

CITY OF PETALUMA
RECREATION, MUSIC, AND PARKS COMMISSION
MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, July 21, 2004

*Petaluma Community Center
320 North McDowell Blvd.
Conference Room No. 2*

7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Hagen, Kinsella, Nau, Noriel, Moynihan, Ramirez, Tarr*
Staff Present: Carr, Ancho doguy, Stewart

*Chair**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 19, 2004

Bryant Moynihan moved that the minutes be approved as submitted, seconded by Elaine Ramirez,

AYES: 6, ABSTEIN: 1, ABSENT: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1) Hal Warren – 905 Mustang Court - Asked about the status of the Senior Center Renovation project.

Carr – Four bids were received for the Senior Center Expansion Project and the lowest bid was submitted by Carr’s Construction at \$714,395. Since \$500,000 has been budgeted for the project, Carr is negotiating with the contractor and doing some values engineering to find out if the project scope and price can be reduced. Once a new bid is obtained, Carr and the City Manager will be presenting a recommendation to the City Council for approval.

Carr commented that as long as the contractor reduces the cost, there is additional funding available from Prop. 40 monies and other sources to proceed with the project.

Over the years, the seniors have raised about \$30,000 for the project. Recently, one of the seniors, who asked to remain anonymous, donated \$10,500 towards the project.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

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OLD BUSINESS

1) Kenilworth School Site Sale – Update – Carr

Carr - The Kenilworth School site has been sold and the new school facility is under construction. The opening date has been scheduled for September 2005.

In regards to field relocation, staff has been meeting with National Little League to consider alternative sites to place the three little league fields and the 90’ baseball diamond. As a potential site, staff is considering Petaluma Junior High School and the school district is receptive to the idea. The National Little League would like to relocate to McNear Park. A concern with McNear Park is that Petaluma High School baseball and softball, St. Vincent’s High School baseball, and DiMaggio baseball would have to be relocated.

The City Manager will be negotiating with the school district to request financial participation.

The decision about the location of the National Little fields will have to be in place by Spring 2006. The impact on the McNear Park neighborhood regarding traffic and noise would have to be discussed at public meetings.

Bryant Moynihan – Asked about the possibility of relocating the fields to the fairgrounds.

Carr indicated that the fairgrounds is not a permanent location - When the lease terminates in about twenty years, the ball fields would have to be relocated again.

There was discussion regarding alternative locations for the ball fields, swimming pool, and skate park.

Following discussion, Carr indicated that he will be meeting with Fairgrounds Manager Tawny Tesconi to discuss shared uses of the fairgrounds. Bryant Moynihan volunteered to participate.

2) Aquatic Center Planning Process - Carr

Carr – Staff sent out a request for proposal (RFP) to six firms that are experienced in building swimming pool complexes throughout the state - The proposals are due on July 23. Carr will be scheduling interviews during the week of August 2nd. Staff is recommending that one Recreation Commissioner, four members from the Aquatics Advisory Committee, and four staff members participate in the interview process. After the interviews, staff will be making a recommendation to the City Council.

Staff would like to obtain suggestions from the consultants regarding a possible site, type of facility, operational costs, and revenue production in order to operate the facility.

Following discussion, Elaine Ramirez volunteered to be in the interview panel to choose the consultant.

Boys and Girls Club Pool Renovation - Carr mentioned that a copy of the Boys and Girls Club pool renovation proposal was included in the Commission’s packet. The City Council has recommended \$170,000 to match a County grant to renovate the pool. Staff from the Boys and Girls Club mentioned

1 that two contracting firms have estimated that it would cost about \$500,000 to renovate the pool.
2 Carr's recommendation is that a licensed architect with expertise in building aquatics facilities be
3 chosen for planning the renovation.
4

5 Bryant Moynihan moved that the Parks and Recreation staff review the proposed Boys and Girls Club
6 pool design and if necessary seek peer review to ensure that the architect chosen has the proper
7 experience in designing indoor aquatic facilities in order to protect the City's financial contribution.
8 Bruce Hagen seconded, unanimously approved.
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10 **3) 5-Yr. Capital Improvement Program - Carr**

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12 **Carr** – The City Council reviewed the 5-year Capital Improvement Program on July 14, 2004. The
13 budget that the City Council reviewed was somewhat different than what the Commission had
14 reviewed at their meeting of May 19, 2004.
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16 Among the changes, the City Council appropriated full funding for the Gatti Park project. The project
17 is expected to start the beginning of August. Staff has been signing contracts and will be giving
18 contractors a notice to proceed. In-line hockey will be the only amenity dropped from the project. The
19 project will cost slightly over \$3 million.
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21 Due to the authorization of the Gatti park project, most projects were moved out 1-3 years due to
22 availability of funding. The funding for the Boys and Girls Club pool for \$170,000 was authorized and
23 staff will be identifying the funding sources. The Petaluma Jr. High School renovation project is now
24 called the Carter field relocation project. Funds have been identified for the aquatics center and the
25 skate park. These three projects were identified as being funded by developers' contributions.
26

27 Staff also has identified the Proposition 40 projects list, which is included in the Commission's packet.
28 The program includes restroom and irrigation repairs, painting in parks, tennis courts resurfacing at
29 McNear, Lucchesi and Del Oro Parks, and fencing for Rocky dog park.
30

31 Don Phoenix is currently working on the plans and specifications to resurface the tennis courts and Ed
32 Anchoroguy will be working on park restrooms and path paving projects.
33

34 The City Council has also recommended not to identify the Community Gymnasium and Performing
35 Arts projects. Councilmembers mentioned that the Petaluma School District was planning on
36 constructing performing art centers at both high schools. Carr reviewed the list of projects and
37 discussed funding sources.
38

39 **Elaine Ramirez** – Expressed the need for a second dog park.
40

41 **Bryant Moynihan** – Suggested that developers contribute with operating costs for maintenance when
42 building neighborhood parks.
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44 **Carr** – The City Manager is in favor of that idea in order to pay for park maintenance.
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4 **COMMISSIONERS REPORTS**
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6 **1. Bryant Moynihan –**

7 **a. Westridge Area** – There is an ongoing problem around the bench across from the playground. He
8 has found drug paraphernalia, beer bottles, and garbage. During the summer, young people congregate
9 regularly around that bench.

- 10 • The two Redwood trees next to the bench need to be trimmed.
11 • The canopy of trees in the whole area need to be trimmed, particularly next to the playground area.
12 • There is some graffiti on the park sign next to the playground.
13 • The maintenance crew pulled all the weeds from Westridge Park, cleared the creek area, and did
14 some planting. Unfortunately, some cattails have come back in a couple of areas.

15 **b. Dog Park** – Looks attractive and is very popular.
16

17 **2. Karen Nau –**

18 **a. Skate Park** – Bikes continue to be used at the skate park.

19 **b. Sunrise Park** – Needs watering.

20 **c. Accordion Festival** – Was very enjoyable - A great number of accordionists were playing at
21 Putnam Plaza, Museum and the Farmers Market.

22 **d. Quilt Show** – Will take place on August 14.

23 **e. Museum** – Ron Walters and his band will be playing in the back of the Museum on August 22.
24

25 **3. Bruce Hagen -**

26 **a. Putnam Plaza** – There is an attractive outdoor dining area provided by one of the restaurants,
27 which makes Putnam Plaza a very inviting place.

28 **b. Country Club Open Space – (McNear Avenue) –**

- 29 • The cabling near the bench has been knocked down.
30 • The existing play structure seems to be enjoyed by many people.
31 • There is a steep “trail” covered with cut grass that goes up the hill. He suggested that the Petaluma
32 Friends of Trails, as a project, cut a switch back and make a real trail. There are metal signs located
33 every hundred feet up the slope that read: “stay on trail.” He suggested re-using those signs and
34 removing the “trail head” sign at the entrance.
35

36 **4. Joe Noriel -**

37 **a. Shollenberger Park** – Suggested placing a visible sign at the entrance of the park.

38 **Carr** – Staff will be placing a large sign on the gate that will be visible when traveling northbound or
39 southbound.

40 **b. Walnut Park Gazebo** – Was approached by a church group asking about the possibilities of
41 putting a holiday concert at the park.

42 **Carr** – An agreement with neighbors of Walnut Park was to keep concerts using amplified music to a
43 minimum - Suggested using the gazebo at Gatti Park when it is constructed.
44

45 **5. Elaine Ramirez -**

46 **a. Miwok Park** – Noticed a new park sign.

47 **b. Kenilworth Park** – Noticed that the grass is turning brown around the Petaluma library.

1 **Ed Anchordoguy** – The irrigation controller is in the construction zone. Once the construction is
2 finished, the irrigation will be reconnected. The contractor is in charge of redoing the lawn.
3 Ms Ramirez noticed that the sand volleyball is being used frequently.

4 • There is a small tree that is leaning over on the playground side of Kenilworth Park (corner of
5 Fairgrounds Drive and Payran).

6 **c. Marina** – The Petaluma River is being used very heavily this summer. There are people in kayaks
7 and canoes. Also, dogs are enjoying the river very much. People and dogs seem to get along very
8 well. She would like to see an area in the McNear Peninsula for swimming that is open to dogs and
9 their owners.

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11 **6. John Kinsella** -

12 **a. Oak Hill Park** – Mowing is done quite well this year.

13 • Two large oak trees fell in the last two months. It looks as if there is a dead Valley Oak.

14 • There is graffiti on the cement, benches, and play structure.

15 • There is a lot of weeds in the front area of the park.

16 **Ed Anchordoguy** – The maintenance crew will be trimming the trees on Parkside Terrace, the dead
17 tree will be removed and weeding will be done as soon as possible. Mr. Anchordoguy reported that
18 staff is very short handed.

19 **b. Sunrise Park** – Is mowed and looks fine; the asphalt pathway is cracked

20 **Ed Anchordoguy** – Staff is considering moving the pathway against the creek in order to open up the
21 center area.

22 **c. Cavanagh Community Garden** – Looks terrific. There are many vegetables available and flowers
23 are being planted along the fence.

24

25 **Marja Tarr** – No report.

26

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

28

29 **a. Gatti Park** – The project will start in the near future.

30 **b. Senior Center** – Staff is hopeful that the project will be starting soon.

31 **c. East Washington Creek Path and Multi-Use Trail** (Sonoma Mountain Parkway to Prince Park) -
32 Quarry fines will be used for the trails instead of asphalt since they are ADA accessible and less
33 expensive to maintain.

34 **d. Tolay Lake** - On July 19, Mike Kerns made a presentation about the Tolay Lake project off of
35 Lakeville Highway. On September 15, there will be another public meeting at the PCC at 7 p.m.
36 regarding the project. Since it is the same night at the regular Commission meeting, Carr suggested that
37 Commissioners attend the meeting in-lieu of the Commission meeting.

38 Following discussion, it was the general consensus of the Commission to schedule the September 15
39 Commission meeting at 6 p.m. in order to attend the Tolay Lake presentation at 7 p.m.

40 **e. Summer Camps** – Camps are in progress with attendance at full capacity.

41 **f. Movies in the Park** – Are taking place at McNear Park and are being very successful.

42 **g. Mannion Meadows Park** – A public meeting will be scheduled to discuss the project and obtain
43 public input. Carr will inform the Commission about the date.

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45 **ADJOURNMENT** –

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47 Bruce Hagen moved seconded by John Kinsella to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.