

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
CITY OF MONTEREY
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 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, McCarthy, Menendez-Herbst

Commissioners Absent: Marotta (Excused), Woodward (Excused)

Military Liaison Present: None

Staff Present: Recreation and Community Services Director Russo, Deputy Public Works Director Stafford, Sports Center Manager Vierra, Recreation Superintendent Vierra, Administrative Analyst Levendowski, Recording Secretary Nash

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of Thursday, January 18, 2007
Action: *Approved as submitted (5-0-2, Marotta, Woodward absent).*

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

AGENDA ITEMS:

2. **Introduction of Monterey Senior Center Community Center Director Maryrose Aiello**

Action: *Introduced Maryrose Aiello, Monterey Senior Center Director.*

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo introduced Maryrose Aiello, the new Community Center Director at the Monterey Senior Center. Maryrose holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies with a Major in Human Development from

California State University Monterey Bay. Maryrose began working for the Recreation and Community Services Department in 1999 working in the Afterschool and Playground Programs. In 2000, she was promoted to Lead Preschool Instructor at Archer Park Center and then was again promoted in 2003 as a Recreation Specialist at the Monterey Senior Center assisting the Center Director on planning, organizing, conducting and evaluating programs and activities at the Senior Center. She was also very instrumental in coordinating the Friday Social for our developmentally challenged patrons and lead numerous Golden 55 Travel events. Maryrose has excellent supervisory and administrative skills and her genuine and sincere concern for the patrons of the Senior Center made her the ideal candidate for the Community Center Director position.

3. Introduction of Office Assistant II Rose Dickson

Action: Introduced Rose Dickson, Office Assistant II / Administration.

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo introduced Rose Dickson, the new Office Assistant II in the Recreation and Community Services Department office. Rose began working for the City of Monterey in 1993 in the Building and Safety Division and from 1998 until now in the Construction Management Division. Rose has outstanding clerical and customer service skills along with extensive office management and public communication experience. Rose's positive and cheerful manner, commitment to quality service and conscientious and effective skills and abilities make her a welcome addition to our team.

4. Request to Use Monterey Beach – Ke Kai O'Uhane Outrigger Canoe Club – Saturday, May 26 and Sunday, May 27, 2007 and Saturday, June 9, 2007

Action: Recommended approval of request by Ke Kai O'Uhane Outrigger Canoe Club (5-0-2, Marotta, Woodward absent).

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo reviewed with the Commission the request of the Ke Kai O'Uhane Outrigger Canoe Club to use Monterey Beach on Saturday, May 26 and Sunday, May 27, 2007 for their Memorial Day Hoe Wa'a Canoe Race and a one day event on Saturday, June 9, 2007 from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Regatta Beach Use Permit fee of \$200.00 will be assessed for each event and a picnic BBQ Permit fee of \$45.00 per day. Director Russo said that the schedule of events and activities being proposed are consistent with past regattas. Staff has been in contact with the event representatives and have been advised that the following Beach Use Conditions can be met.

- The user group will coordinate with the Parking Division for the rental of the parking lot for the regatta events. This area will be used for parking and off-loading of the canoes. All canoes will be off-loaded before 7:00 a.m. to ensure no traffic flow problems.
- Copy of Insurance Certificate for \$1,000,000.00 listing the City as additional insured for each event.

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- The user group will be responsible for providing extra trashcans, litter pick-up during and after the event and assurance of beach clean up of the area.
- The user group fully understands the importance of cleaning the beach daily after the event. Failure to comply with this use condition will result in denial of future beach use requests.
- The user group will be responsible for providing extra portable toilets for the event.
- The user group will also coordinate with other City departments in regard to support services, i.e., Parking, Harbormaster, Coast Guard.
- The user group will designate an interim area to safely launch vessels and provide necessary spotters and cones to mark the launch area.
- The user group will park canoes back from the shoreline in order to give other beach users room along the shoreline.
- The user group will be responsible for obtaining Regatta Beach Use Permit and Picnic Permit from the Recreation and Community Services Department and paying the assessed fees prior to the event.

Commissioner Canepa motioned that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the request of the Ke Kai O'Uhane Outrigger Canoe Club to use Monterey Beach on Saturday, May 26 and Sunday, May 27, 2007 and Saturday, June 9, 2007 from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., subject to meeting the Beach Use Conditions. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cooney and carried by the following roll call vote:

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

5. Subcommittee Report Regarding Potential Dog Park Sites

Action: Report received. Parks and Recreation Commission gave direction to staff to pursue establishing a Dog Park at El Estero Park.

Deputy Public Works Director Stafford reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission Subcommittee met on Monday, February 5, 2007 to discuss potential sites to create a Dog Park. He said that at their January 18, 2007 meeting, the Commission reviewed and evaluated possible sites for a Dog Park based on several criteria to include space available, parking, neighbors, noise, park amenities, fencing, and central location. The Commission eliminated several sites based on the evaluation and criteria. He stated that the Subcommittee visited some of the remaining potential sites which included El Estero Park, Don Dahvee Park, and the eucalyptus grove along Recreation Trail A across from the Navy School.

Roni Rubenstein, Monterey resident, said there are a lot of people interested and the town is abuzz about having a Dog Park in Monterey. She likes the El Estero Park area because it has all the amenities and will overlook the lake. She asked the Commission to please make a location decision so this project can move forward.

Sharon Dwight, Monterey resident, stated there is a strong desire from the community to establish a Dog Park and that El Estero Park seems like the best location and would have the least amount of conflict with other park activities.

After discussion and reports from the Subcommittee members, the Commission agreed that the El Estero Park eucalyptus grove area would be the best location for a Dog Park. They also discussed having the Ryan Ranch Community Park as an area where dogs could be off leash. Deputy Public Works Director Stafford stated that at their March 15, 2007 meeting, he would ask the Commission to make a recommendation to the City Council to approve the El Estero Park location and design of the Dog Park.

6. Recommendation to City Council – Proposed Fee Increase

Action: Recommended City Council approval of fee increases for the Recreation and Community Services Department (5-0-2, Marotta, Woodward absent).

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo reviewed with the Commission the proposed fee increases of \$189,974. She reminded the Commission that in 2002 they determined that the fees should be reviewed every two years and recommend nominal increases where necessary rather than waiting every ten years to do so where the increase would seem more substantial. She said the proposed fee adjustments establishes new fees for programs and services that have not been adjusted during the past two years, except for the Extended Use Passes and Daily Admission rates at the Monterey Sports Center, which were adjusted last year.

Sharon Dwight, Monterey resident, stated that increasing the fees makes it hard for young adults and people on limited incomes to afford these services.

On a motion by Commissioner Cooney, seconded by Commissioner Laughton, and carried by the following vote, the Parks and Recreation Commission recommended approval to the City Council of the proposed fee increases of \$189,974 for the Recreation and Community Services Department:

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:

7. **Monthly Reports:**
 - a. **Recreation and Community Services Department – January 2007**
 - b. **Parks Division – January 2007**
8. **Cutting Day 2007**

STAFF COMMENTS:

Deputy Public Works Director Stafford reported that the City Council approved the disk golf proposal by the Stinging Jellies at Don Dahvee Park. He reminded the Commission that Cutting Day will be held on Saturday, March 17, 2007 in Friendly Plaza beginning at 9:00 a.m. He reported that after the fire on Alvarado Street, 16 Parks Division staff and 4 Streets Division staff worked very hard and quickly to clean up debris to allow safety fencing to close off the area. He reported that he has not had any success in securing the use of the Navy ball field for our programs.

Sports Center Manager Vierra reported that the Sports Center would have three major renovation projects coming up to include the men's and women's locker room renovation, replacement of the pool deck and the installation of more lights in the pool area. He said the dehumidifier was installed in December and has helped with the temperature on the pool deck area.

Recreation Superintendent Vierra updated the Commission on the Vasquez Adobe where the Recreation and Community Services Administration office is located. She said that the upstairs staff will move into the trailers so that mold abatement and renovations can be done to the building and that we are scheduled to move back to the building the first part of April. She reported that recruitment is underway to fill the vacant Recreation Specialist positions at the Monterey Senior Center and the Monterey Youth Center. She said the Youth Center had a dance for Colton School and there were 147 kids in attendance. She also said that the Senior Center held their Valentine's Day luncheon and had 100 people attend. She informed the Commission that the Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 7 at 10:00 a.m. She reported that staff is working on summer recruitment and the Summer/Fall 2007 Activities Guide.

Administrative Analyst Levendowski reported that he is working on the budget with staff and that the Recreation and Community Services Department will go live with the new payroll system the City acquired.

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo reported that the City Council will go into closed session to discuss the proposed rules and regulations for the 4th of July Parade and Lawn Party. She said that the Department is very busy getting ready for summer activities.

COMMISSIONER AND MILITARY LIAISON COMMENTS:

Commissioner Laughton thanked staff for doing such a great job.

Commissioner Canepa asked if any street trees were lost due to the Alvarado Street fire. Deputy Public Works Director Stafford said that only one tree looks damaged. Commissioner Canepa reminded the Commissioners that there are new City Council members and that they should talk with them and let them know how we feel about parks and recreation.

NEXT MEETING:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson McCarthy adjourned the meeting at 8:35 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,

Cindy Vierra, Recreation Superintendent
Recreation and Community Services Department

Dennis McCarthy, Chairperson
Parks and Recreation Commission