

MINUTES – MORRO BAY RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING – March 19, 2015

VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING – 5:30 P.M.

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

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

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Sidaris announced the resignation of Commissioner Ochs and thanked him for his service. He also announced the City-Wide Yard Sale being held April 11-12.

Commissioner Coxwell announced the upcoming tennis tournament at the high school on March 21st. Funds raised will be used for the boys' team uniforms. He also announced the upcoming Bands on the Run 5K and 10K race on May 23rd and the Annual Dixon Spaghetti Dinner on March 20th.

Commissioner Swain announced that the Spaghetti Dinner raises money for local youth recreation scholarships and encouraged attendance. Commissioner Swain also announced the return of Open Gym on Monday nights at the high school 6-8 p.m., \$5 drop-in fee.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Sidaris opened Public Comment.

Kathy Thomas gave a Pickleball update including participation statistics since October 2, 2014. Ms. Thomas said the Pickleball group is looking for dedicated Pickleball courts. Ms. Thomas noted that they average 22 participants per day during Pickleball Playday.

Silvo De Santis, a 30 year Morro Bay resident, wanted the Commission to know there are still plenty of tennis players in the city and there are only 4 tennis courts in town for their use. There is very limited access to tennis courts on the high school campus, so it is very important to keep the 4 city courts available for tennis. Mr. De Santis encouraged the support of the Morro Bay High School Boys Tennis Tournament fundraiser.

Carl Pherson, President of the Surfside Tennis Club, commented that the Pickleball group has access to the roller hockey rink and basketball courts at Del Mar 2 to 3 days per week and people with their own gear can play 5 days per week. Mr. Pherson commented that Monte Young tennis courts are very busy on the weekends and the Surfside Tennis Club has already started migrating to Los Osos Middle School due to over-crowding at those courts. Mr. Pherson noted that Morro Bay High School courts are seldom used on weekends

Chair Sidaris closed Public Comment.

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 FROM THE JANUARY 15, 2015 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 2015
RECREATION CLASSES AND AFFILIATED CLUBS SUMMARY FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2015
YOUTH AND ADULT SPORTS SUMMARY JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2015
FACILITIES AND PARKS USE SUMMARY FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2015

RECOMMENDATION: Approve as submitted.

MOTION: Commissioner Coxwell moved to accept Consent Calendar items A-1, A-2, and A-3 for file and pull items A-4 for review. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Swain and carried. (4-0)

A-4 RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT

Staff Woods summarized the Department Program/Project Status Report noting the SLOCAPRA Commissioners Workshop; Tidelands play structure update; Los Osos Middle School Tennis and Track & Field; Jr. Lifeguard Program; Futsal and T-Ball coaches’ meetings; Spaghetti Dinner; Kids’ Club Pre-Registration and Teen Center (Rockies) spring break hours.

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

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS

B-1 NONE

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

C-1 REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF THE WORK PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015/16

Staff Woods and the Commission discussed the Work Program for fiscal year 2015/16. Staff Woods noted that the previously requested additions had been included in the new version. The Commission requested that staff work on providing additional cost estimates and cost recovery information on the document.

D. NEW BUSINESS

D-1 DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF PICKLEBALL FACILITIES

Staff Woods gave a power point presentation highlighting the growth of Pickleball in Morro Bay and the need for additional facilities. Staff Woods noted that the Pickleball group is looking to have permanent Pickleball courts so they can host sanctioned tournaments and be able to expand Pickleball play opportunities. The group is also looking for the city to provide improvements to the temporary courts located at Del Mar Park. Staff Woods reported that he met with a Local Economic Action Plan (LEAP) sub-committee to discuss Pickleball and the potential economic impact of the expansion of Pickleball facilities. The sub-committee developed three action items: 1) gather information regarding the indirect economic impact a developed Pickleball facility has on a community; 2) explore possible funding sources and likely partners who have an interest in the Pickleball project; and 3) contact the San Luis Coastal Unified School District regarding possibilities of space usage at Morro Elementary for long range goals.

Staff Woods concluded with stating that the demand for Pickleball facilities has not been satisfied by the temporary courts established at Del Mar Park and that permanent dedicated courts will not only meet the local demand, but will provide a positive indirect economic impact to the community through attracting visitors for play and tournaments.

Chair Sidaris stated that staff has done a fine job developing temporary courts and that he would not want to see tennis courts converted into Pickleball courts.

Commissioner Swain noted that he is not a fan of establishing permanent facilities due to Pickleball being a possible fad. He requested that a lot more investigation be done and if permanent facilities are created they should be multi-use and easily converted into another recreation use in the event they are no longer used for Pickleball.

MOTION: Commissioner Coxwell moved that staff continue to work on a concept and the feasibility for permanent Pickleball courts in Morro Bay and bring that concept and feasibility report back to the Commission for review; he also asked that staff move forward with the short term goal of improving the courts at Del Mar Park. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Romero and carried. (4-0)

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Sidaris requested that staff look into finding other potential meeting dates and times for the regular Commission meetings. Chair Sidaris stated that Commissioner Croley has a schedule conflict with the current regular meeting schedule. Commissioner Coxwell agreed to the request to have this item on a future agenda, asking that staff report back to the Commission with other possible meeting dates.

F. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste English
Administrative Technician