funds from the Sheriff's Department for next year's carnival. The goal is to host more than one carnival at Mesa Village next year, two possibly three.

Commissioner Rosenberg asked if the Commission could be notified by email about special events and meetings of interest hosted by the Parks Department. Rebecca Killheffer has been promoted to replace Andrew Stewart's position as Special Events Coordinator.

VI. REGULAR AGENDA (DISCUSSION ITEMS)

A. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Report on the Farm Park Project

Acting Director Samuel reported that the Farm Park consultant is in the selection process. Five candidates were scheduled for second interviews from 12 consultants who applied. Redevelopment Agency Staff and Parks Staff held extensive interviews over two days with the top five consultants. Negotiations should begin next week with the chosen consultant. An announcement should be made at next month's meeting regarding the chosen consultant.

A second planner, funded by Redevelopment Agency, will be added to staff by the end of the year. This will be a tremendous help to Park Planner, Bob Olson.

2. Report on Valencia Hall General Store and Post Office Renovations

The contractor has been busy with this project and is working on the display cabinets in his workshop. The electrical portion of the project is complete, the pocket doors are installed and the windows are refurbished and in place. The sheetrock is in and the flooring will arrive next week. The completion date for the project is approximately one month. The Commissioners decided that the October Parks Commission meeting will be held at the Valencia Hall for the Commissioners' in person viewing of the project. The meeting time will be changed to 6:00 p.m. to better view in the light. The neighborhood volunteers who are training to be docents for the Valencia Hall General Store will be invited to the meeting.

3. Options for Dogs Off Leash

Discussion postponed until new Parks Director reports.

Commissioner Mercer had questions about the costs of cleaning restrooms. Gretchen Iliff responded that the park restrooms are cleaned every day with the restroom at the Hook (41st Avenue) needing cleaning twice per day in the summer months. There is a diligent effort to immediately remove graffiti as it appears as well as keeping the paper products stocked at all times.

Commissioner Rosenberg asked about progress at Felt Street Park. Acting Director Samuel will meet with Redevelopment Agency to discuss the revisions made to the plan by the consultant. Further updates will be discussed at the September Commission meeting.

Gretchen Iliff reported that staff recently completed laying 90 pallets of sod and gopher proofed Michael Grey field. Commissioners compared using Parks maintenance staff with using an outside company to prepare and lay sod. It is a tremendous cost savings to use maintenance staff.

B. ACTION ITEMS

None

VII. AGENDA/MEETING FOR: Parks Commission, Monday, September 10, 2007 at 7:15 p.m. at the Government Center, Board Chambers 5th Floor, 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

A. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Moran Lake Update
2. Project Updates
3. Highland Play Structure Update
4. Proposition 50 – Polo Grounds

B. ACTION ITEMS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. (Doten/Mercer 4/0)