



Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes, June 18, 2013

1. Meeting called to order at 7:07pm
2. Roll Call: *Bergman, Holtzer, Kelly, Burdo and Young*
3. Approval of Agenda: Approved.
4. Approval of Minutes of 5/21/13: Approved
5. Dog Park Steering Committee Applicant Interview: 7:20pm - Alex Rockas
The Commission interviewed Mr. Rockas to fill a vacancy on the Dog Park Steering Committee. Following the interview, there was discussion with a motion and vote resulting in the appointment of Alex Rockas as a Dog Park Steering Committee member
6. Open Time for Public Expression: None
7. Recreation Fund Reports:
Period Ending 5/31/13: Donery reported that as of 5/31/2013, the Recreation Fund is in the black by \$321,000. He stated that payroll for two of the largest camps had not yet been paid out and money already collected for programs starting on or after July 1st will be transferred to the 13/14 budget. He reported that programs overall are seeing higher participation translating into higher revenue. He stated that staff hopes to utilize any potential profit used for improvements to the facilities. Softball programs were discussed, Donery acknowledging that youth softball numbers are down in Marin and that it will be necessary to re-evaluate how we move forward in managing that program. He explained that we are consulting with Rich Friedman who has some ideas. The basketball program was discussed with an eye toward locating a better facility although, with CYO taking much of the available gym space, it is difficult to find anything available and affordable – the best option at the moment is to find a way to increase safety at the Red Hill Church court.
8. Appointment: (see Item 5 above)
9. Presentations: *State of the Parks Report* – Sean Condry, Public Works Director
Dog Park Steering Committee Update – Matt Anaker, Chair
State of the Parks Report: Sean reported on each of the Town's parks, citing examples of various projects that are currently underway or have recently been completed, crediting Rick Franco for much of the achievement. He informed the commission about pending projects, including an in-depth review of the detention basin project in Memorial Park. He expressed a desire to present a staff report to the commission the next time he appears before them.
Dog Park Steering Committee Update: Matt gave a brief history of the Committee and then reported on it's primary challenges: 1) ground cover, 2) shade and 3) small dog area. With regard to the ground cover issue, with Rick Franco's input, it was decided to go with wood chips over planting as the chips would be provided, free of charge, by various tree companies and would require no or little upkeep. Shade trees have been planted and are maintained with help from PW and Sunnyside Nursery. Also, Alex Rockas donated materials for, and built the one shade structure in the park. The committee would like to see another built and Sean said

he'd see what the Town could do with regard to materials contribution. The Small Dog area remains a big challenge due to lack of space.

10. **Commission Projects and Goals:**

A. Quality of Life Commission – Request for Support for Climate Action Plan Progress Report: Commissioners agreed to move this item to the next meeting for more robust discussion.

B. Creekside 'Q' Update and Assignments: Donery reported that significant sponsorship was secured from Melissa Bradley Real Estate with volunteers for all food service needs. The only volunteer effort needed is at each of the two entrances. Holtzer presented her idea of a coloring contest at the crafts table with our logo as the design on the coloring sheets to be submitted in the contest. A small budget was earmarked for procuring craft supplies.

C. Picnics on the Plaza – August 2nd and September 6th: Donery encouraged the commissioners to earmark the Aug. 2nd picnic as it is Irish Night and the Children's Opening of Imagination Park.

D. 501 C 3 Update: Kelly reported that it won't be that difficult. He has filed today for an Employee ID number and, once received, the remainder of the process will be quite easy.

E. Future Projects: Staining New Rail at Robson and BINGO

11. **Staff Update:**

A. Community Facilities Master Plan Update: Donery reported that Group 4 was chosen as the consulting group for the master plan process. This process will inform us as to whether we rehabilitate the existing facilities or build a new center. A Community Advisory Committee is being assembled to meet with the consultants at regular intervals for a total of seven times. A three pronged approach is being taken with regard to including the town citizens in the process: 1) Drop-in meetings, 2) more formal structured meetings with presentations and 3) a Kiosk format.

There was discussion around concerns regarding the mention of artificial turf in the 'Comments' portion of a recent Marin IJ article about the Detention Basin grant, which culminated in Donery recommending that a commissioner address the concern to the design group at the next public meeting.

12. **Commission Comments & Questions, Requests for future agenda items:** See 10. A and E

Thank you to Mitch Young, Youth Commissioner, for his year of service on the commission!

Adjourned: 9:24pm