



County of Santa Cruz

PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

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JOE SCHULTZ, DIRECTOR

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Government Center, Board Chambers

7:15 p.m.

701 Ocean St., 5th Floor

Regular Meeting

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 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, Beth Porter

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS OR APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as presented. (Mercer/Doten 4/0)

III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes of August 13, 2007 were approved as presented (Doten/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 September 10, 2007

The Information and reports were accepted and filed as corrected. Page 8 of the Planning Status Report should read “Seacliff Improvement Association” rather than “Aptos Improvement Association”. (Minott/Doten 4/0).

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - None

V. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Acting Director Barry Samuel announced that the new Parks Director, Joe Schultz, will begin work Monday, September 17th. Mr. Schultz is the Deputy Director of Santa Clara County and prior to that, was Executive Director for the Naperville Park District in Naperville, Illinois. He has served as General Manager for Elk Grove Community Services District in Elk Grove, California; Community Services Director for the City of Rancho Cucamonga in California; Director of Parks and Recreation for Deerfield, Illinois; the Director of the National Parks Great Lakes Region and Director of Parks and Recreation for the Westmont Park

The Mission of the Santa Cruz County Department of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services is to provide safe, well designed and maintained parks and a wide variety of recreational and cultural opportunities for our diverse community

District. Joe has also served on numerous parks and recreation professional Boards and has worked as an adjunct professor at several Colleges. He currently teaches Park Planning and Design part time at West Valley College as well as teaching undergraduate and graduate courses at San Jose State University. Joe enjoys running (he has completed twenty marathons), biking and swimming and has finished over 100 triathlons. He and his family live near the beach in Santa Cruz County.

Due to Joe's teaching schedule, the October and November Commission meetings will need to be rearranged. Discussion on agreeable dates will follow the regular agenda.

VI. REGULAR AGENDA (DISCUSSION ITEMS)

A. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Project Updates

Simpkins Swim Center Renovations – the project will go out to bid next month.

Floral Park – On August 28th, the Board of Supervisors approved the conceptual master plan and directed parks and RDA to contract for design services. It is anticipated that this project will be in design next spring 2008 and final permits secured and out to bid in early 2009 and construction in spring of 2009.

Valencia Post Office- The contractor has finished the renovations and staff is staining the wall cases and will install them in the next couple of weeks. Lee Summers and Bob will then determine what exhibit material should be purchased.

Additionally, they will work with volunteers who will serve as docents for the new museum. The Parks Commission meeting in October will be held at Valencia Hall to give commissioners the opportunity to view the renovated post office in person. Joe has teaching commitments on Mondays which requires a request that the October and November meetings be switched to either Tuesday or Wednesday evenings.

Highlands Play Structure- The play structure is completed and will be opened as soon as the chipped rubber surfacing material is delivered and installed. It is anticipated that this should happen by early October. The Contractor has until October 10th to complete the job.

Anna Jean Cummings Park Slide Replacement – Staff has received a proposal to design the new embankment slide which needs to go to the Board of Supervisors for approval before design work can begin.

Anna Jean Cummings Park Parking Area – Now that the consultant has finished revising the Felt Street Park plans, he can begin to submit to Planning to obtain permits by the beginning of November. It should be ready for construction by late spring 2008.

Moran Lake Butterfly Habitat Project – The consultant has completed 60% of the 50% construction plans. Once they are completed, the 50% plans will be sent to Planning to begin the environmental review process. It is anticipated that the 50% plans will be completed in about 2 months.

Seacliff Park - The process of submitting the application for Proposition 12 funding has begun in order to purchase the Seacliff property on McGregor. The purchase will be complete by the beginning of November, 2007.

Polo Grounds Prop 50 Project – Funding has been approved for the Polo Grounds project. The well will be utilized by the Soquel Water District – a quarter acre will be either leased or purchased by the Water district. The Department will receive free water for 50 years and the Parks Department will have an artificial turf field installed as part of the grant. In addition, a sewer line will be installed for the treatment plant Soquel Water will be building near the well and when funds are available, a permanent restroom will be installed.

2. Review of 2007 Parks Commission Annual Report

Acting Director Samuel composed the Parks Commission annual report. Accomplishments for 2007 are listed as well as goals for 2008.

Commissioner Rosenberg suggested adding the small dog park area at Polo Grounds as an accomplishment and Commissioner Minott commented on the addition of the shade structure and water fountain at the Polo Grounds dog park as definite improvements. Two suggestions for additional 2008 goals were hiring an additional park planner and upgrading the Park's Department website. This item will be on the agenda for October as an action item and suggestions or additions will be welcome.

Attendance looks good for all commissioners this year.

B. ACTION ITEMS

None

VII. AGENDA/MEETING FOR: Parks Commission, October 9, 2007 at 7:15 p.m. at Valencia Hall, 2555 Valencia Road, Aptos, CA 95003

A. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Tour of Renovated Post Office
2. Meet the new Director, Joe Schultz

B. ACTION ITEMS

1. Approve 2007 Parks Commission Annual Report

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. (Mercer/Doten 4/0)