



Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes, May 21, 2013

1. Meeting called to order at 7:02pm
2. Roll Call: *Burdo, Bergman, Holtzer, Kallmeyer, Kelly, Logwood, Young*
3. Approval of Agenda: Approved.
4. Approval of Minutes of 4/16/13: Approved.
5. Youth Commissioner Interviews:
 - 7:00pm - Zoe Harris
 - 7:10pm - Cameron Ashton
 - 7:20pm - Will Sileo

Following the interviews, there was discussion with a motion and vote resulting in the election of Cameron Ashton as the next Park & Recreation Youth Commissioner.
6. Open Time for Public Expression: None
7. Ross Valley Seniors Presentation: In response to Commissioner Burdo's inquiry at the last meeting, as to what types of senior programs the recreation department has, Donery invited Dana Gibson, Program Coordinator for the Ross Valley Seniors monthly luncheon and various classes that cater to seniors, organize a presentation for the commission. She, along Karen Arnold, Bob and Dorothy Davidson, Betsy and Millie, shared some history of the organization as well as offering a slide show depicting various events and speakers. The commissioners expressed their appreciation and asked several questions to help round out their understanding of the organization and inquired as to how they might contribute to and/or assist them. Karen said they could always use volunteers to help with the luncheons. Betsy asked for encouragement of younger people to join. Holtzer acknowledged her involvement with Ross Valley Mothers Club and offered to speak to that group about coordinating activities with children and seniors. It was suggested that some of the San Anselmo merchants may want to become involved. Burdo volunteered to contact Connie Rodgers at the Chamber of Commerce, who could be instrumental in identifying those merchants
8. Recreation Fund Reports:

Period Ending 4/30/13: Donery reported that the Rec. Fund is 29% in the gain column, contributing this success to the phenomenal growth at Parkside Preschool and expects the Ross Valley Music & Art Camp and Camp Kinder-Kool summer programs to be extremely successful. There was some discussion regarding expenditures. Donery acknowledged that spending would be somewhat modest, but that new tables and chairs have already been ordered for the Gymnasium kitchen and the Vista Room. Also, it is hoped that the Vista Room will finally get the 'facelift' it needs, eliminating the existing 'director's office' at the back of the room extending the usable space for activities. In response to Holtzer's question regarding improvements to the preschool, Donery explained that the staff has ideas about what they would like to have done to improve Parkside. Donery addressed the question regarding the possibility of utilizing the old Robin's Nest facility, explaining that after meeting with the town manager and district superintendent, it was determined that it was not feasible.

9. Commission Projects & Goals:

A. 2013 Work Party Ideas:

- i. Creek Park Bridge Painting – Donery reported that, after conferring with public works, it has been determined that the bridge painting is best left to professionals.

This revelation led to discussion around redefining goals, perhaps spearheading larger projects to be carried out by volunteers. (i.e. create a design for a new BBQ at Robson).

Dog Park Work Party – Sat, 5/4 - Bergman reported her concern regarding the lack of support for the Dog Park Steering Committee. Donery stated that resources from the town are minimal by design and the steering committee, aware of this, has created a self-sufficient system that they are very proud of. That having been said, they would certainly appreciate any additional support offered and the resources from the Town are slowly increasing. Burdo noted that while at the work party he saw great collaboration and felt that they were well organized. Bergman brought to the forefront the fact that the Town upholds ordinances prohibiting dogs in its parks, leaving owners and their dogs little choice but to use the Red Hill Dog Park and feels that, under those circumstances, the Town *should* contribute more to its upkeep. Holtzer agreed, stating that it should be kept to the same standard as our other parks. Donery replied, stating that he has spoken with Rick Franco, Parks & Streets Supervisor for Public Works, who has interfaced with the committee regarding the ground cover issue, offering his knowledge to the project, however, they are very independent and appear to be evolving the process in their own way. \$25,000 has been fund-raised for their grass roots efforts. As a final note on the subject, it was unanimously agreed that it would be a fantastic idea to invite the Dog Park Steering Committee in to ask “how are things going?” and “what do you need?” with the Public Works Director there to present a ‘State of the Parks’ report at the June meeting.

- B. Creekside ‘Q’ Event Update: Donery reported that the event is on track with a marketing strategy in place, including hanging posters in town shop windows, email blasts and banners. Six volunteers are needed at the Ticket Collection stations and 14 for the food service and face painters will be brought in. There was further discussion around the commission’s role of providing an activities table for the children. Holtzer will organize an Activities Table.
- C. Picnics on the Plaza Update: P & R Commission will have Friday, September 6th. Logwood has a call in to Rusty Evans and would like to put up some posters. Donery said Sandy has already designed the ‘perfect’ poster and will add Rusty to it.
- D. Future Projects:
 - i. Valentine’s Day BINGO Fundraiser was briefly discussed and acknowledged that it will be an easy annual event – to be discussed at future meetings

8. Staff Update:

- A. Donery reported that four proposals for planning services for the Facilities Master Plan have been submitted. The selection committee, comprised of Debbie, Sean, Diane and himself will determine a short list of candidates and interview each of them. Commissioners asked how they might be involved in the selection and Donery agreed to discuss this with the Town Manager as it is not the normal procedure He committed to responding via email as soon as a decision was made.

9. Commission Comments & Questions, Requests for future agenda items:
 1. Discuss potential projects
 2. Non-Profit status

Adjourned: 9:10pm