

CITY OF PETALUMA
RECREATION, MUSIC AND PARKS COMMISSION
MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, September 17, 2003
7:00 p.m.

Petaluma Community Center
320 North McDowell Blvd.
Multi-use Meeting Rooms

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Hagen, Kinsella, McCoy*, Moynihan, Ramirez, Tarr

Commissioners Absent: Nau

Staff Present: Carr, Anchordoguy, Stewart

Chair*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 20, 2003

Elaine Ramirez moved that the minutes be approved as submitted, seconded by Bryant Moynihan,
4 AYES, 2 ABSTEIN, 1 ABSENT

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Carr – Correspondence received regarding item on the agenda - City Hall West Lawn designated as a dog run area.

COMMISSION OFFICERS AND REGORGANIZATION

a. Chair – Bryant Moynihan nominated Marja Tarr as the Commission’s Chair, seconded by Ken McCoy, unanimously approved.

b. Vice-Chair – Bryant Moynihan nominated John Kinsella as Vice-Chair, seconded by Ken McCoy, unanimously approved.

c. Meeting Days and Time – Every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.

d. Appointments of Commissioners to Committees – Commissioners will be approaching Karen Nau at the next meeting to find out if she wishes to serve as an “Alternate” on one of the committees.

e. Park Assignments – Remain the same.

OLD BUSINESS

1) McNear Peninsula Phase I – Conceptual Plan – Scott Duiven

Carr – Described the site location and introduced City Planner Scott Duiven.

Scott Duiven gave a presentation of the McNear Peninsula Phase I Improvement Project. Mr. Duiven mentioned that the draft conceptual site plan has been presented to property owners who live near the site and to the Petaluma Bicycle Advisory Committee (PBAC) for input. The PBAC offered comments and recommendations, but overall was very supportive of the project design. Based on the data and input gathered along with site analyses, the draft conceptual site plan was developed.

1 Regarding funding, he indicated that the City has available \$500,000 for the project and is hoping to
2 obtain more funding from charitable organizations such as the Rotary Clubs.

3
4 Following presentation, he requested that the Recreation, Music, and Parks Commission recommend
5 approval of the Draft Conceptual Site Plan to the City Council. Following City Council 's approval,
6 staff anticipates putting the project out to bid early in 2004 with construction beginning in spring 2004
7 and project completion by 2005.

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9 **Carr-** Mentioned that Jerico Products is a river dependent industry as well as Shamrock and Pomeroy.
10 He emphasized the need to maintain these businesses because without them and their commercial
11 tonnage on the river, the Army Corps of Engineers will not dredge the river. If the dredging is lost, the
12 river will silt in and be lost to navigation and water activities. Problems regarding flooding will also
13 resurface. The Petaluma Specific Plan is keying on the Petaluma River as the main focus of our
14 community.

15
16 Chair Marja Tarr requested Commissioners comments:

17
18 **John Kinsella** – Suggested:

- 19 • Introducing an educational component i.e. nature planting
- 20 • Displaying sculptured pieces at the site
- 21 • Constructing a bandstand for music presentation
- 22 • Fencing with plantings along path

23
24 **Ken McCoy** – Suggested a boardwalk through the marsh area.

25 General Plan Administrator Pamela Tuft indicated that a boardwalk will be developed further into the
26 peninsula.

27
28 **Bruce Hagen** – Asked that staff consider wind protection for picnic areas, establish a volunteer group
29 to help with river maintenance, education and patrolling, and work with neighboring business to
30 protect the river.

31
32 **Bryant Moynihan** – Presented liability and security concerns on the boardwalk and boat launch areas
33 and suggested that staff request the City Risk Manager to review the issue.

34
35 Ken McCoy moved, seconded by John Kinsella and unanimously approved to accept the Conceptual
36 Plan as presented with the suggestion that the Risk Manager review the concerns for safety railings on
37 the boardwalk area and docks.

38 39 **2) Gatti Park Conceptual Design – Gretchen Stranzl McCann/Bart Ito**

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41 **Carr** – Introduced Landscape Architect Gretchen Stanzl McCann and Project Manager Bart Ito. Carr
42 indicated that at an initial meeting, staff provided them with the input received at the July public
43 meeting. After a few meetings and discussions with staff, they developed two conceptual designs that
44 they will be presenting tonight.

45
46 Gretchen Stanzl McCann and Bart Ito presented Conceptual Design “A” and “B” and presented the
47 differences between the two designs.

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1 After a lengthy discussion, it was the general consensus of the Commission to recommend that
2 Gretchen Stranzl McCann revise Plan “A” with the suggestions discussed, and present the new design
3 at a special meeting scheduled on September 24 at 6 p.m. at the Petaluma Community Center.

4 **NEW BUSINESS**

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6 **1) City Hall West Lawn designated as a dog run area - Carr**

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8 **Nancy Believeau** -204 Bassett Street – Informed the Commission that she has obtained a petition from
9 neighbors who live adjacent to City Hall proposing to make the City Hall West lawn an off-leash dog
10 run area.

11
12 Ms. Believeau read two letters from neighbors in favor of the proposal, who were unable to attend the
13 meeting.

14
15 **Carr** – Read correspondence received in favor and against the petition. Carr indicated that staff
16 recommends against turning the West lawn of City Hall into an off-leash dog run area due to the
17 potential danger for errant dogs.

18
19 Elaine Ramirez moved that the Commission recommend to the City Council to designate the following
20 hours to exercise dogs at the West lawn of City Hall. The motion was seconded by John Kinsella and
21 unanimously approved.

- 22
23 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. – Monday-Sunday
24 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. – Monday–Sunday (August–October)
25 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. – Monday–Sunday (November–July)

26
27 **DIRECTOR’S REPORT** – *Jim Carr, Director of Parks and Recreation*

28
29 **a. Rocky Dog Park** – Mentioned that some dog owners are taking very aggressive dogs to the park.
30 Staff has received complaint letters about the matter. The City Manager has asked Animal Control to
31 start patrolling the park. Staff is considering placing more signage.

32
33 **b. Marina Dredging Project** – Is out to bid

34
35 **c. Lafferty Tour** - John Crossman from State Parks, who is acting as a temporary Regional Director
36 in this area, is interested in touring the Lafferty Ranch area and is available on the following dates:
37 September 25, 29, or 30. Following discussion, Commissioners Marja Tarr, Elaine Ramirez and Bruce
38 Hagen scheduled a tour of the site on Thursday, September 25 at 3 p.m. Carr indicated that he will be
39 inviting Councilmembers Mike Harris and Pamela Torliatt.

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41 **ADJOURNMENT** –

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43 The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.
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