

MINUTES – MORRO BAY RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING –July 18, 2013

VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING – 5:30 P.M.

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

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

MOMENT OF SILENCE

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Coxwell reported that the Morro Bay High School Music Boosters' "Bands on the Run" 5K/10K Fun Run held on May 25th was a huge success. They were able to raise \$6800 and plan to hold it again next year on May 17, 2014. He also announced that there will be a 5K Fun Run in Cambria on July 21st to benefit the AFS Exchange Program and to contact Coast Union High School for more information.

Staff Woods announced that Department staff puts together a weekly update on programs and operations that is part of a Friday Update containing information from all City Departments and sent to City Council. Staff Woods informed the Commission that staff would begin forwarding the Recreation & Parks Department portion of the update to the Commissioners beginning tomorrow. Vice-Chair Sidaris asked if this information is made available to the Public with Staff Woods responding that Friday Updates are not put on the City website.

Commissioner Coxwell stated his appreciation that the Cloisters play area has been made ready and usable.

PRESENTATION

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Merrill spoke in support of the M.O.U. for Bike Park Design and Permit Processing, stating that many children benefited from the old bike park and that this portion of the Community's children is often overlooked.

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 MAY 16, 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 MAY AND JUNE 2013
RECREATION CLASSES AND AFFILIATED CLUBS SUMMARY FOR MAY AND JUNE 2013
YOUTH AND ADULT SPORTS SUMMARY MAY AND JUNE 2013
FACILITIES AND PARKS USE SUMMARY FOR MAY AND JUNE 2013

RECOMMENDATION: Approve as submitted.

A-4 RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT

RECOMMENDATION: Approve as submitted.

Commissioner Croley requested that item A-4 be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

MOTION: Commissioner Croley moved that the Commission accept Consent Calendar Items A-1 through A-3 for file. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coxwell and carried. (4-0)

A-4 RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT

Staff Woods summarized the Department Program/Project Status Report highlighting the following programs and projects:

- Teen Center Solar Project – Staff has met with Brian French and developed a contract; waiting on the permit, work should begin the following week with a target completion date of September 3.
- Market Street – Trees have been planted and the Department has partnered with the businesses to nurture the trees
- Banners – Visitor Center and event signage
- Rock to Pier Run/Rockin' Around the Pier – over 1200 participants the day of the race
- Teen Action Club (TAC) – Volunteers have been very active at their Adopt-A-Park location (Lila Keiser), at the run, and with their parking lot re-striping project. They plan to complete the striping at the Cloisters and the Vet's Hall this summer.

MOTION: Commissioner Croley moved to accept Consent Calendar Item A-4 for file. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Coxwell and carried. (4-0)

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

D. NEW BUSINESS

D-1 REVIEW OF THE M.O.U. REGARDING THE BIKE PARK DESIGN AND PERMIT PROCESSING

Staff Woods reported on City Council's approval of Resolution 20-13, which the RPC reviewed on March 21, 2013, along with letters from the Morro Bay Bike Park (MBBP) organization and the Morro Bay Citizens Bike Committee. The recommendation from the RPC at the time was to pursue the property on Main Street as well as property adjacent to Lila Keiser Park. Staff Woods reported that staff has continued to work with the MBBP organization in both the pursuit of a bike park location and a formal agreement with which to advance the project.

Staff Woods noted that the draft Memorandum of Understanding, for RPC review, deals only with processing issues, not the ultimate construction, operation and maintenance issues. A second M.O.U. would need to be developed in the future to deal with construction and maintenance. Staff Woods reported that both Staff and the MBBP organization support the proposed M.O.U. and desire the support and a favorable recommendation from the RPC. Staff Woods further noted that the MBBP organization has the support and backing of the Central Coast Concerned Mountain Bikers (CCCMB), a charitable organization through which donations will be channeled.

MOTION: Commissioner Coxwell moved that the M.O.U. be forwarded without changes to City Council. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Croley and carried. (4-0)

Vice-Chair Sidaris adjourned the meeting to the Parks Tour at 6:05 p.m.

D-2 ANNUAL TOUR OF CITY PARKS

Vice-Chair Sidaris re-convened the meeting on the City trolley at 6:15 p.m. to begin the annual Parks Tour.

Staff Woods announced that this year's Parks Tour would include the parks located in the southern portion of town as well as the parks and other areas of interest along the Embarcadero.

1. Front Street Restroom – Newly opened at the direction of City Council
2. Surf Street Staircase – Staff looking for a way to re-build this staircase. One of the suggestions previously made by the RPC was to utilize the surplus wood from the rebuilding of the Centennial Staircase.

Staff Woods discussed the Northern Waterfront Improvement Plan (NWIP) which the RPC has seen before in Concept C, the master planning of Coleman Park, Target Rock and the Rock parking lot. The City has received Park-In-Lieu funds from the project located at Ironwood and Highway 41 which have been slated for the master planning of the NWIP.

3. Harbor Walk – Staff is working to minimize the sand migration onto the walk and bike path
4. Coleman Park – Home of Project Surf Camp, Basketball Court made from the old skate park
5. Anchor Memorial Park – New cleat benches and picnic tables have been installed, looking to replace the trashcans with the solar powered Big Belly trashcans
6. Centennial Park – Free chess daily during the summer months
7. 714 Embarcadero – Parking lot used for special events, next event will be the Avocado Margarita Festival held in September, information for this even can be found on the Chamber of Commerce website
8. Tidelands Park – Playground changes due to some deterioration of the wood, staff looking to add some additional play features, BBQ renovations are complete, landscape renovations have also been completed
9. Fish Cleaning Station – serviced by City staff
10. Mariner Park – Park sign styled after the City way-finding signs, one of three, the other two are at Anchor Memorial Park and City Park; low maintenance plants; interpretive panel; gangway leading to dock; Ken Scott the owner of the Estero Inn has improved the walkway along his building tying it into the park; solar powered trashcan & recycling bin. The Estero Inn is the Adopt-A-Park sponsor for this park, they provide clean up and light landscape maintenance in return for having their name on the side of the solar powered receptacles and access to the recyclables that are collected.

Staff Woods noted that in the coming year staff will be working with all the Adopt-A-Park groups to increase recognition through local media and other community outlets.

11. Morro Cove Park – A park land dedication through the Quimby Act as a result to the Morro Cove development; includes a monarch butterfly habitat; natural open space area with minimal improvements; the Morro Cove HOA has adopted the park; there are currently no interpretive panels at this time but planned for the future. Commissioner Coxwell asked about partnering with someone on the signs possibly the Audubon Society with Staff Woods replying that we have not yet done so. Some trimming of the trees is allowed in the southern section only. Looking to add additional plants to encourage the return of the monarch butterflies.
12. Bay Shore Bluffs – Park land dedication from the Bay Shore Village development consisting of 3.28 acres of land; heavily populated by birds; the park has been adopted by the Morro Bay Eco Rotary with assistance from the Morro Bay Garden Club; part of a evapotranspiration study through the State Universities with four planters containing pollinating gardens; working on getting some interpretive panels. Commissioner Coxwell asked about coastal access with Staff Woods pointing out the staircase leading down the bluff to a landing area that remains lit by LED lights from dusk until midnight.
13. Monte Young Park – Park contains tennis courts; small play structure; small restroom; staff working toward renovating the bathroom and increasing access in the park as well as replacing the sign with the new sign style; no lights on the courts because park closes at dusk.

Staff Woods noted that there are new soft tennis courts at Del Mar Park. Commissioner Romero asked if there were any plans to renovate or replace the bathrooms at Del Mar Park. Staff Woods replied that staff has discussed replacing restrooms at several parks including Del Mar, Monte Young and Coleman Parks. Restrooms can cost \$150,000 - \$200,000, but staff hopes to work with local contractors to help make the renovations at a lower cost by utilizing the original design and possibly existing infrastructure when changing the materials.

14. Morro Bay City Park – Single user restroom with an outside wash station; park improvements include the white privacy fence (re-used from the old fire station), pavers beneath new benches along fence, old vegetation removed with new vegetation planned, new drinking fountain out in the open and new picnic tables have been installed.

Commissioner Croley asked if more benches were planned for the playground area with Staff Woods responding that no additional benches are planned at this time but can certainly be looked into.

Morro Bay Public Art Association recreated “Grandmother’s Living Room” at the bus shelter, shuffle board has not been used for some time and the space is slated for rededication for another activity possibly another play structure. Commissioner Coxwell suggested a bocce ball space. The basketball court has been resurfaced with new standards installed and new backboards and hoops being installed soon. The new standards have a 6 foot arch increasing the safety of the court. The park has a new sign and the two poles used for putting up banners will be replaced with permanent flagpoles making the raising and lowering of the banners easier and safer.

Staff Woods pointed out the different types of signs that can be found around town including street banners, way-finding signs, and various directional signs in preparation for the upcoming joint meeting of the RPC and Public Works Advisory Board on August 29th.

Commissioner Coxwell asked if there was a place along Main Street to hang event banners with Staff Woods replying that there are two City entrance signs that have event panels that can be changed along with panels that give direction to the Visitor’s Center.

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

F. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair Sidaris encouraged those listening to visit their parks and adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste English
Administrative Technician