

MARINWOOD COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

MINUTES OF PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

June 24, 2015

Time and Place: 7:00 Creekside Park

Present:

Commissioners: Chair Izabela Perry, Kimberly Call, John Tune, Sarah Paoli and Sivan Oyserman.

Absent: Shane Valentine.

Staff: District Manager Eric Dreikosen, Recreation Director Shane DeMarta and Administrative Assistant Carolyn Sullivan.

Board Members: Justin Kai.

Park and Recreation facility inspection- Creekside Park

DeMarta noted staff had been working on Creekside the past few months. The berm has been cleaned, trees trimmed, new mulch has been placed in the area. Staff built a pergola as well and cleaned and stained all picnic benches. Staff also performed a playground safety inspection on the equipment. Commission members inquired about the health of the main oak tree. Tune responded the tree is not in the best health, the construction of the playground damaged the roots, but Tune doesn't feel the tree is in immediate danger of falling. There was discussion regarding making Creekside Park a facility able to reserve and rent for parties. Paoli noted a restroom of some sort should be placed on the grounds before the CSD rents the area. DeMarta replied the residents in the area have always been against the idea of placing a restroom at Creekside Park, but when staff does a survey for residents it could be included in the questionnaire. Call stated Creekside Park is CSD property and the CSD should be able to determine whether or not a restroom facility should be placed on the grounds.

The Commission decided items to be addressed in the near future are as follows:

- Replace the sign board next to the tennis court.
- Add fall material to the playground (scheduled for summer 2015; \$6,000-\$7,000).
- Recoat tennis court by end of 2015 (\$10,000 budgeted from 2015/16 Measure A funds).
- Plant 15gallon valley oaks in Sept-Oct. As they mature they will lessen the hit when the large valley oak eventually has to be taken down.
- Add another picnic table under the pergola. Two tables may be easily accommodated and will provide more space for potential renters. Staff will recycle table from the panhandle Picnic area.

Long term items are as follows:

- Create a "Creekside Park" sign.
- Add porta-potty in an easily accessible area. The Commission would like to approve the location of the restroom.
- Rent space for parties to generate additional revenue for the District.

Agenda

No changes or additions.

Public Comment

No comments.

Minutes of May 26, 2015 Commission Meeting

No quorum to approve. This item will be placed on the July agenda.

Review of Draft Board Minutes of June 9, 2015

Call requested an update on the solar project. Dreikosen responded he had met with individuals today regarding the project. The delay is due to the project financing on the part of the Solar Company. It is likely the project will be scaled down to fit the needs of the District.

Marketing and PR options for Park Maintenance Department

Perry commented the CSD needs to educate the residents about the staff and suggested adding profiles to the website as well as the Marinwood Review. Oyserman suggested adding the CSD parks and their locations as well. Perry would also like to provide an update of Measure A funded projects, completed and upcoming.

Healthy Vending Efforts

DeMarta stated the vendor had placed healthy items in the machine. No high-fructose corn syrup or hydrogenated oils. Sales have slipped and we must keep in mind the vendor needs to make his minimum, but we are trying the best we can to provide healthy options while maintaining sales.

Park and Recreation Report

Paoli requested the schedule for Music in the Park. DeMarta replied June 26, July 10, July 24, August 7 and August 21.

Oyserman made DeMarta aware of a leaning portion of equipment on the main playground. DeMarta replied he is aware of the situation and staff is working on finding the correct replacement.

Q&A on Non-Agenda Items/ Requests for Future Agenda Items

Future Agenda Items:

Call read a prepared two statements for inclusion in the minutes:

“Call reminded Commission and staff of her research with area ecologists last year on the subject of crows- being briefed that they are very smart, teach their young and pass along new information generationally, and, of most concern-crows are predators who eat the eggs of young songbirds, and as the population of crows has drastically increased in Marinwood, so the populations of songbirds has reduced. A factor is-our park trash cans and litter have become feeding stations for crows. We must NOT encourage crows to scavenge waste from our overflowing trash cans- very important to monitor and keep the cans emptied as much as possible-and-at some point in the future, Call requests we research and fund more crow-proof cans that other Parks use.”

“COPIA, Robert Mondavi’s Center for Wine and Culture in Napa, that sadly closed years ago, featured an Insect Nectar Garden to educate visitors and children about the crucial role that insects, bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinators play in our ecosystem, as they are required to pollinate much of our food supply.

Monarch butterflies, whose populations in migrations in the US once numbered in the billions-have dropped to a fraction of that, now in mere millions and dropping.

All too often, these wild native beneficial plants are exactly what are targeted as ‘weeds’ and destroyed by harmful chemicals like RoundUp used throughout the country.

Wild fennel is the MAIN food of beautiful swallowtail butterflies. Monarch butterflies can ONLY feed on milkweed in their early stages. We need more bees!

I suggest we plant a Native Pollinator Garden to mask the outhouse and form an attractive backdrop in the area of the tennis court and picnic table, and before the bridge over the stream-and post a small sign to educate the public about the value of these plantings. I am told the owner of the organic nursery O’Donnells in Fairfax is very knowledgeable about native plants, and I’d like to invite him to give us his opinion on recommended plants for the area and throughout the parklands-he may do this pro-bono, or we may offer him a pair of tickets to the next winter wine fest!

Once we have a plan of recommendations, I think the community may like to donate to funding for this- the ‘Help Replant the Park-Native Wildflower Fund’- we could even promote this and put a can on the counter over the summer to reach interested moms.”

Perry commented the Commission will be continuing with inspections. Paoli, Tune and Oyserman will bring their ideas for the growth of Marinwood. Paoli commented she will not be in attendance at the next meeting, she will be on vacation, and she will email her ideas to Perry. Perry would also like to discuss Valentine’s idea of a possible “membership” to the community center. Tune commented he had finished a draft IPM Policy and will email it to Dreikosen tomorrow. Perry commented a resident had broached the topic of a Marinwood Parade. The Commission overall thought the CSD should not be involved, it would require too much staff time. A volunteer based scenario would be the best option. Call requested an update on the stone and plaque for Kunkel. Dreikosen commented the company that the Commission planned to use has gone out of business, a new company must be found. Perry asked if anyone had any comments regarding Hansell’s letter included in the past Board meeting. Oyserman commented it is a bit disheartening to see all the OT costs and to realize some Firemen are earning more than some College Professors. Paoli stated the Marinwood Firefighters are the lowest paid in the County.

The meeting concluded at 8:14PM.

The date of the next Park and Recreation Commission meeting is July 28, 2015 at 7:00 at Marinwood Community Park and Playground.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Sullivan