

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 7, 2014
Meeting Held at the Board of Supervisors' Chambers
400 County Center, Redwood City

Chair Merrilees called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Cooney, Enriquez (Vice Chair), Merrilees (Chair), Okelo, Pincus,

Commissioners Absent: Ruehl (Youth Commissioner)

Staff: Finley, Arechiga, Bennett, Hallett, Harris, Herzberg, Lombardi, Kraemer, Schoof, Weaver

Oral Communications

Ms. Anne Farrell, Peninsula Disc Golf Club, said she was an avid disc golfer and supported disc golf use at Junipero Serra County Park.

Mr. Michael Infusino, President, the Peninsula Disc Golf Club, made various comments supporting disc golf courses in San Mateo County Parks, in particular at Junipero Serra Park.

Mr. Les Swift, Peninsula Disc Golf Club, said he supported the installation of a disc golf course at Junipero Serra County Park as it would be an excellent recreational resource for the community.

Mr. Perry Peterson, San Bruno resident, said he opposed the installation of a disc golf course at Junipero Serra County Park because of the potential harm to people and trees, and concerns with noise associated with the use.

Mr. Bill Giusti, San Bruno resident, said he opposed the installation of a disc golf course at Junipero Serra County Park noting he visited the disc golf course at Golden Gate Park and saw damage to trees used in the course. He said seniors use Junipero Serra County Park regularly and he was concerned for their safety if there was a disc golf course.

Agenda Amendments

There were none.

Consideration of Minutes

Regular Meeting of June 5, 2014

San Mateo County
Parks and Recreation Commission
August 7, 2014
Draft Minutes

Staff noted suggested changes on page 9 under heading “Natural Resource Management,” 2nd line, to read “Cypress Grove” rather than “Cypress Forest,” and on page 10 under heading “Support Services” to read “Pigeon Point guardrail” rather than “Pillar Point Bluff guardrail.”

Commission Action: M/S Cooney/Enriquez to approve the minutes with the noted changes.

Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Okelo abstaining and Youth Commissioner Ruehl not in attendance.

Presentations

Director Finley introduced Mr. Jeff Weaver, newly hired Fiscal Office Specialist, to the Commission.

Director's Report

Director Finley presented a PowerPoint report on numerous topics, including:

- Creation of family camping sites in the Toyon area at Huddart Park for use mid-week;
- Youth camping at San Bruno Mountain State and County Park, Junipero Serra and San Pedro Valley County Parks;
- Issuance of a request for proposals for additional water storage and improved water systems at Memorial Park;
- Reuse of artificial turf from College of San Mateo at Flood Park;
- Folger Stable arena upgrade and upcoming Friends of Huddart and Wunderlich Parks “Carts to Cars” fundraiser;
- Upgrades to pathway for the Interpretive Center at Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve;
- Grand Jury Report on Devil’s Slide Trail regarding safety and equestrian use;
- Citizen complaints regarding number of buses on King’s Mountain Road for Girl Scout day camping;
- Marina staff assist with rescue;
- Rotary Club donation of additional gardening plots at Friendship Park;
- Playground installation at Moss Beach Park;
- Celebration of the acquisition of the 374-acre Loma Mar Redwoods parcel,
- Memorial Park 90th anniversary activities including Bio-Blitz on September 27;
- and toward the future how to acquire a “banana slug” van to provide transit from urban to rural areas.

Action Items

Review and Approve Staff's Proposal to Develop a Dog Management Strategy for San Mateo County Parks

Staff Comment: Director Finley said the Commission had received staff's proposal to develop a Dog Management Strategy for San Mateo County Parks including the estimated staff time needed and the associated cost. She noted the attached report entitled "San Mateo County Parks-Overview of Issues Related to Dog Access" that was written by the Natural Resource Manager (NRM).

NRM Arechiga said that County Ordinance Code 3.60.80 generally prohibits any pets in San Mateo County Parks, which creates conflict with newer parkland acquisitions that have historically allowed dogs.

Public Comment: Mr. Perry Peterson said he was supportive of such a study noting that the "No Dogs" signs at Junipero Serra County Park tend to get removed by park visitors on a regular basis.

Mr. David Levine, Menlo Park, said he lives next door to Flood Park and supported allowing dogs in San Mateo County Parks.

Chair Merrilees closed the public comment period.

Commission Comment: Commissioners offered various comments of support for the study noting the need for dog waste bags and monitoring, and a general preference for leashed dogs.

Commission Action: M/S Pincus/Okelo to approve staff's proposal to develop a Dog Management Strategy for San Mateo County Parks as outlined in the staff report.

Motion carried 5-0 with Youth Commissioner Ruehl not in attendance.

Marina

Harbormaster's Report

Harbormaster Hallett provided additional information on the rescue that Marina staff assisted with recently.

Operations and Maintenance Activities

Superintendent's Report

Park Superintendent Lombardi said staff had no additions to the written report.

Volunteer Programs and Activities

Community Programs Specialist Schoof reported that the recent Take A Hike at Junipero Serra County Park had over 60 participants and she noted there were numerous large picnic sites being used that Saturday

Natural Resource Management

Natural Resource Manager Report

NRM Arechiga said she had no additions to her written report.

Support Services

FY 2013-14 Year End Budget Report

Management Analyst Castillo provided the Commission with a verbal report on the FY 2013-14 Year-End Budget.

Commissioner Pincus asked for information on revenue sources and amounts.

Park Planning Report

Senior Planner Herzberg reported on land dedications from developers under the San Bruno Mountain Habitat Conservation Plan and the need to renew the agreement with State Parks for the operation and maintenance of San Bruno Mountain State and County Park by the County. He said the State was also requiring a report from the County on use and maintenance.

Commissioner Okelo asked that the Commission receive a copy of the report staff would make to the state on San Bruno Mountain State and County Park.

Alternative Funding and Program Development Report

Consultant Harris said there were no additions to her written report.

Commissioner Pincus left the meeting at 6 p.m.

Friends and Subcommittees

Parks and Recreation Foundation

Executive Director Bott reported on the Tour de Peninsula.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Enriquez said he hosted a Day in the Park on June 7.

Commissioner Okelo said he had received information from the Executive Officer of the San Mateo Local Agency Formation Commission on how services in unincorporated areas are provided.

Chair Merrilees reported that Commissioner Okelo and he, the subcommittee on Mini- and Pocket Parks for unincorporated San Mateo County, wanted to recruit more representatives from the different unincorporated areas to serve on the subcommittee.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.