

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**CITY OF MONTEREY**  
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2008**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBER, FEW MEMORIAL HALL**  
**MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA 93940**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ROLL CALL:**

**Commissioners Present:** Canepa, Federico, McCarthy, Menendez-Herbst, Woodward

**Commissioners Absent:** Cooney, (Excused), Marotta (Excused)

**Military Liaison Present:** None

**Staff Present:** Recreation and Community Services Director Russo, Deputy Public Works Director Stafford, Deputy Public Works Director Turnbeaugh, Recreation and Community Services Manager Vierra, Administrative Analyst Pagan, Recording Secretary Nash

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- 1. Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of Thursday, January 17, 2008**  
*Action: Approved as submitted (5-0-2, Cooney, Marotta absent).*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

- 2. Introduction of Recreation Intern Kathryn Ricks**

*Action: Introduction by Recreation and Community Services Manager Cindy Vierra.*

Recreation and Community Services Manager Vierra introduced Kathryn Ricks. Kathryn is a Recreation Intern from Brigham Young University (BYU) and will be working with our department until May 1, 2008; and her husband is a graduate student at the Institute. Kathryn will gain recreational experience by working in the various special events and at the Monterey Youth Center. As part of her internship requirements, Kathryn will be

planning and organizing a Kids Night Out event at the Youth Center on Friday, April 11. Ms. Vierra stated that Kathryn is always eager to help with all our programs and events and we are very happy to have her on our team. Kathryn will graduate from BYU on April 25 with a degree in Recreation Management Youth Leadership.

The Commission welcomed Kathryn and look forward to seeing her at future events.

Kathryn thanked the Commission for their welcome and said she is learning a lot and having fun and looks forward to working with the Commission and department.

**3. Recommendation to City Council – Proposed Fee Increase**

***Action: Recommendation to the City Council to approve the fee increases of \$141,366 for the Recreation and Community Services Department (5-0-2, Cooney, Marotta absent).***

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo reviewed with the Commission the proposed fee increases of \$141,366. 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. She stated that the fees we are increasing are consistent with the guidelines of keeping recreation program fees nominal and affordable. The following amounts of revenue will be generated based on the proposed fee increase:

Recreation Administration	\$2,595
Community Centers	\$49,090
Special Programs & Events	\$18,825
Field Sports	\$6,250
Monterey Sports Center	<u>\$64,606</u>
	\$141,366

On a motion by Commissioner Canepa, seconded by Commissioner Federico, and carried by the following vote, the Parks and Recreation Commission recommended approval to the City Council of the proposed fee increases of \$141,366 for the Recreation and Community Services Department:

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

**4. Request to Use Monterey Beach – Hobie Regattas – April 19 & 20, 2008; July 12 & 13, 2008; and October 18 & 19, 2008**

***Action: Recommended approval of request by the Northern California Division of Hobie Class Association – Hobie Fleet 240 – Santa Cruz for their Hobie regattas on Saturday, April 19 & 20, 2008; July 12 & 13, 2008; and October 18 & 19, 2008 subject to meeting the Beach Use Conditions (5-0-2, Cooney, Marotta absent).***

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo reviewed with the Commission the request of the Northern California Division of Hobie Class Association – Hobie Fleet 240 – Santa Cruz to use Monterey Beach on Saturday, April 19 and Sunday, April 20, 2008; Saturday, July 12 and Sunday, July 13, 2008; and Saturday, October 18 and Sunday, October 19, 2008 for their annual regattas from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Regatta Beach Use Permit fee of \$225.00 will be assessed for each event. 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:

1. The user group will request in writing, four months in advance of the date, approval of a Regatta Beach Use Permit. Submit request to the Recreation and Community Services Department, 546 Dutra Street, Monterey, CA 93940.
2. Copy of Insurance Certificate for \$1,000,000.00 listing the City of Monterey as additional insured for each event will be sent to the Recreation and Community Services Department.
3. The user group will coordinate with the Parking Division for the rental of the parking lot for regatta events. This area will be used for parking and off-loading of boats, canoes and hobbies. All vessels will be off-loaded before 7:00 a.m. to ensure no traffic flow problems.
4. The user group will be required to rent a garbage dumpster from Monterey Disposal and coordinate with the Harbor Office for dumpster location. The user group will be responsible for litter pick up during and after the event and assurance of beach clean up of the area. Do not leave trash bags on beach near trashcans.
5. The user group must obtain a Trash & Recycling Permit from Public Works/Solid Waste 831-646-5662. Failure to comply will forfeit event.
6. 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.
7. The user group will be responsible for providing extra portable toilets for the event.
8. The user group will also coordinate with other City departments in regard to support services, i.e., Parking, Harbormaster, Coast Guard.
9. The user group will designate an interim area to safely launch vessels and provide necessary spotters and cones to mark the launch area.

10. The user group will park vessels back from the shoreline in order to give the other beach users room along the shoreline.
11. The user group will be responsible for obtaining Regatta Beach Use Permit and picnic area permits from the Recreation and Community Services Department and paying the assessed fees once approval is granted.

On a motion by Commissioner Federico, seconded by Commissioner Canepa and carried by the following vote, that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the request of the Northern California Division of Hobie Class Association – Hobie Fleet 240 – Santa Cruz to use Monterey Beach on Saturday, April 19 and Sunday, April 20, 2008; Saturday, July 12 and Sunday, July 13, 2008; and Saturday, October 18 and Sunday, October 19, 2008 from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., subject to meeting the Beach Use Conditions:

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

**5. Approval of Public Access for Cannery Row Hotel**

***Action: Recommended approval of the Cannery Row Hotel public access plan as required by the California Coastal Commission Permit and the City of Monterey's Use Permit Conditions of Approval (5-0-2, Cooney, Marotta absent).***

Deputy Public Works Director Stafford reviewed the proposed public access plans for the Cannery Row Hotel and stated that Parks and Recreation Commission approval is a required condition of the Coastal Commission Permit for the hotel. He said the project is very impressive and has tremendous views of the bay. He said the circular plaza in front of Building A is landscaped with a boardwalk/overlook extending towards the bay between Building A and the Bubba Gump Restaurant and that the access will be open to the public between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. daily. There are three pedestrian paths from Cannery Row through the plaza to the bayside: 1) a 10-foot-wide pedestrian arcade at the eastern face of the hotel; 2) a 6-foot-wide pedestrian access path from Cannery Row between the hotel and the vehicle turnaround area; and 3) a 6-foot-wide path directly between the vehicle turnaround area and the plaza front of the Bubba Gump Restaurant. There is lateral (east-west) public access to Monterey Bay on the boardwalk/overlook along the bayside of Building A and vertical (north-south) public access to Monterey Bay from Cannery Row through the walkway next to Ed Rickett's Lab on the west-side of Building A. The public may access a portion of the courtyard, the bayside lateral access, and the west-side vertical access between 8:00 a.m. and one hour after sunset daily. There is also public access over the seaward 10% of the courtyard. The 15-foot wide area adjacent to the hotel restaurant and extending onto the plaza shall be used for outdoor restaurant seating and at least 20% of the tables in this area shall be reserved for general public use, without the need to purchase food or beverages from the hotel.

Commissioner Woodward asked how the area would be closed off to the public from 10:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. and to confirm that the City has no liability concerns because this is private property. Deputy Public Works Director Stafford stated there will be signage stating the access hours and that the City is not liable for private property.

Commissioner Federico said she is glad to have public access and this project will be an improvement to the area.

Commissioner Canepa asked if the hotel could deny public access at certain times like is done at the Monterey Plaza Hotel. Deputy Public Works Director Stafford stated that public access is ensured as a condition of the hotel's Coastal Commission Permit.

Sharon Dwight, Monterey resident, is concerned about the garbage generated from Bubba Gump's and where the dumpsters for the hotel will be located. She suggested using potted plants and signs to differentiate between public use and hotel use and to ensure the area is not closed off for public access for special events at the hotel.

Commissioner Canepa thanked Sharon for her good points and stated that he is thrilled with the plan and the views and is confident that the developer will address the garbage and access signage issues.

On a motion by Commissioner Federico seconded by Commissioner Canepa, and carried by the following vote, the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend approval of the Cannery Row Hotel public access plan as required by the California Coastal Commission Permit and the City of Monterey's Use Permit Conditions of Approval:

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

**6. Request from Steve Saunders to Agendize the Building of a Park for Scooters Within the City of Monterey**

***Action: Directed Parks Division staff to work with Mr. Steve Saunders to identify existing parks with concrete pathways and courts that could be used to ride scooters and bicycles on.***

Deputy Public Works Director Stafford stated that Mr. Steve Saunders would like the Commission to agendize allowing the use of scooters in the Skate Park or to build a separate park specifically for scooters. He stated that at the January 17, 2008 meeting, the Commission reviewed this request and found that due to the State Statute liability issues and park design that they could not allow scooters in the Skate Park. He reminded the Commission that it took quite a few years to find locations to build the Skate Park and Dog Park and he suggested the Commission form a Subcommittee if they wish to pursue building a scooter park.

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Mr. Steve Saunders, Monterey resident, thanked the Commission for their time and consideration and stated that he understands the liability issues but stated that children need to exercise and that learning to ride a scooter or bicycle in a safe place builds confidence and agility along with socializing with other children their age. He would like to see a scooter park built in the vicinity of the Skate Park.

Commissioner Woodward asked if there are existing scooter parks. Deputy Public Works Director Stafford stated that he had not been able to find any for non-motorized scooters.

Commissioner Menendez-Herbst said she would like to do more research on scooter parks to see what it would look like and how big it would be. Mr. Saunders stated that a scooter park would be about half the size of the Skate Park, would not have rails, and would have smaller hills and curves for the younger children to learn balance.

The Commission discussed the liability issue and reiterated that scooters do not fall under the State Statute that exempts City's with skate parks from liability for extreme sports. They agreed that in order to allow scooters in the Skate Park the State would have to change the statute to include scooters.

Sharon Dwight, Monterey resident, suggested that Mr. Saunders look at some of the City's other parks. She said some parks like Hilltop Park, Archer Park and Oak Newton Park have existing concrete pathways through the park and around the play equipment that small children could use to learn to ride their scooters.

Deputy Public Works Director Stafford agreed that these parks would be great for small children to learn how to ride a scooter or bicycle and would like to work with Mr. Saunders to show him existing parks that would be a safe place for his grandson to ride his scooter. Mr. Saunders agreed and thanked the Commission and staff for this alternative to his request.

The Commission thanked Sharon Dwight for her suggestions and hopes this solution will work for Mr. Saunders, his grandson and other small children in the community.

On a motion by Commissioner Woodward, seconded by Commissioner McCarthy, and carried by the following vote, that the Parks and Recreation Commission gave direction to Parks Division staff to work with Mr. Steve Saunders to find existing park locations that have concrete paths and courts that small children can learn to ride bikes or scooters:

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

**STAFF INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:**

The Commission received the following reports:

7. **Monthly Reports:**
  - a. **Recreation and Community Services Department – January 2008**
  - b. **Parks Division – January 2008**
8. **Easter Egg Hunt 2008**

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

Deputy Public Works Director Stafford reminded the Commission of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cutting Day to be held on Saturday, March 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in Friendly Plaza. He reported that bids will be received for the repair of the outfield fence at Ferrante Park and they are ready to start this project as soon as a bid is approved.

Recreation and Community Services Manager Vierra reported that staff is in the process of recruitment for summer jobs and at this point are moving forward as planned. She said that the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District has not finalized their schedule for next school year. She said the Monterey Youth Center held a dance for Colton School and they had 155 students attend. She said that our intern Kathryn would be organizing a Kids Night Out event at the Youth Center in April. She said the centers are getting ready for their preschool graduations. She reported that the Field Sports programs are going well and that staff is working on the contract with Monterey Peninsula College for use of their facilities for our Track & Field program. She also reported that the Monterey Adult School is working with staff to provide programs and classes at the community centers.

Deputy Public Works Director Turnbeaugh reported that at last night's Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) meeting there were 112 projects submitted. He stated that 42 of the projects are park/recreation related and will come to the Commission for review in March.

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo reported that the City Council approved the pool and locker room renovations at the Monterey Sports Center and that the pools will close beginning in March and staff will encourage guests to attend other classes or programs during the closure of the pool. She also reported that the City Council approved a contract with Harris & Associates for inspectors to keep the Sports Center projects on schedule. She thanked the Commissioners who attended the Recreation and Community Services Department meeting with City Manager Fred Meurer at the Youth Center last month. She said it was very informative and in particular he spoke of the City's infrastructure and future. She said staff is busy working on the budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

**COMMISSIONER AND MILITARY LIAISON COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Federico said she took a swim class at the Sports Center and it was excellent. She asked when signs would go up about the pool closures and locker room renovations and suggested they offer more Pilates Reformer classes in lieu of swimming classes. Recreation and Community Services Director Russo stated that we had to wait for City Council approval of the project before signs could be posted regarding the closure of the pools and construction in the locker rooms and that the facility is now posted and staff is informing new guests.

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Commissioner McCarthy thanked staff for keeping the Commission informed on the pool deck, pool replastering and locker room renovations at the Sports Center.

Commissioner Canepa asked about the access at Del Monte Beach and when the contractor will be finished. Deputy Public Works Director Stafford heard that the contractor is off the job at this point and it could be a year before it's completed. Commissioner Canepa asked what the start date is for the MacAbee Beach project. Deputy Public Works Director Stafford said they have selected a contractor and are in the process of picking out boulders for the project. Commissioner Canepa stated that the Presidio Park is a gorgeous area and is in need of a facelift. He complimented the Parks Division crew for their clean up efforts of branches and debris after the January 4 storm. Visit a park – they look great!

Commissioner Federico thanked staff for the great staff reports and said they are always very informative. She gave kudos to Recreation Coordinator Maryrose Aiello of the Monterey Senior Center and said she is doing a great job.

Commissioner Woodward asked if a decision has been made yet regarding the use of the Ferrante Park ball field. She would like to see the neighbors involved in making the decision of what types of uses would be allowed. She said that she attended the Recreation Department's meeting with City Manager Fred Meurer and stated that the City's Strategic Initiatives seemed to be lacking family and education. She also inquired if the City has considered consolidation of Pacific Grove's Recreation Department programs with our department. Recreation and Community Services Director Russo stated that at this point there is no request to do so. She indicated that if Monterey were to provide recreational services, the Pacific Grove city residents would have to pay full cost for all the services provided plus a 10% overhead charge. Currently, fees for recreation programs and services in Pacific Grove are very minimal. Recreation and Community Services Manager Vierra also stated that the Pacific Grove Unified School District is allowing us to advertise our programs to Pacific Grove residents. She also stated that the YMCA has taken over Pacific Grove's basketball program.

**NEXT MEETING:**

- The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be Thursday, March 20, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., City Council Chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairperson Woodward adjourned the meeting at 8:27 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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Susan Woodward, Chairperson  
Parks and Recreation Commission