

MINUTES – MORRO BAY RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING –MARCH 17, 2011
VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING – 5:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Hale called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Commissioner Croley, Commissioner Sidaris, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Romero, Chair Hale, Staff Woods. ABSENT: Commissioner Munoz, Commissioner Ayoob.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff Woods asked Morro Bay citizens who received the transit survey to please complete and return it to City Hall.

Chair Hale encouraged the community to attend the Annual Dixon's Spaghetti Dinner the Morro Bay Community Foundation will be holding on Friday, March 25th from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. at the Morro Bay Community Center.

Chair Hale asked for motion to address Item D-4 'Presentation by San Luis Obispo County Parks on Final Alignment Section of Morro bay to Cayucos Connector following Public Comment.

MOTION: Commissioner Sidaris moved to address item D-4 following Public Comment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Croley and carried. (5-0)

PRESENTATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Davis, Morro Bay – the Morro Bay Citizen's Bike Committee supports the Morro Bay to Cayucos Connector being built on the western side of Highway 1 as a multi-use trail. It is being built for recreational activities meaning there is coastal access.

Gary Hixson, Morro Bay – thanked Recreation and Parks for doing a very good job, keep up the good work.

Dan Rivoire, Executive Director of the SLO County Bike Coalition – the Coalition supports the western alignment of the path. It is far more attractive and a powerful motivator for visitors coming to the area.

Chair Hale closed Public Comment.

D. NEW BUSINESS

D-4 PRESENTATION BY SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY PARKS ON FINAL ALIGNMENT SECTION OF MORRO BAY TO CAYUCOS CONNECTOR

Elizabeth Kavanaugh of SLO County Parks said she is looking for a recommendation from the Commission to the Morro Bay City Council on the alignment of the Morro Bay to Cayucos Connector. Ms. Kavanaugh outlined the Eastern alignment. She said an EIR has been done and some cultural resources will be impacted as well as traffic. Safety is the main concern with the Eastern alignment as bicyclists will have to cross over Highway 1.

The Western alignment runs along Highway 1, starting in Morro Bay and going through the North Point neighborhood, riding along the Western side of Highway 1. It will cross Morro Strand State Beach onto Studio Drive and then across Old Creek to downtown Cayucos. The EIR shows possible erosion which is a maintenance issue. She noted a wall/barrier will be needed in this area and they are looking for a much more aesthetic wall than being shown in the presentation. Once we get a recommendation we will go to San Luis Obispo County Parks and Recreation Commission for a recommendation and then forward to the County Board of Supervisors for a Coastal Development Permit.

Commissioner Croley asked what the trail will look like through the North Point neighborhood, what decision making process will be used for the wall/barrier. Ms. Kavanaugh replied in the City of Morro Bay the path will be part of the street and there will be signage and they have heard no complaints from the neighborhood. She added the County has regulations to use less obtrusive barriers in the coastal areas and they are looking for the least obtrusive barrier that Cal Trans would accept. Commissioner Croley asked if Cal Trans has the same regulations for the entire coast. Ms. Kavanaugh said what works in one Cal Trans District doesn't necessarily mean it would work in this Cal Trans District.

Commissioner Sidaris asked if the chain link fence would be removed and the least obtrusive wall be constructed. He also asked if there were plans to widen the Toro Creek Bridge. Ms. Kavanaugh said the chain link would be removed and replaced by the least obtrusive barrier. There are no plans to widen the Toro Creek Bridge, this is an alternative.

Chair Hale asked if there would be two-way traffic on either side of the highway. Ms. Kavanaugh said she is sure they will keep the current bike paths along Highway 1 as is. This path will be an alternative. Chair Hale commented the East side is super narrow in that area, the West not as much. Chair Hale asked if anyone is in favor of the East alignment. Ms. Kavanaugh said one group is in favor primarily because of the wall. She added four of the parties are in favor of the Western alignment, only the Western complies with the whole trail. The trail is being done county by county, city by city. The trail is between Highway 1 and the ocean and there will be a greater source of funding if it is part of the coastal trail.

Commissioner Bates asked the width of the path and the type of surface. Ms. Kavanaugh stated the path will be 12 feet wide, the shoulder will be 2 feet wide and the surface will be asphalt.

MOTION: Commissioner Sidaris moved to recommend to the City Council that the Recreation and Parks Commission supports the Western alignment of the Morro Bay to Cayucos Connector. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bates and carried. (5-0)

A. CONSENT CALENDAR

Unless an item is pulled for separate action by the Commission, the following items are approved without discussion.

A-1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 17, 2011 MEETING

RECOMMENDATION: Approve as submitted.

A-2 CITIZEN'S REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

RECOMMENDATION: Approve as submitted.

A-3 YOUTH SERVICES SUMMARY FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2011
SPORTS AND FITNESS SUMMARY FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2011
FACILITIES AND PARK USE FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2011

RECOMMENDATION: Approve as submitted.

A-4 RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT

RECOMMENDATION: Approve as submitted.

MOTION: Commissioner Bates moved the Commission approve Consent Calendar Items A-1, A-2, A-3 and A-4 for file. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sidaris and carried. (5-0)

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

Commissioner Ayoob arrived at 6:06 p.m.

D. NEW BUSINESSs

D-1 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR 2011

Director Woods presented the Commission with the task of elections of Chair and Vice-Chair. Chair Hale opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Bates nominated Chair Hale, Commissioner Sidaris seconded the nomination. Commissioner Romero made a motion to close nominations, Commissioner Croley seconded the motion. Christi Hale was elected Chair by acclamation.

Chair Hale opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chair. Commissioner Sidaris nominated Commissioner Romero, Commissioner Ayoob seconded the nomination. Chair Hale nominated

Commissioner Croley, Commissioner Romero seconded the nomination. Following a tie vote, Commissioner Romero withdrew his name from nomination. Commissioner Croley was elected Vice-Chair by acclamation.

D-2 ELECTION OF SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE FOR 2011

Director Woods informed the Commission it was time to select the 2011 representative to the Senior Citizens, Inc. Chair Hale opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Sidaris nominated Commissioner Munoz, Commissioner Croley seconded the motion. Johnny Munoz was elected Senior Representative by acclamation.

D-3 REVIEW OF ANNUAL CO-SPONSORSHIP REQUEST FROM MORRO BAY GARDEN CLUB FOR DAHLIA DAZE EVENT

Staff Woods asked the Commission to review and discuss continuing the co-sponsorship with the Morro Bay Garden Club for Dahlia Daze Event. The financial impact to the City would be the difference of the non-profit rate schedule and the direct cost rate schedule. The Garden Club has requested August 26-27, 2011 to host their annual Dahlia Daze celebration. This year they are teaming up with the Morro Tree Committee to present Dahlia Daze and Cypress Nightz. The group must request co-sponsorship annually as the event is not held during the off-season. However, the event is held in August due to the blooming Dahlias.

Commissioner Sidaris inquired if it conflicts with any other events. Staff Woods replied it does not.

Commissioner Bates asked how many participants there were last year. Staff Woods reported there were 200-300 but they are estimating 300-500 this year as it will be a two day event with presentations and social events on both Friday and Saturday nights.

Commissioner Romero asked about the Newcomers Group becoming involved.

MOTION: Commissioner Bates moved the Commission approve the co-sponsorship of the Dahlia Daze and Cypress Nightz celebration. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ayoob and carried. (6-0)

D-4 RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT PROGRAM EVALUATIONS

Staff Woods presented the Program Evaluation for the 2010 Estero Bay Youth Soccer Program. The league was held from August 18, 2010 through November 5, 2010. Program costs were \$14,245.00 and supports costs were \$1,312.00 for total expenses of \$15,557.00. Revenues from registration fees and sweatshirts totaled \$14,782.40. The cost recovery for this program was 95%. This program is a Merit Service program with a target cost recovery of 70-79% of program costs plus support costs. We exceeded our target cost recovery for this program. The All-Stars was 100% cost recovery.

MOTION: Commissioner Bates moved to accept the Recreation and Parks Department Program Evaluations for file. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sidaris and carried. (6-0)

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

F. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner Ayoob, second Commissioner Croley. The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Wright
Administrative Technician