

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
RESCHEDULED
Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
Thursday, April 9, 2015
Board of Supervisors' Chambers
400 County Center, Redwood City

MINUTES

Chair Pincus called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Cooney, Enriquez (Vice Chair), Merrilees, Okelo, Pincus (Chair), Ruehl (Youth Commissioner)

Staff Present: Arechiga, Bennett, Castillo, Donigan, Dunsmore-Bertoni, Finley, Harris, Herzberg, Lombardi, Mendez, Schoof, Vasquez

Oral Communications

There were none.

Agenda Amendments

There were none.

Presentation

2014 County Parks Inspection Report

Natural Resource Manager Arechiga presented the 2014 County Parks Inspection Report, which was the first report of its kind to date for the Department. She recognized staff members Lucy Mendez, Dinora Dunsmore-Bertoni, David Vasquez, and Mark Donigan who contributed to the report development.

Commissioners asked several clarifying questions. At the Commission's request, staff will provide additional information to include in the report's Table 1 on page 2 the year in which the parks were dedicated to the County, the data form used to collect the data, and the data base report.

Surfer's Beach Shoreline Protection and Coastal Access Enhancement Project Update

Business Development Consultant Harris reported on joint agency efforts to improve access to the beach at the area commonly called Surfer's Beach. Director Finley noted that the Parks Department's role was to secure grant funding and maintain features after the project is completed. She said it was a County Planning project and not a County Parks project.

Action Items

Review and approve the minutes of the February 5, 2015 Regular Meeting

Commission Action: M/S Cooney/Enriquez to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2015 regular meeting.

Motion carried 5-0 with Commissioner Okelo abstaining.

Review and recommend to the Board of Supervisors approval of the Mini-park Policy

Commissioner Merrilees said there was a demonstrated need for the provision of parks in communities not served by cities or special districts, and the Commission had established a subcommittee to look at the provision of mini-parks in unincorporated San Mateo County. He said the Mini-park Policy subcommittee included Commissioner Okelo and himself, and invited representatives from Midcoast Community Council, Pescadero Advisory Council, North Fair Oaks Community Council, and Fair Oaks Beautification Association. Commissioner Okelo commented on the group's ability to meet and coalesce on a Mini-parks policy to recommend to the Board of Supervisors.

Public Comment: Ms. Laura Caplan, Fair Oaks Beautification Association, expressed her support for the proposed Mini-park Policy.

Commission Action: M/S Cooney/Merrilees to recommend to the Board of Supervisors approval of the Mini-park Policy.

Motion carried 6-0.

Director Finley recognized the presence of subcommittee participants Elizabeth Dallman and Ashley Quintana with North Fair Oaks Forward, and Nic Erridge with the Pescadero Community Council.

Chair Pincus presented each of the subcommittee participants in attendance with a commemorative gift and certificate of appreciation.

Review and approve funding the Chinook Salmon smolt project at Pillar Point Harbor from Parks Department's California Department of Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund Budget

Director Finley said that the County Parks Department manages the expenditure of funds deposited by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) into the fish and wildlife propagation fund, which funds were to be used for the protection, conservation, propagation, and preservation of fish and wildlife, under the direction of the County Board of Supervisors. She said that staff was recommending the County fund \$10,000 from those monies for a project proposed by the Coastside Fishing Foundation of the Coastside Fishing Club for the release of Chinook Salmon smolt into Pillar Point Harbor. She said the project has CDFW support.

Public Comment: The lead proposers for the project, Coastside Fishing Club members Doug Laughlin, Bruce MacKimmie and Rick Sturiza provided the Commission with a Powerpoint presentation about the proposed project including a schedule of the release. Mr. Laughlin indicated that the Club has created a nonprofit Foundation to raise funds to support this multi-year project and other projects.

Commission Action: M/S Okelo/Merrilees to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to authorize \$10,000 in funding from the County's Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund Budget for the proposed Chinook Salmon Smolt release in Pillar Point Harbor as outlined in the project proposal.

Motion carried 6-0.

Review and recommend to the Board of Supervisors proposed designations of Priority Conservation Areas in San Mateo County

Park Planner Herzberg provided the Commission with an overview of the origination of the Priority Conservation Area designation concept and related actions to date. He explained that these designations would positively affect future grant funding opportunities for land conservation and recreation on the Peninsula.

Public Comment: Ms. Jane Mark, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, said her agency supported the proposed PCA designations.

Commission Comment: Planner Herzberg said in response to inquiry that eminent domain would not be used for these proposed PCA designations.

Commission Action: M/S Enriquez/Merrilees to recommend to the Board of Supervisors proposed designations of Priority Conservation Areas in San Mateo County as specified in the staff report.

Motion carried 6-0.

Staff Reports
Director's Report

Director Finley said the Parks Annual Report would be provided to the Commission at their next meeting. In addition to her written report, she noted the hiring of Gates+Associates for the Flood Park redesign. Responding to questions from Commissioners, she said that community engagement was imperative in developing a redesign for Flood Park. Regarding the opening for the Crystal Springs South of Dam trail, she said it would officially open after dam completion in 2017. She said right now the department was negotiating with SFPUC to open that portion of the trail through some limited basis schedule.

Harbormaster's Report

Harbormaster Hallett responded to questions about his report, and will provide information on the marina berth rate survey as requested by the Commission.

Parks Superintendent's Report

Parks Superintendent Lombardi said he had no additions to his written report. As requested by the Commission, the report in the future will indicate Parks Districts I, II, III, IV and V to eliminate confusion with Supervisorial District designations.

Natural Resource Manager's Report

Natural Resource Manager Arechiga showed the Commissioners the quality of maps being produced by Rachelle Hedges, the SCA intern working on GIS for the department.

Fiscal Officer's Budget Report

Fiscal Officer Castillo responded to questions from Commissioners on his report and will provide information on other agency projects slated to receive Measure A funds in FYs 2015-2017.

Park Planner's Report

Planner Herzberg answered questions from individual Commissioners on his report. As a followup, he will provide the Commission with the agreement between the County and the Granada Sanitary Community Services District and the survey conducted related to that and its results when they become available.

Community Program Specialist's Report

Ms. Schoof had no additions to her written report.

Park News

There were no additions to the report.

Chair Pincus left the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Foundation Executive Director's Report Commissioner Reports*

Executive Director Bott reported on the additional funding in the amount of \$499,410 approved by her Board for the Department's Volunteer Program and the Coyote Point Recreation Area's Eastern Promenade improvements. She noted their fundraising for FY 2014-2015 was nearly \$750,000.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Okelo suggested in the future when the Vice Chair was available that regular Commission meetings not be rescheduled because the Chair cannot attend. .

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.