MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
CITY OF MONTEREY
THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2006
7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER, FEW MEMORIAL HALL
MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA 93940

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chairperson McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked the Secretary to call for roll.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present:	Canepa, Cooney, Laughton, McCarthy, Menendez-Herbst
Commissioners Absent:	Marotta, Woodward (Excused)
Military Liaison Present:	None
Staff Present:	Recreation and Community Services Director Russo, Deputy Public Works Director Stafford, Recording Secretary Nash, Office Assistant II Cruz

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of Thursday, March 16, 2006
   Action: Approved as submitted (5-0-2, Marotta, Woodward absent)

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

AGENDA ITEMS:

2. Presentation from Richard Ruccello Regarding Historical Mural at Shoreline Park

Action: Received letter proposal from Richard Ruccello regarding installation of a tile mural of the Vizcaino Oak Tree on the retaining wall on the Recreation Trail south of Wharf II. Presentation made by Deputy Public Works Director Stafford; Commission discussion of proposal.

Deputy Public Works Director Stafford stated that Richard Ruccello had to attend the Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) meeting tonight and was unable to be here to make his presentation. Deputy Public Works Director Stafford read a letter from Mr.

Ruccello outlining his proposal to install a historical tile mural of the Vizcaino Oak Tree along the Recreation Trail on the retaining wall just south of Wharf II. He stated that the funding for this project would be generated by the sale of artwork tiles. The Commission would like to see the tiles sold as memorial tiles because people love to donate to projects that will have their names or memorial tributes on them. The Commission was very supportive of this proposal.

3. Design Approval – Lower Presidio Historic Park Walkway

Action: Approved Design of Lower Presidio Historic Park Walkway as submitted (5-0-2, Marotta, Woodward absent)

Deputy Public Works Director Stafford presented the staff report. He stated that the proposed walkway would connect the Downtown area to New Monterey providing a safer alternative route for pedestrians in place of the Lighthouse Curve sidewalk. He said the path will be constructed of decomposed granite spread on top of a felt cloth and that non-invasive and non-destructive methods of construction will be used in order to preserve the archeologically significant area. This project is funded by the Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP).

The Commission discussed the design and layout of the proposed walkway project and supported the concept and design presented. Once the walkway is completed, they would like to see signage from the Recreation Trail area directing people to the Lower Presidio Historic Park Walkway to help promote visitation to the Historic Park and the Museum.

On a motion by Commissioner Canepa, seconded by Commissioner Cooney, and carried by the following vote, the Parks and Recreation Commission approved the Design of the Lower Presidio Historic Park Walkway as submitted:

AYES:	5	COMMISSIONERS:	Canepa, Cooney, Laughton, McCarthy, Menendez-Herbst
NOES:	0	COMMISSIONERS:	None
ABSENT:	2	COMMISSIONERS:	Marotta, Woodward

4. Direction on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update – Community Priorities

Action: Approved updated priorities in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan (5-0-2, Marotta, Woodward absent)

Deputy Public Works Director Stafford presented the staff report. He stated that the Commission has received the census data, neighborhood input and tonight will review the community priorities of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Commission reviewed each of the community areas and the citywide needs and made deletions, corrections and additions to the existing plan regarding community priorities. The changes made in the community area priorities were based on neighborhood input, whether the project was still feasible, and if the project has been completed it was

removed from the list. The changes made in the citywide needs were deletions of completed projects, added wording to the Youth Center project saying "phased options to be discussed", and the addition of two priorities: Disk Golf Park – pursuing site; and Wedding Park – pursue sites for outdoor wedding/receptions. Deputy Public Works Director Stafford stated that staff will update the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and that a background reference will be included on all changes. He said the final review and approval should be completed at the next Commission meeting.

On a motion by Commissioner Cooney, seconded by Commissioner Laughton, and carried by the following vote, the Parks and Recreation Commission approved the updated community priorities for all community areas and citywide needs in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

AYES:	5	COMMISSIONERS:	Canepa, Cooney, Laughton, McCarthy, Menendez-Herbst
NOES:	0	COMMISSIONERS:	None
ABSENT:	2	COMMISSIONERS:	Marotta, Woodward

STAFF INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

The Commission received the following reports:

5. Monthly Reports:
a. Recreation and Community Services Department – March 2006
b. Parks Division – March 2006

6. Spring Music Recital at Hilltop Park Center

STAFF COMMENTS:

Deputy Public Works Director Stafford reported that he attended a Disk Golf Tournament at CSUMB and there were over 160 participants. He said they will have another event on May 3 at 5:30 p.m. at Carmel Middle School if the Commission would like to observe this up and coming sport. He stated that the Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) Committee will be voting on the proposed 2006-2007 projects next Thursday, April 27, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers and encouraged the Commissioners to attend.

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo informed the Commission that there is a new State Law called Ethics in Public Service and that all Commissioners must attend training prior to January 1, 2007. The City Clerk will provide them with upcoming seminar training dates. She also stated that the Parks and Recreation Commission minutes would now be done as action minutes to be consistent with the City Council and other commissions minutes. She said staff is busy with summer job recruitment and that registration for summer/fall programs begins on Thursday, May 4 at the Monterey Sports Center and on Saturday, May 6 at the Recreation office. She reported that on May 7 there will be an Emergency Preparedness Forum at Del Monte Center. Director Russo stated that the 4th of July Fundraising Subcommittee has ordered donation boxes to be placed in local businesses and are looking at other ideas to raise funds.

COMMISSIONER AND MILITARY LIAISON COMMENTS:

Commissioner Canepa said he has noticed that the litter hasn't been as bad in the Downtown area lately. He also said that the path around Lake El Estero is covered with goose droppings and is unpleasant. The parks are nice and green – go visit a park.

Commissioner Laughton asked if the gates at Anthony's Gate are being replaced. Deputy Public Works Director Stafford stated that because of their historical value, they have been sent to Santa Cruz for repairs. Commissioner Laughton stated that on the news they showed that Santa Cruz is strongly enforcing the use of safety equipment in their Skate Park and issuing citations.

NEXT MEETING:

- The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will be Thursday, May 18, 2006 at 7:00 p.m., City Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice Chairperson McCarthy adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

The agenda for this meeting was posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting outside Few Memorial Hall of Records.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Russo, Director Recreation and Community Services Department	Dennis McCarthy, Vice Chairperson Parks and Recreation Commission