

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**CITY OF MONTEREY**  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 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, Marotta, McCarthy, Menendez-Herbst, Woodward

**Commissioners Absent:** Laughton (Excused)

**Military Liaison Present:** None

**Staff Present:** Recreation and Community Services Director Russo, Recreation Superintendent Vierra, Park Maintenance Supervisor Lombardo, Senior Park Maintenance Worker Marcuzzo, Recording Secretary Nash

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of Thursday, May 17, 2007  
***Action: Approved as submitted (6-0-1, Laughton absent).***

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

2. **Employee Retirement Award – Alan Robbins, Park Maintenance Supervisor – 33 Years of Service**

***Action: Chairperson McCarthy presented Alan Robbins with a plaque in appreciation for over 33 years of service to the City of Monterey.***

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo said that Alan began his tenure with the Parks Division in 1973 where he worked in the cemetery, he then moved on to the Repair Crew and was promoted to Senior Park Maintenance Worker in 1986. Alan was promoted again in 1995 to his current position of Park Maintenance Supervisor. In this

capacity, he was responsible for the parks on the West Side of Monterey and the Downtown area. Alan also assisted with the preparations for the Recreation Department's summer programs and has been a pillar of support for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Lawn Party. Alan received his State of California Pest Control Applicator's License, served as the Division's Pest Control Advisor for the past few years and has continued his horticultural education and received his AA Degree.

The Parks and Recreation Commission, Recreation and Community Services Department staff and Parks Division staff thanked Alan for a job well done and that his experience, knowledge and professionalism will be greatly missed.

**3. Recommendation that the Parks and Recreation Commission Approve Landscape Improvements on the Mohr Imports Site at Monterey Bay Park**

***Action: Approved Proposed Landscape Improvement Design for Mohr Imports site at Monterey Bay Park (6-0-1, Laughton absent).***

Senior Park Maintenance Worker Louie Marcuzzo and Park Maintenance Supervisor Anthony Lombardo presented the proposed landscape improvement plan of the Mohr Imports site and said the buildings and paving are scheduled for demolition toward the end of July. Senior Park Maintenance Worker Marcuzzo reviewed the proposed improvements for the site which include plantings and walkways that are consistent with the overall Monterey Bay Park Master Plan and with the existing plantings that are around the Mohr Imports site and Monterey Bay Park.

On a motion by Commissioner Canepa, seconded by Commissioner Marotta, and carried by the following vote, that the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend approval of the proposed landscape improvements on the Mohr Imports site at Monterey Bay Park:

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

**4. Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting – Parks Tour on July 19, 2007**

***Action: Commission recommended approval to go on a tour of park facilities on Thursday, July 19, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. (6-0-1, Laughton absent).***

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo stated that the Commission's Annual Parks Tour is normally done during the summer. Therefore, staff is proposing that the Parks Tour be scheduled for Thursday, July 19, 2007 and would like to get a consensus from the Commission if they are available on that day to go on a tour at either 4:00 p.m. or 5:00 p.m. If there is no quorum available for the park tour then the regularly scheduled Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will be cancelled due to lack of agenda items.

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On a motion by Commissioner Marotta, seconded by Commission Cooney, and carried by the following vote, that the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend approval to have a parks tour for their Thursday, July 19, 2007 Commission meeting and that the tour will begin at 5:00 p.m.:

AYES: 6 COMMISSIONERS: Canepa, Cooney, Marotta, McCarthy, Menendez-Herbst, Woodward

NOES: 0 COMMISSIONERS: None

ABSENT: 1 COMMISSIONERS: Laughton

**5. Set Date and Time for Commission Visit to Whispering Pines Day Camp and Camp Quien Sabe**

***Action: Commission recommended approval to visit Camp Quien Sabe on Wednesday, July 11, 2007 and to visit Whispering Pines Day Camp on Friday, July 20, 2007 (6-0-1, Laughton absent).***

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo presented dates for the annual Commission visits to Whispering Pines Day Camp and Camp Quien Sabe. Commissioners are asked to go directly to Whispering Pines Park for the Friday afternoon Day Camp campfire program at 1:45 p.m. Commissioners who wish to visit Camp Quien Sabe will depart from the Recreation and Community Services Department office promptly at 11:15 a.m. and travel to the campsite at Toro Park. The Commissioners will join the campers for lunch and a tour of the camp returning to the office by 1:30 p.m.

On a motion by Commissioner McCarthy, seconded by Commission Woodward, and carried by the following vote, that the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend approval to visit Camp Quien Sabe on Wednesday, July 11, 2007 at 11:15 a.m. for lunch and a tour of camp and Whispering Pines Day Camp on Friday, July 20, 2007 at 1:45 p.m. for the campfire program:

AYES: 6 COMMISSIONERS: Canepa, Cooney, Marotta, McCarthy, Menendez-Herbst, Woodward

NOES: 0 COMMISSIONERS: None

ABSENT: 1 COMMISSIONERS: Laughton

**6. 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration 2007**

***Action: Report received.***

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo gave an overview of the events for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. She said the Flag Raising Ceremony and Kick-off Parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. The parade route will be down Alvarado Street, up Del Monte Avenue and down Calle Principal. Immediately following the parade, participants and spectators are invited to continue the celebration at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Lawn Party on the grounds of historic Colton Hall. The Lawn Party takes place from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and features non-stop live music and free carnival games for the children. A variety of great bands will perform. This year's event features "Rain", a world-famous Beatles tribute band. Local non-profit groups will provide food booths or participants are welcome to bring their own picnic lunch. Following the Lawn Party, the Fireworks Display will be launched from a barge in the bay at exactly 9:15 p.m. and will be synchronized to patriotic music on KWAV Radio. Director Russo invited the Commissioners to enjoy the fireworks from a secured viewing area at the end of Wharf II.

**STAFF INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:**

The Commission received the following reports:

**7. Monthly Reports:**

**a. Recreation and Community Services Department – May 2007**

**b. Parks Division – May 2007**

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo reported that the City Council approved the City's Budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 with the exception of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and the Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) budgets. She stated they would have a special meeting for these budget items. She informed the Commission that the City is undergoing a major reclassification and salary adjustment survey and has found that the City's Recreation staff salaries are compensated below market.

Recreation Superintendent Vierra stated that it is hard to retain good employees because of the below market rate of pay. She said that they are in the recruitment process to fill the vacant Community Center Director position at Casanova Oak Knoll Park Center and the two vacant Recreation Specialists positions at Hilltop Park Center and the Monterey Youth Center. She reported that Whispering Pines Day Camp, Camp Quien Sabe and the Playground Program are going well. She said there were 100 people in attendance at the Senior Center for their monthly senior luncheon.

**COMMISSIONER AND MILITARY LIAISON COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Canepa commended Park Maintenance Supervisor Lombardo and Senior Park Maintenance Worker Marcuzzo and all of the Parks Division staff for their hard work in keeping the parks so beautiful and removing graffiti so quickly in Monterey. He said the geese seem to be causing more problems in the El Estero Park area. Park Maintenance Supervisor Lombardo stated that this is an on-going problem and that the Parks Division is always looking for new ways to deter the geese. He stated that part of the problem is that other local cities do not have plans or funding to help keep the goose population down. Commissioner Canepa said that the Lower Presidio Park is beautiful and that the City should move forward with the park's master plan.

**NEXT MEETING:**

- The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be Thursday, July 19, 2007 at a special meeting time of 5:00 p.m. to go on a tour of park facilities.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairperson McCarthy adjourned the meeting at 7:55 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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Kay Russo, Director  
Recreation and Community Services Department

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Dennis McCarthy, Chairperson  
Parks and Recreation Commission