



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Mel Pincus, 1st District
Marico C. Enriquez, 2nd District
Neil Merrilees, 3rd District
Vacant, 4th District
Michael J. Cooney, 5th District
Henry Ruehl, Youth Commissioner

County Office Building
555 County Center, 5th Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063
(650) 599-1393
Brenda Bennett, Clerk
www.eparks.net
www.sanmateocountyparks.org

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
Thursday, June 6, 2013
4:00 p.m.
Board of Supervisors' Chambers
400 County Center, Redwood City

MINUTES

Chair Cooney called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**

2. **Roll Call**

Commissioners: Cooney (Chair), Enriquez, Merrilees (Vice Chair), Pincus, Ruehl

Staff: Bennett, Hallett, Harris, Herzberg, Lockman, Lombardi, Nantell, Porter, Schoof, Scott

3. **Introduction of Interim Parks Director Jim Nantell**

Public Works Director Porter introduced Jim Nantell, Interim Parks Director.

4. **Oral Communications**

There was none.

5. **Agenda Amendments**

Agenda items 12.A and 10 were moved before Item 7 to allow staff to leave early for graduation ceremonies.

6. **Consideration of Minutes**

A. Regular Meeting of February 7, 2013 (Continued to the meeting of June 6, 2013 for revision)

B. Special Meeting of March 7, 2013

M/S Enriquez/Cooney to approve the March 7, 2013 minutes as submitted.

Motion carried 4-0.

7. Correspondence and Presentations

A. Introduction of New Staff

Superintendent Lombardi introduced Steve Kraemer, promoted to Ranger IV for District II, and Ro Castaneda, promoted to Ranger III and assigned to District I. He introduced recently hired Ranger IIs: Rob Cala, District IV, Johnson Romulo, District III, Jack Lippert, District II, and Walter Brug, District II.

B. Presentation of Resolution Honoring James C. Porter, Director of Public Works, for Service as Parks Director

Chair Cooney recognized Jim Porter for his tenure as the Parks Director and read a resolution honoring his two-plus years of service as the Director of both Parks and Public Works.

Commissioners and staff thanked Director Porter for his service and support of County Parks.

M/S Cooney/Enriquez to approve the resolution honoring Director Porter for his service as Parks Director.

Motion carried 5-0.

12.A Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Lombardi had no additions to his written report.

10. Project Update

Superintendent Lockman presented a report on various pending parks projects, including Devil's Slide Trail, Coyote Point Recreation Area Promenade, Mirada Surf – Phase III, Parks and Department budget and transition update.

8. Director's Report

Interim Parks Director Nantell reported on the Board's support and direction for Parks to transition to a department and begin the requisition process for Director, Executive Secretary, Natural Resources Manager, and four Ranger positions, and develop a sustainable operations plan.

9. Action Items

- A. Review and Accept Staff Report on Granada Sanitary District's Proposal to Become a Community Services District to Provide Park and Recreation Services in Their Service Area and Receive Public Comment

Parks Senior Planner Herzberg said the San Mateo Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) had requested that the Parks Commission comment and receive public comment on Granada Sanitary District's (GSD) proposal to LAFCo to become a Community Services District to provide park and recreation services in their service and

receive public. He provided an overview of the different plans and actions taken by County Parks to assess the park and recreation needs in the mid-coast and actions to implement plans. He noted that the City of Half Moon Bay currently provides the recreational services for the coastside and also contracts with the City of San Carlos for the provision of many of those services. He said Granada Sanitary District's proposal would not include all mid-coast residents noting other potential special districts that might also contribute to the provision of park and recreational services in that area.

Interim Director Nantell said staff had prepared a response to LAFCo and reviewed the proposed language.

Commissioner Enriquez confirmed the proposal by GSD to LAFCo was to expand their services to include parks and recreation and use existing revenues for that purposes. Commissioner Pincus confirmed that the GSD had lands for these purposes and would not conduct any taking of lands by eminent domain.

Public Comment: Mr. Leonard Woren, President of the El Granada Sanitary District, provided written comments from the District's General Manager, Chuck Duffy, on the proposal, noting it was a call for collaboration among a number of agencies to provide park and recreation services in the mid-coast, there would be a number of public outreach meetings, and the goal was to have a certified application for either the September or November LAFCo meeting.

Youth Commissioner Ruehl said the application indicated there was not 100% landowner support of the proposal and asked if there was majority support of it. Mr. Woren said with 4,000 registered voters that the assumption was that there would not be 100% support and a ballot would be needed to get majority landowner support. Youth Commissioner Ruehl asked if there were any other legal ramifications in becoming a CSD beyond providing parks and recreation services or what CSDs are allowed to do. Mr. Woren said most special districts have specific enabling legislative act and noted examples. He said a CSD has the potential if approved by the voters and LAFCo to potentially provide every service typically provided by a city except for land use authority. He noted that some CSDs in the state were only performing three or four of the potential services. He said GSD at this time was only proposing the sanitary and parks and recreation functions. Interim Director Nantell noted that the services would be limited to whatever the voters approved.

Commissioner Pincus asked about negative financial impact to sewer rate payers. Mr. Woren said moving some portion of funds subsidizing sewer service charges to park and recreation services meant increases in sewer service rates would be needed, but there intent was to slowly phase those changes in over a number of years.

Commissioner Merrilees said one concern was this would create another district with overlapping responsibilities and if there had been discussions with Montara Water and Sanitary District (MWSD) to combine efforts. Mr. Woren said his personal opinion was that Board was not yet ready but he thought that by GSD beginning efforts to acquire

park and recreation services would stimulate MWSD to take similar action.

Mr. Mike Ferreira, Sierra Club's Coastal Issues Committee, said they supported the proposal as they favored local people working on local parks. He noted he was a former Half Moon Bay City Council member and served on a Joint Powers Sewer Board with both GSD and MSD. He said local focused government better served the area.

Ms. Lennie Roberts, Committee for Green Foothills, said they supported the statement prepared by staff. She said the communities on the coastsides value their autonomy and their special districts. She said this was a very important first step to acquire park and recreation services in the coastsides.

Ms. Fran Pollard, El Granada, showed a 1978 Community Plan that the Board of Supervisors had adopted and that parks and recreation was one of the major goals to provide for the coastsides. She said she was a member of the Save the Burnham Strip Committee. She said it was nonsensical to consider consolidating all of the coastsides into one city. She said El Granada is most impacted by tourism and their use of recreational opportunities and this proposal would help the citizens of El Granada create park and recreational opportunities for local residents.

Chair Cooney closed the public comment period.

Commission Comment: Commissioner Merrilees said the chance of northern coastsides joining with Half Moon Bay was nearly nil in the foreseeable future. He said he has lived in Montara, Miramar and Moss Beach, and thought that area was one community. He said one thing missing from the proposal was a road map toward future consolidation with MWSD. He said that was important noting currently his children use Quarry Park, Moss Beach Park, and areas in Princeton. He asked if El Granada were to provide a community center whether that would be for everyone or just the El Granada rate payers. He said for example that Surfer's Beach was the epicenter of 12 different districts and because there were so many of them none of them take responsibility for anything within a couple of hundred feet of that area. He asked if GSD became a CSD if they would build a stairway there to the beach as it would now lie within that district. He asked if the vision was for parks and recreation for just the immediate residents or for all of San Mateo County and the world. He said coastal communities have to serve the general public as well as the local ratepayers and sometimes those needs were in direct conflict and noted beach parking and bathrooms. He said he was concerned that the County might lose interest in the coastsides should the local districts take over park and recreation services, and if it did who would take over regional park and recreation and open space issues.

Commission Action: M/S Merrilees/Enriquez to direct staff to provide comments to the Executive Officer of San Mateo LAFCo as proposed by staff. (Attached.)

Motion carried 5-0.

B. Review and Approve Revised Proposed Fitzgerald Marine Reserve Parking Lot Improvements

Parks Senior Planner Herzberg presented a brief PowerPoint report on the revised Parking Lot Improvement Plan for the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve parking lot. He said all but one parking space were outside the 50-foot riparian buffer area and discussed ADA improvements within the Plan. He noted the proposed stormwater improvements. He said if the proposed revisions to the Plan as outlined in the staff report were acceptable to the Commission, the revised Plan would go to County Planning Commission for a Coastal Development Permit. He said a neighbor wrote requesting that the bus parking be moved and concern about cars using the bus parking area. He said however that this was not part of the proposed project.

Parks Senior Planner Herzberg responding to a question from Chair Cooney explained the proposed stormwater improvements. Chair Cooney said there was another method of using bacteria to clean stormwater that would not require as much land. Parks Senior Planner Herzberg said that he would ask the consultants about that but noted the proposed improvements were approved for grant funding.

Public Comment: Mr. Bill Kennedy said that regarding relocating the California Coastal Trail that it would be preferable to wait until the alignment was determined before building that portion of it as that would require the removal of asphalt.

Chair Cooney closed the public comment period.

Commission Action: M/S Pincus/Enriquez to approve the Parking Lot Improvement Plan for the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve with recommended revisions listed in staff report dated May 30, 2013 for presentation to the County Planning Commission for issuance of a Coastal Development Permit.

Motion carried 5-0.

C. Review and Recommend to the Board of Supervisors Acceptance of Direct and In-Kind Donations from the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Foundation for FY 2012/2013

Interim Parks Director Nantell made a short presentation.

Commission Action: M/S Cooney/Enriquez to recommend to the Board of Supervisors acceptance of direct and in-kind donations from the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Foundation for FY 2013/2013.

Motion carried 5-0.

10. Project Update

Report made immediately following agenda item 7.

11. Marina

A. Harbormaster's Report

Harbormaster Hallett noted that occupancy was experiencing changes but the numbers were remaining the same at about 75% with some improvement in revenue however.

There was discussion about alternatives to provide fuel to berthers. Harbormaster Hallett said in response to Chair Cooney that he would look into vendors willing to help with repair work and providing fuel.

12. Operations and Maintenance Activities

A. Superintendent's Report

Report made after the Project Update item earlier in the agenda.

B. Volunteer Programs and Activities Report

Community Program Specialist Schoof said she had no additions to her written report.

13. Support Services

A. Bi-monthly Alternative Funding and Program Development Report

Ms. Harris noted in addition to her written report that the Coastal Conservancy's "Explore the Coast Program" was scheduled to award projects by the end of May but that was delayed. She said there would be a site visit on June 18 in response to an application made in October 2012 to the California Resources Agency for the Devil's Slide Trail.

B. Park Planning Update

Parks Senior Planner Herzberg said he had no additions to the written report.

14. Friends and Subcommittees

A. Parks and Recreation Foundation

Ms. Julia Bott, Executive Director, San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Foundation, said they were gearing up for the Tour de Peninsula on August 4, noting proceeds support Bicycle Sunday.

15. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Enriquez said he enjoyed the Friends of Edgewood event.

Commissioner Merrilees proposed that at the next meeting there should be recognition of the Parks employees who kept operations going during a budget and staff reduction period over the past two years.

16. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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Department of Parks

JIM NANTELL
INTERIM DIRECTOR

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June 11, 2013

Martha Poyatos, Executive Officer
San Mateo Local Agency Formation Commission
400 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063

Dear Ms. Poyatos:

The San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Commission, at its regular meeting of June 6, 2013, considered the Granada Sanitary District's (GSD) proposal to become a Community Services District to provide park and recreation services in their service area as requested by your agency.

The Commission received public comment from the following speakers, all of whom expressed support for the GSD proposal.

- Leonard Woren, GSD Board
- Mike Ferreira, Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter
- Lennie Roberts, Committee for Green Foothills
- Fran Pollard, El Granada

Individual Commissioner comments included:

- Need to consider needs of all midcoast visitors and not only GSD rate payers
- Potential loss of regional park services oversight and provision

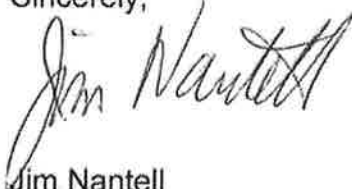
The Commission by unanimous vote directed staff to transmit the following comments to LAFCo regarding GSD's proposal.

We applaud the Granada Sanitary District's proposal to use property tax revenues to respond to unmet midcoast parks and recreational needs. As proposed, the service area will not include the whole midcoast area and therefore will not be able to address all the needs noted in the Midcoast Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment. Approval of the proposal before LAFCO could be seen as a first phase towards addressing those needs; however, it should be considered in light of a long term vision relative to the most efficient approach to meeting the needs for the complete midcoast area.

In order to address the midcoast park and recreational needs as efficiently as possible, some consideration should be given to expanding the service area for the parks and recreation services to include more or all of the midcoast or, at minimum, encourage the Granada Sanitary District to partner with other midcoast existing jurisdictions in the provision of these services.

On behalf of the Commission, Parks staff thanks San Mateo LAFCo for the opportunity to comment on GSD's proposal.

Sincerely,



Jim Nantell
Interim Parks Director

cc: Parks and Recreation Commission
Gary Lockman, Parks Superintendent
Sam Herzberg, Senior Planner