

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
CITY OF MONTEREY
THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2009
7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER, FEW MEMORIAL HALL
MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA 93940

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present: Canepa, Cooney, McCarthy, Woodward

Commissioners Absent: Federico (Excused), Marotta (Excused), Menendez-Herbst (Excused)

Military Liaison Present: None

Staff Present: Recreation and Community Services Director Kay Russo, Parks and Maintenance Superintendent Doug Stafford, Sports Center Manager Jeff Vierra, Recreation and Community Services Manager Cindy Vierra, Recording Secretary Teresa Nash

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 1. Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of Thursday, May 21, 2009**
Action: Approved as submitted (3-1-3, Woodward abstained as she was not in attendance at the May 21 meeting; Federico, Marotta, Menendez-Herbst absent).

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

AGENDA ITEMS:

- 2. Request to Use Monterey Beach – Northern California Division of the Hobie Class Association/Hobie Fleet 259 – Saturday, September 19 and Sunday, September 20, 2009**

Action: Recommended approval of request by Northern California Division of the Hobie Class Association/Hobie Fleet 259 for a regatta on Saturday, September 19 and Sunday, September 20, 2009 subject to the Beach Use Conditions (4-0-3, Federico, Marotta, Menendez-Herbst absent).

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Recreation and Community Services Director Russo reviewed with the Commission the request of the Northern California Division of the Hobie Class Association/Hobie Fleet 259 to use Monterey Beach on Saturday, September 19 and Sunday, September 20, 2009 for a regatta from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Regatta Beach Use Permit fee of \$350.00 will be assessed for the event. Recreation and Community Services Director Russo said the schedule of events and activities being proposed are consistent with past regattas and that 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 event. This area will be used for parking and off-loading of the Hobies. All Hobies 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.
- The user group will be required to rent a garbage dumpster from Monterey Disposal and coordinate with the Harbor Office for dumpster location. User group will be responsible for litter pick up during and after the event and assurance of beach cleanup of the area. Do not leave trash bags on beach near trashcans.
- 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, Trash & Recycling, and the 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 Hobies back from the shoreline in order to give other beach users room along the shoreline.
- The user group will be responsible for obtaining a Regatta Beach Use Permit from the Recreation and Community Services Department and paying the assessed fees prior to the event.

On a motion by Commissioner Cooney, seconded by Commissioner Woodward and carried by the following vote, that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the request of the Northern California Division of the Hobie Class Association/Hobie Fleet 259 to use Monterey Beach on Saturday, September 19 and Sunday, September 20, 2009 from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., subject to meeting the Beach Use Conditions:

AYES:	4	COMMISSIONERS:	Canepa, Cooney, McCarthy, Woodward
NOES:	0	COMMISSIONERS:	None
ABSENT:	3	COMMISSIONERS:	Federico, Marotta, Menendez-Herbst

3. Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting – Parks Tour on Thursday, July 16, 2009

Action: Parks and Recreation Commission recommended approval to go on a tour of park facilities on Thursday, July 16, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. (4-0-3, Federico, Marotta, Menendez-Herbst absent).

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo stated that the Commission's Annual Tour of Park Facilities is normally done during the summer so they can see park projects that have been completed throughout the past year. Therefore, staff is proposing that the park facilities tour be scheduled for Thursday, July 16, 2009 and asked for a consensus from the Commission if they are available on that day to go on a tour at either 4:30 p.m. or 5:00 p.m. If it is determined there will be no quorum available for the park facilities tour, then the regularly scheduled Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will be cancelled due to lack of agenda items.

On a motion by Commissioner Canepa, seconded by Commission Cooney, and carried by the following vote, that the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend approval to have a Park Facilities Tour for their Thursday, July 16, 2009 Commission meeting and that the tour will begin at 4:30 p.m.:

AYES:	4	COMMISSIONERS:	Canepa, Cooney, McCarthy, Woodward
NOES:	0	COMMISSIONERS:	None
ABSENT:	3	COMMISSIONERS:	Federico, Marotta, Menendez-Herbst

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

Action: Parks and Recreation Commission agreed on the scheduled dates to visit Camp Quien Sabe on Wednesday, July 8, 2009 at 11:15 a.m. and to visit Whispering Pines Day Camp on Friday, July 17, 2009 at 1:45 p.m.

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo presented dates for the annual Commission visits to Camp Quien Sabe and Whispering Pines Day Camp. She said for those who wish to visit Camp Quien Sabe, we will depart from the Recreation and Community Services Department office promptly at 11:15 a.m. on Wednesday, July 8 and travel to the campsite at Toro Park. The Commissioners will join the campers for lunch and a tour of camp and will return to the Recreation office by 1:30 p.m. She stated that the City Council, the Monterey County Park Commissioners and Monterey County Park Foundation members are being invited to join us and encouraged the Commissioners to attend in support of our continuing working relationship with the Monterey County Parks Department and Foundation. She said Commissioners are asked to go directly to Whispering Pines Park on Pacific Street to join the campers and staff for their Day Camp campfire program on Friday, July 17 at 1:45 p.m. She also stated that if any of the Commissioners could not make it on either of these dates and they wish to visit either camp that they should call Recreation and Community Services Manager Cindy Vierra and she will set up a date and time for them to visit either camp.

5. 4th of July Celebration 2009

Action: Report received.

Recreation and Community Services Director Russo gave an overview of the events for this year's 4th of July Celebration. She said the Flag Raising Ceremony and Kick-off Parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. The parade route will go 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 22nd 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 and local non-profit groups will provide food booths or participants are welcome to bring their own picnic lunch. She stated that the Fireworks Display has been canceled for this year by City Council direction.

Commissioner Woodward asked how the Police Department plans to deal with illegal fireworks. Recreation and Community Services Director Russo reported that the City's Community and Outreach Division have been releasing public service announcements stating there will be no fireworks display this year and that the City has also raised the fine for illegal fireworks from \$500 to \$1,000. Commissioner Woodward stated that in the current issue of Parents Magazine, they have an ad stating the City of Monterey is having a fireworks display and also that there will be a Moto GP event closing Cannery Row on the 4th of July. Recreation and Community Services Manager Vierra stated that the Police Department is working with the Moto GP event coordinators to hold all of their events at Laguna Seca.

6. "July is Recreation and Parks Month"

Action: Report received.

Parks and Maintenance Superintendent Stafford stated that the intent of the "National Park and Recreation Month" is to publicize the many benefits of our parks and recreation programs and the value of our facilities to our community. He handed out an article from the California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS) regarding a public opinion research study they did over the past year to determine how the public values parks and recreation. This research was in support of CPRS' interest in branding parks and recreation as an essential community service. Three important findings from the study were 1) virtually every California household (98%) reports having visited a park or participated in a program during the past year, and two in every three households did so at least once in the past month. Half (50%) of California households reported that someone in their household participated in a structured park program at least once in the past year; 2) Californians see the benefits of parks and recreation as personal, rather than social. Users struggle to describe how parks and programs benefit their community or neighborhood, but more easily describe how it benefits their lives and those of their family and friends; and 3) Californians have strong, well-informed opinions about what should be priorities (or most valued) and about what is and is not currently delivered. By considering these perspectives, park and recreation providers can emphasize how they are meeting those public values through existing or planned programs and thus reinforce how what they provide is essential to communities. He asked the Commissioners to

support this effort by encouraging everyone they know to celebrate by participating in their choice of leisure activities.

Commissioner Woodward inquired about another article in Parents Magazine regarding "Movies in the Park." Recreation and Community Services Director Russo reported that the New Monterey Business District is showing movies in Scholze Park, at the Monterey Senior Center, and that they had their first movie screening last week with approximately 130 people in attendance. She stated they will show another movie in July and in August and that citizens can obtain free tickets to the movies from local New Monterey businesses. Commissioner Woodward suggested that Jacks Park would make another good venue for showing outdoor movies.

STAFF INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

The Commission received the following informational reports:

- 7. Monthly Reports:**
 - a. Recreation and Community Services Department – May 2009**
 - b. Parks Division – May 2009**

Sports Center Manager Vierra showed the Commission a DVD highlighting the Monterey Sports Center and all of the activities and programs available to all age groups of the community. He said this will be shown on Monterey Channel 25 and they hope to attract new memberships and participation in their programs from this show.

The Commission thanked Jeff for showing the video and commented that it really shows the diversity of the Monterey Sports Center programs, services and its participants.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Recreation and Community Services Manager Vierra reported that over 100 children have enrolled in each of the two Playground Programs in just the first week. She also reported that Whispering Pines Day Camp is full with children on the waitlist for every week. She stated that staff is being trained on how to administer an Epi-pen to children with allergies and that parents will have to sign a release waiver. She said that community center programs are going well and the change in operating hours will be effective August 1. She reported that staff is very busy preparing for the 4th of July Parade and Lawn Party and stated that it will be a fun-filled day of events despite the cutbacks that have been made.

Parks and Maintenance Superintendent Stafford reported that Park Maintenance Worker Richard Cota has retired after over 30 years of service to the City Parks Division. He also reported that after June 30, the Parks Division will not have any part-time workers due to budget cuts.

Sports Center Manager Vierra reported that attendance is up and that Sports Camp is full with a waiting list. He said that the Physical Therapists and personal trainers are very busy. He stated that the participants of Cheerleading Camp and the Martial Arts program will be in the 4th of July Parade again this year. He also reported that the approved increase in Sports Center fees became effective on June 1.

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Recreation and Community Services Director Russo reported that the City Council is scheduled to approve the City's Budget at a special meeting on Wednesday, June 24 and stated that it was a positive impact to have so many program participants speak up during the budget process in support of the programs and services offered by the City. She said the City Council is looking at ways to retain some of our recreation programs or services and the History Room in the Library. She said people are still signing up for programs even in this bad economy. She said 135 people applied for summer jobs this year and we only needed three new employees, due to most of our summer seasonal employees returning this summer. She stated that the City Council will be making some very tough decisions and hope that we will be able to reinstate some of the programs and services that have been eliminated.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Canepa reported that he attended the Budgetary Strategy meeting this morning at the Conference Center and found it very interesting. He said the new seawall at Del Monte Beach looks like actual rock and looks great, but that the stairway at Tide Avenue needs to be rebuilt. He reminded the Commission that their next meeting is the park facilities tour and will begin at 4:30 p.m. Life in Monterey is fun – visit a park!

NEXT MEETING:

- The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is Thursday, July 16, 2009 at 4:30 p.m., for a Park Facilities Tour.

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice Chairperson Canepa adjourned the meeting at 8:23 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

David Canepa, Vice Chairperson
Parks and Recreation Commission