

MINUTES – MORRO BAY RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING –MARCH 21, 2013
VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING – 5:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Croley called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Chair Croley, Vice-Chair Bates, Commissioner Coxwell, Commissioner Romero, Commissioner Sidaris and Staff Woods. ABSENT: Commissioner Dorfman.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Croley announced that the Dixon's Spaghetti Dinner will be held the following evening, March 22nd at 4:30 p.m. at the Community Center. She encouraged all to attend and support the Morro Bay Community Foundation in their efforts to raise funds to support afterschool programs by providing scholarships.

Staff Woods added that in addition to the Foundation, the event is supported by the Morro Bay Senior Citizens Inc., and Recreation & Parks Staff. A host of sponsors and donations have been received and all contribute to the event's success in raising funds to support recreational opportunities on the Estero Bay.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bonnie Johnson, Morro Bay – Spoke in support of a Bike Park in Morro Bay. She also stated she was available to answer any questions the Commissioners may have on the supporting documentation for the BMX Bike Park.

Chris Christiansen, Morro Bay – Spoke in support of the City waiving the fees charged for City services incurred during the 4th of July event.

Susan Stewart, Morro Bay – Chamber President – Spoke in support of the City waiving fees for the 4th of July event and in support of the BMX Bike Park.

Jeff Eckles, Morro Bay – Spoke in support of the City co-sponsoring the 4th of July event and waiving the fees for City services.

Isaiah Vanzey & son Hayden – Spoke in support of a BMX Park in Morro Bay.

Ben Furby, Los Osos – Professional mountain biker, spoke in support of a BMX Park in Morro Bay.

Chair Croley closed Public Comment.

Chair Croley suggested that item D-3 be moved to the beginning of the agenda.

MOTION: Commissioner Sidaris moved that item D-3 be moved to the beginning of the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Romero and carried. (5-0)

D-3 REVIEW PROPOSAL FOR BMX BIKE ACTIVITIES.

Staff Woods gave a brief overview of the history of the BMX bike track in Morro Bay, previously located at Park St. & Atascadero Rd and currently operating as a RV Park. Staff Woods detailed City Council's support of a BMX Bike Park in Morro Bay by their approval of Resolution 20-13. He also summarized information given by Ms. Johnson listing three suggested locations for the park: 1) Main St. & Radcliff Dr. 2) Cloisters open area on eastern border 3) 231 Atascadero Ave (Teen Center). All three locations would require more investigation as well as public hearings to determine the feasibility and desirability of a public bike park.

Staff Woods stated that because a bike park does not exist in Morro Bay, building one would be a new improvement and therefore considered "Development" under the City's Zoning Code and the Coastal Act. The City would have to go through the Coastal Development Permit Process likely requiring the following studies/reports:

- Traffic Study
- Americans with Disabilities compliance
- Environmental Review
- Revision of Master Plan

Staff Woods stated that City Council has directed the RPC to discuss this project and to help move it forward. He further stated that it is Council's direction that the RPC discuss possible sites and possible partnerships for the project. Staff Woods stated that once a viable site has been identified and a legitimate partner recognized, the interested parties would be able to move forward with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) addressing the design and permitting process for the proposed park. Staff is also looking for a Commissioner to take the lead on this issue.

Bonnie Johnson, Morro Bay resident, stated that she is working on putting together a group of volunteers and that the nature of their group will depend upon the recommendations the Commission will be forwarding to Council. She further stated that she is working on becoming a member of the non-profit International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA), a group that helps build bike parks and sponsors bike events. Becoming a member would allow the Morro Bay Bike Park group to filter their funding through IMBA. Ms. Johnson said that the bike park group's preferred location at this time is at Main St. & Radcliff Dr. She also said that she has attempted contact with the owners of a 1 ½ acre parcel adjacent to Motel 6 and Lila Keiser Park, also a desired location, but has not heard back. Ms. Johnson said that the general consensus among the bike park group's members and other interested parties is to have an actual park as opposed to jumps along a bike path. Ms. Johnson also said that it is the group's desire to have a park that would be easily accessible to kids riding their bikes, making a farmland location undesirable.

Chair Croley recommended that there be a way to separate the different age groups at the park.

Commissioner Sidaris stated that the most logical site would be the parcel adjacent to Lila Keiser and suggested that the owners be sought out to partnership for the park.

MOTION: Commissioner Sidaris moved that staff pursue the property at Main St. and Radcliff Dr., and the parcel owned by Motel 6 adjacent to Lila Keiser Park and to continue working with the Morro Bay Bike Group along with

Chair Croley as the representative from the Commission. 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 JANUARY 17, 2013 MEETING

RECOMMENDATION: Approve as submitted.

A-2 CITIZEN'S REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

RECOMMENDATION: Approve as submitted.

A-3 YOUTH AND SENIOR SERVICES SUMMARY FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2013
RECREATION CLASSES AND AFFILIATED CLUBS SUMMARY FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2013
YOUTH AND ADULT SPORTS SUMMARY JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2013
FACILITIES AND PARKS USE SUMMARY FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2013

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 through A-4 for file. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Romero and carried. (5-0)

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS

B-1 CO-SPONSORSHIP OF MORRO BAY 4TH OF JULY PROGRAM

Staff Woods presented the Morro Bay 4th, Inc. Co-Sponsorship Request for the RPC to review and make recommendations to City Council on whether or not the City should co-sponsor the Fourth of July event. Staff Woods gave a brief summary of the City's existing co-sponsorship criteria and estimated the lost revenues and fees resulting from such co-sponsorship. He stated that the RPC can recommend sponsorship or not and that the sponsorship can be for all fees and City support services or any modifications such as fees but not City support services.

Chair Croley opened public comment on this item.

Dan Podesto, Morro Bay resident and President of the Morro Bay 4th, Inc., spoke on behalf of his organization, specifically requesting that the City waive the permit use fees and the fees for City support services. Mr. Podesto stated that his group is looking for the waivers to continue annually, not just for this year's event. Mr. Podesto further stated that the Fourth of July event meets two of the City's current criteria; they are a non-profit group and the event brings people in for a long weekend and

frequently up to an entire week depending upon what day of the week the holiday falls on. Mr. Podesto stated that no other holiday brings so many people together and that their event results in the City's busiest weekend, thereby providing maximum economic benefit to Morro Bay. He noted that the City of Pismo Beach does not charge their 4th of July group for City services and also donates toward the event.

Commissioner Sidaris asked where their money comes from and if there are other entities that should be contributing.

Mr. Podesto stated the event costs \$40,000 with 50% of that going toward fireworks. He stated they have no source of revenue other than donations and fundraisers. They received a generous donation from TBID and many retailers, restaurants and residents contribute to the event. He noted that a couple of restaurants have partnered with his group to host fundraisers.

Chair Croley closed public comment.

Commissioner Bates stated that he does not want to see the laser show return and that he is in favor of co-sponsoring the event and waiving all fees.

Chair Croley stated that she was in favor of co-sponsoring this event.

Commissioner Sidaris stated that they need to be good stewards of public funds.

MOTION: Commissioner Bates moved that the Commission recommend to City Council that the City co-sponsor the 4th of July event and waive the permit fees and City services fees. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Romero and carried. (5-0)

B-2 INITIAL REVIEW OF A PROPOSED CITY SPONSORSHIP POLICY

Staff Woods presented a draft Sponsorship Policy for initial review by the RPC. Staff Woods stated that having a Sponsorship Policy in place would assist the City in its efforts to expand revenue generating possibilities. Staff Woods reviewed each section of the draft policy noting that the RPC may want to make amendments to the Sponsorship Approval Levels and possibly include the City's existing Park Naming Policy in the Sponsorship Policy.

Commissioner Coxwell stated that this policy is timely and gave two examples of projects where this policy can be applied: the BMX Bike Park and Community Pool. He asked Staff if Council would be allowing staff to approve naming one of these projects after a sponsor, for example the "Speedo Aquatic Center?"

Staff Woods replied that there would be an expectation that a sponsorship of that magnitude would have Council's review and approval, as detailed in the City's existing Park Naming Policy.

Commissioner Coxwell stated that incorporating the Park Naming Policy into the Sponsorship Policy would help convince Council that obtaining this level of sponsorships is the direction in which to go.

MOTION: Commissioner Coxwell moved that the City's existing Park Naming Policy be included in the Sponsorship Policy and that Staff present it to

Council. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Romero and carried. (5-0)

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

D. NEW BUSINESS

D-1 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR 2013

Chair Croley opened the floor for nominations for the office of Chair.

Commissioner Romero nominated Commissioner Bates.

Chair Croley closed the nominations.

MOTION: Commissioner Romero moved that Commissioner Bates be elected Chair for 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coxwell and carried. (5-0)

Chair Croley opened the floor for nominations for the office of Vice Chair.

Commissioner Bates nominated Commissioner Sidaris.

Chair Croley closed the nominations.

MOTION: Commissioner Romero moved that Commissioner Sidaris be elected Vice Chair for 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bates and carried. (5-0)

D-2 ELECTION OF SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE FOR 2013

Chair Croley opened the floor for nominations for Representative to the Morro Bay Senior Citizens, Inc.

Chair Croley nominated Commissioner Coxwell.

At the request of Commissioner Coxwell, Staff Woods gave a brief description of Morro Bay Senior Citizens, Inc., what they do and what the Representatives responsibilities would be.

Commissioner Bates nominated Commissioner Romero.

Chair Croley closed the nominations.

MOTION: Commissioner Coxwell moved that Commissioner Romero be elected Representative to the Morro Bay Senior Citizens, Inc. for 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sidaris and carried. (5-0)

D-3 REVIEW PROPOSAL FOR BMX BIKE ACTIVITIES

Moved to beginning of the Agenda (see motion under Public Comment).

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

F. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner Bates, seconded by Commissioner Sidaris. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste English
Administrative Technician