



Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes, May 19, 2015

1. Meeting called to order at 7:06pm
2. Roll Call: *Bergman, Holtzer, Levenson, Logwood, Machado, Reber*
3. Approval of 04/21/15 Minutes: M-Reber/S-Holtzer /Ayes = 6; Noes = 0 - Approved
4. Open Time for Public Expression: None
5. **Recreation Fund Report:**
Fiscal Year 2014/15 - Period ending 04/30/15: Donery reported that, as of April 30, 2015, 83% of the fiscal year has elapsed and the Rec Fund is listed at 103% of projected revenues and 75% of projected expenditures. Donery reminded the commission about two changes effecting expenditure numbers include increased cost of wages along with the addition of \$60,000 transferred from the fund balance to the expenditure side of the current Recreation department budget to cover two facility improvement projects, those being the kitchen remodel in the ICC recreation building and 50% of the cost of the ICC signage program. Holtzer asked why soccer does so well every year and asked if the department could make adjustments to other sports programs to help them grow. Donery explained that youth soccer generates by far the highest participation rates of any youth sport. He used SABA as an example saying that they register around 200 kids each season and that soccer is typically over 600.
6. **Community Facilities Master Plan - Update:**
Donery reported that he and the Town Manager met with a local fundraising consultant with the intent of the meeting being to get an idea of what our next steps should be now that the Master Plan has been approved. The consultant emphasized that we need to “keep people in the game,” meaning we need to keep the master plan at the forefront of people’s mind, not let it just sit on a shelf gathering dust. Donery reported that the consultant advised that the Town’s next steps could be two-fold. Gathering high-level community support by recruiting people who are passionate about the concept of a community center. He advised that this group would be the ones who will carry the message about a new center, not staff. Second, from the staff standpoint, we need to look at programmatic enhancements with high visibility and high impact, so people can see the cool things that are going on.
7. **Program Area Report:** Recreation Coordinator Dana Gibson gave a Power Point presentation highlighting the area of work that she is responsible for, which includes the Ross Valley Seniors, adult programming and youth sports camps.
8. **Commission Projects and Goals:**
 - A. Creek Park Event Space- Subcommittee Development - Levenson: Levenson reported that his idea to use Creek Park was mainly for weddings and celebrations that would carry over into one of the town’s restaurants. He stated that he has ideas for other types of events that could work there as well and that the rentals could include the amphitheatre and the grove picnic area.
 - B. 501c3 Status: Tabled to June meeting.
 - C. Creekside Q Participation: Donery reported that the Creekside Q event is coming up on June 24th. He stated that in the past some Commission members have volunteered at the event and he wanted to extend that invitation again for the 2015 event. He said that help was needed in the food service area and at the registration tables. He invited Commissioners to contact him if they were interested in helping at the event.
 - E. Future Projects: None.

9. **Staff Updates:**

A. Summer Events: Donery reported on the Creekside Q and Picnic on the Plaza events.

B. Skate Plaza Project: Donery reported that Lisa Graham had been successful in obtaining a \$5K grant from Marin Sanitary.

C. Facility Upgrades: Donery provided an update to the project that were happening at the ICC building. The Mt. Tam Room remodel at ICC is virtually finished and is open for use. The final pieces include AV and plumbing and kitchen area upgrades.. Donery added that construction on the new ADA ramp to access the Vista Room and Parkside Preschool at ICC is underway and that the ramp will be completed before the beginning of Camp KidMarin on June 22nd. The new signage will be completely installed following the completion of the ADA ramp as the same company will be doing both jobs.

D. Memorial Park Detention Basin: Donery reported that there is an initiative to make amendments to Town's general Plan which would prevent the Town from making any non-recreation use changes to Memorial Park . The goal of the group is to prevent the park from being used for flood mitigation purposes. The group behind the initiative is gathering signatures and hopes to collect enough signatures to place an item on the November ballot giving residents a chance to vote on the initiative. Donery stated that he would bring updates about this effort to the Commission each month through the fall.

9. **Commission comments and questions, requests for future agenda items: none**

Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm

DPD