

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**CITY OF MONTEREY**  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2007**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBER, FEW MEMORIAL HALL**  
**MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA 93940**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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, Marotta, McCarthy, Menendez-Herbst, Woodward

**Commissioners Absent:** None

**Military Liaison Present:** None

**Staff Present:** Deputy Public Works Director Stafford, Deputy Public Works Director Turnbeaugh, Recreation Superintendent Vierra, Recreation Supervisor Beltran, Recording Secretary Nash

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of Thursday, November 16, 2006  
*Action: Approved as submitted (7-0-0).*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

2. **Presentation to Former Chairperson Mike Marotta**

*Action: Plaque presentation.*

Chairperson McCarthy, on behalf of the Commission and staff, presented Commissioner Mike Marotta with an Award of Appreciation, acknowledging his excellent year of service as the Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Commission for 2006. He said that Mike did an outstanding job as Chairperson by representing the Commission at various City meetings and functions.

**3. Request for Guidance Regarding Potential Dog Park Sites**

***Action: Potential sites were discussed, some were eliminated due to size, layout and location. A Subcommittee was formed to further review locations and criteria.***

Deputy Public Works Director Stafford reviewed with the Commission several potential sites for a dog park and asked for guidance and direction to staff on possible sites and sites that should be eliminated. He listed seven criteria that should be considered in evaluating the various potential sites as a dog park, they include: space available, parking, neighbors, noise, park amenities, fencing, and central location. He presented a chart listing these criteria and the possible park/greenbelt locations, which included El Estero Eucalyptus Grove, Quarry Park, Don Dahvee Park, Via Paraiso Park, Monte Vista School, Laguna Grande Park, Ryan Ranch Community Park, Lower Presidio Park, and Iris Canyon greenbelt.

The Commissioners discussed the potential sites and whether a dog park would impact other uses and neighbors in these areas, be large enough, have park amenities, and enough parking available.

Roni Rubenstein, Monterey resident, spoke in favor of a dog park and is very interested in helping the City create this park. She said ideally the dog park would have separate fenced-in areas for large and small dogs, water, mutt mitts, garbage containers, benches, and signage. She said the camaraderie among the dogs and their owners is positive at dog parks. A dog park is a place where both dogs and people can meet, play and socialize. She stated that she plans to submit this as a NIP project for the upcoming fiscal year.

Robin and Scott Wiseman, Monterey residents, thanked the Commission for their consideration of a dog park and were also interested in having a designated area for small dogs. She said they take their dog to Carmel Beach and it is not a safe environment for smaller dogs.

Anne-lise Stannard, Carmel Valley resident, also thanked the Commission for considering a dog park in Monterey. She said that exercise and socialization are very important factors for a healthy, happy dog.

George Winn, Monterey resident, said that he drives his dog to Marina twice a week to allow his dog to run loose on the Fort Ord property. He said that most dog owners bring their own water and mutt mitts.

After further discussion, the Commission eliminated Quarry Park, Monte Vista School, Laguna Grande Park, and the Lower Presidio as potential dog park sites. There was also discussion to allow dogs off leash on Monterey Beach, which would require an amendment to the City Ordinance. A Subcommittee was formed with Commissioners Canepa, Cooney and Woodward to further review potential sites and report back to the Commission.

**4. Recommendation to City Council to Approve the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Lawn Party Rules and Regulations**

***Action: Recommended approval to City Council of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Lawn Party Rules and Regulations (6-1-0, Woodward voting No).***

Recreation Superintendent Vierra reviewed with the Commission the proposed rules and regulations for the City's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Lawn Party. She stated that these were designed to provide City staff with a formal list of rules and regulations to assist with the planning and implementation of the City of Monterey's 4<sup>th</sup> of July events. She also stated that these have been carefully reviewed by the City Attorney, Monterey Police Department, Monterey Fire Department, and the Recreation and Community Services Department staff.

The Commission discussed the number and types of units allowed in the Parade. They cited that this is a family and community event.

On a motion by Commissioner Canepa, seconded by Commissioner Cooney, and carried by the following vote, the Parks and Recreation Commission recommended approval to the City Council the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Lawn Party Rules and Regulations:

AYES:	6	COMMISSIONERS:	Canepa, Cooney, Laughton, Marotta, McCarthy, Menendez-Herbst
NOES:	1	COMMISSIONERS:	Woodward
ABSENT:	0	COMMISSIONERS:	None

**5. Ranking and Approving of Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) Projects for Submittal to NIP Committee for Fiscal Year 2007-2008**

***Action: The Parks and Recreation Commission approved and recommended to the Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) Committee three (3) City-wide projects in priority order for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 funding.***

Recreation Superintendent Vierra reported that the Commission's NIP Subcommittee compiled the projects that were nominated by the Commission at their November 16, 2006 meeting into three (3) City-wide projects for Fiscal Year 2007-2008. Deputy Public Works Directors Stafford and Turnbeaugh reviewed with the Commission the three projects for their consideration as selected by the Subcommittee. They informed the Commission that two projects were moved to the New Monterey Neighborhood Association for their submission to NIP: Oak Newton Tot Lot – Replace Equipment (\$50,000) and Hilltop Park Center – Resurface Basketball Court (\$80,000).

- Monterey Sports Center \$225,000  
Men's & Women's Locker Room Renovation
- Monterey Bay Park \$225,000  
Develop Landscape in Park Avenue Area

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- El Estero Lake Edge Improvement – Phase IV \$100,000

Each Commissioner ranked the projects in their priority order. Below is the results of their ranking that will be submitted to the NIP Committee:

1. Monterey Sports Center Men's & Women's Locker Room Renovation \$225,000
2. Monterey Bay Park Develop Landscape in Park Avenue Area \$225,000
3. El Estero Lake Edge Improvement – Phase IV \$100,000

Deputy Public Works Director Turnbeaugh noted that the Monterey Sports Center project to renovate the men's and women's locker room will also be submitted to the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for their review and approval to help subsidize the cost of this much needed renovation project.

**STAFF INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:**

The Commission received the following reports:

6. **Monthly Reports:**
  - a. Recreation and Community Services Department – November 2006
  - b. Parks Division – November 2006
  - c. Recreation and Community Services Department – December 2006
  - d. Parks Division – December 2006

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

Deputy Public Works Director Stafford reported that they are in the process of doing interviews to fill the vacant Pest Control Advisor position. He also reported that sprinkler systems were installed in the infields of Sollecito and Jacks ball fields, which will decrease the amount of staff time spent in watering the infields prior to ball games.

Deputy Public Works Director Turnbeaugh reported that the Van Buren bridge is under construction. He also said that the NIP kick off meeting is January 25, 2007.

Recreation Superintendent Vierra informed the Commission that the administrative office (Vasquez Adobe) had been water damaged due to the upstairs plumbing. She said the downstairs staff moved to the Monterey Youth Center and the upstairs staff was allowed to stay for now. The City is setting up two trailers behind Colton Hall and we will be relocated there until our office has been renovated. She said the contract for the transfer of the Monterey Tennis Center concession has been signed. Ms. Vierra stated that staff is working on the budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

**COMMISSIONER AND MILITARY LIAISON COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Canepa thanked the fishermen for their help in moving the City's barge "Sparky" off of the beach. He asked if garbage cans could be installed in the Ponderosa Trail area. He would like to see the transit plaza created into a park. He inquired if the agreement has been created and signed to allow disk golf in Don Dahvee Park. Deputy Public Works Director Stafford said this item is going to City Council for their review and approval.

Commissioner Woodward asked if the cold weather has affected our parks. Deputy Public Works Director Stafford said they have lost a few plants, but the parks are doing well overall.

**NEXT MEETING:**

- The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be Thursday, February 15, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., City Council Chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairperson McCarthy adjourned the meeting at 8:52 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,

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Cindy Vierra, Recreation Superintendent  
Recreation and Community Services Department

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Dennis McCarthy, Chairperson  
Parks and Recreation Commission