

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
Thursday, December 3, 2015
4:00 p.m.
Board of Supervisors' Chambers
400 County Center, Redwood City

MINUTES

Chair Pincus called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

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

Commissioners Absent: Huo (Youth)

Staff Present: Arechiga, Bennett, Castillo, Finley, Herzberg, Kraemer, Lombardi, Schoof

Oral Communications

Mr. Andrew Hsu, President, Peninsula Velo Club, read a letter commending Park Ranger IV Stephen Kraemer as the Supervising Ranger for District II for his communication and collaboration with this cyclist group and other cyclists related to the Parks Department's recent work on the Ralston Bike Trail and other actions including resolving safety issues in support of cyclists.

Ranger IV Kraemer thanked the Parks Administration office for their support and guidance and all District II Rangers for their work and support of this and other projects.

Agenda Amendments

Staff requested to move item 4D.i. Fuel Reduction Prioritization Report after agenda item 5 and before agenda item 6A, which the Chair accepted.

San Mateo County Parks Foundation Executive Director Report

Ms. Michele Beasley, Executive Director, San Mateo County Parks Foundation, reported that she had been busy her first month as the executive director meeting with people and visiting the County parks system. She said she would contact each of the Commissioners by email to meet.

Presentation

Fuel Reduction Prioritization Report

Ms. Hannah Ormshaw, SCA Senior GIS Intern, provided the Commission with a PowerPoint presentation on a *Fuel Reduction Prioritization in County Parks* report she had developed. She outlined how she used GIS to analyze raster data layers using

numerous variables to arrive at a prioritization of fuel management within identified parks. Her presentation included several maps illustrating those areas for prioritization of fuel reduction management.

Commissioner Cooney suggested with residential properties that interface with public lands that those homeowners' insurance companies might be interested in designating funding support for fire fuel reduction.

Replying to a question from Commissioner Okelo, Natural Resource Manager (NRM) Arechiga said that CalFire maintains historical fire data and are the primary agency for fire management response. Commissioner Okelo suggested that signage might be helpful in the parks with instructions on what to do if a fire occurred.

Chair Pincus commended the report and the information provided.

Sustainability Action Plan for San Mateo County Parks Department

Senior Planner Herzberg provided a PowerPoint presentation on the development of a sustainability action plan for the Parks Department through a program with PGE called Sustainability Rev in conjunction with the County's Office of Sustainability. He said that the Parks Department has now been certified as a Green Business.

Commissioner Merrilees commented on the quality of the report and suggested some value could be attributed to transportation mitigation from people riding their bikes to get to destinations and traveling through parks. He suggested the Department look into the use of its parking lots and if there was little use during certain days of the week to consider having them used as park and ride lots. He suggested a bicycle concession might be a future revenue source. He also suggested that vehicles used within the parks be appropriately scaled to the scale of job being performed and to also consider increasing the type of vehicles during next purchasing period to include electric. He suggested some of his ideas could be added to goals. visitors in the parks are not driving on the roads or riding their bikes through the parks to get to destinations. He said in future building construction the plumbing should include the installation of a purple line to pipe in reclaimed nonpotable water when that water system became available.

Commissioner Okelo inquired whether SamTrans was involved with this Action Plan, and on finding that they were not, suggested they get involved to provide service to parks for visitors.

Chair Pincus opened public comment.

Ms. Liz Salazar, San Francisco State University, said her course assignment required her to attend a public meeting and make public comment. She said the Sustainability Action Plan had valuable goals and intent.

Action Items

Review and Approve the Minutes of the October 1, 2015 Regular Meeting

ACTION: M/S Merrilees/Enriquez to approve the minutes as presented; approved 6-0.

Selection of Two Commissioners to Serve on a Dog Strategy Committee for San Mateo County Parks (Continued from October 1, 2015 Meeting)

Commissioners Merrilees and Cooney volunteered to serve on the committee.

Commissioner Okelo recommended that the committee be called the “Dog Management Strategy for San Mateo County Parks Committee.”

Review and Approve Commission Meeting Calendar for 2016

ACTION: M/S Cooney/Enriquez to approve the 2016 Commission meeting calendar as presented; approved 6-0.

Selection of Commission Chair and Vice Chair for Calendar Year 2016

ACTION: M/S Okelo/Cooney to select Commissioner Enriquez as the Chair for 2016; approved 5-0 with Commissioner Enriquez abstaining.

ACTION: M/S Cooney/Enriquez to select Commissioner Okelo as the Vice Chair for 2016; approved 5-0 with Commissioner Okelo abstaining.

Review and Adopt Resolution of Appreciation for Commissioner Mel Pincus’ Service as 2015 Chair of the County of San Mateo Parks and Recreation Commission

ACTION: M/S Enriquez/Okelo to adopt a resolution of appreciation for Commissioner Pincus’ service as the 2015 Chair of the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Commission; approved 5-0 with Commissioner Pincus abstaining.

Chair Pincus thanked Director Finley and the Commission for the recognition. Commissioners expressed their appreciation to Chair Pincus for his dedication.

Staff Reports

Director’s Report

Director Finley reported on the formation of a dog management strategy in County parks committee that the group Montara Dog Walkers, the equestrian community, Midcoast Community Council and Pescadero Municipal Advisory Committee had sent her names of people to serve on the committee. She said it was also suggested to have the bicyclist community and water quality and environmental experts on the committee. She said that she would be scheduling meetings in the early part of 2016.

Director Finley also reported that Doug McConnell, Open Roads, would feature Devil's Slide on its opening program on January 24.

Commissioner Okelo asked if they would do a presentation on Flood Park for the East Palo Alto City Council. Director Finley said they would make those arrangements.

Harbormaster's Report

There were no additions to the written report.

Parks Superintendent's Report

Park Superintendent Lombardi talked briefly about multi-agency preparation and response for events caused by the expected El Nino weather this winter.

Natural Resource Manager's Report

NRM Arechiga said she had no additions to the written report.

- i. Fuel Reduction Prioritization Report (presented earlier in the meeting)

Fiscal Officer's Budget Report

Management Analyst Castillo had no additions to his written report.

Park Planner's Report

Senior Planner Herzberg reported additionally on PGE line work on San Bruno Mountain.

Community Program Specialist's Report

Community Program Specialist Schoof reported on the upcoming Volunteer Recognition Event and invited the Commission.

Development Consultant's Report

There were no additions to the written report.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioners Merrilees and Pincus reported they had attended the King's Tides event hosted by Supervisor Horsley.

Adjournment

Chair Pincus adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.