



County of Santa Cruz

PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

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JOE SCHULTZ, DIRECTOR

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, June 9, 2008

Government Center, Board Chambers

7:15 p.m.

701 Ocean Street

Regular Meeting

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:17 p.m.

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

Present: Dave Mercer, Katharine Minott, Michael Rosenberg

Staff: Joe Schultz, Gretchen Iliff, Beth Porter

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS OR APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as written (Minott/Mercer 3/0).

III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes of May 12, 2008 were approved as written (Minott/Mercer 3/0)

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 May 5, 2008

The Information and reports were accepted and filed as amended. An item was moved from the Planning Division status report to tonight's regular agenda, item #4. (Mercer/Minott 3/0).

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - None

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Schultz discussed use of artificial turf for sports fields. There have been meetings to collaborate on installing artificial turf at Polo Grounds (Director Schultz, Gretchen Iliff, Laura Brown from Soquel Creek Water District, Bingham from the Italian synthetic turf company, Lance Linares from the Community Foundation). water conservation and maintenance would see improvements from artificial turf however, the cost is huge. Discussion is on going toward finding the money to fund this project. Working on using grey water, but that will take a few

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

years minimum. Need restroom at Polo and free water for recreation – we use 80,000 gallons a day in peak season which we have to make and store to use.

Floral Park public meeting set for evening of September 11th to meet with residents around area. We're still working on it, going back to community to show them proposed restroom location. Will have Park Planners at next meeting to discuss details.

VI. REGULAR AGENDA (DISCUSSION ITEMS)

1. **Budget update from Director Schultz:** Proposed budget for 08/09 General Fund represents reduction of \$18.6 million for the County. For Parks Department, budget recommends holding four positions unfunded for the year, resulting in condition of parks being affected, internal planning and graffiti abatement will be delayed. On June 16th the budget process begins with public hearing in Watsonville, and on June 17th a public hearing in Santa Cruz at Government Center. The last day of budget hearings is June 26th. The off-road vehicle fund is money that comes back to the county when a person purchases an off-road vehicle. It is used to repair damage done by off-road vehicles for fences, to monitor property, and repair roads.
2. **Park Dedication Fees:** Affordable Housing is paying park fees, \$1,000 per bedroom. Projected that twenty units has approximately 55 bedrooms, so about \$50,000 generated at McGregor site for park fees. Previous exemption for low income was eliminated. Church is trying to find offset credits, South County Housing is not working on that at all.
3. **McGregor Park Site:** Visioning meeting was held on May 14th and there was a lot of input about wants/wishes, and staff working on sketches. Will have next meeting on July 23rd at 7:00 PM, co-sponsored by Seacliff Improvement Association. Will present at September meeting to present the master plan to Board of Supervisors in December.
4. **Water Hyacinth at Freedom Lake:** Christina James is managing this project and we have contracted with grants writer to explore grants for funding. Meeting on June 11th at 10:00 AM at Aptos Historical Society for neighbors and Ellen Pierie and staff to provide update on how to eradicate without chemicals. The lake was drained and the area farmed for one season, but then it filled up again. Parks has applied for stream bed alteration permit, and John Gilchrist is doing a habitat study. Water assessment districts may have generated funds which can be used along with Public Works resources.

VII. AGENDA/MEETING FOR: Parks Commission, August 11, 2008 at 7:15 PM at the Board Chambers, 5th floor, 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 (Government Center).

A. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Floral Park
2. Update on McGregor

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. (Minott/Mercer 3/0)