

# **San Rafael Park and Recreation Commission**

## **Meeting Minutes: January 18, 2012**

Chairman Ralph Mihan called the meeting of the San Rafael Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Mark Bustillos, Eric Holm, Jeff Jones, Mark Lubamersky, Mark Machado, Ralph Mihan, Fred Warnecke,

**Commissioners Present:** Mark Bustillos, Eric Holm, Mark Lubamersky, Mark Machado, Ralph Mihan, Fred Warnecke

**Commissioners Absent:** Jeff Jones

**Staff Present:** Director Carlene McCart, Vern Doughty, Parks Superintendent, Debbie Younkin, Recreation Supervisor

### **1. Action Items**

#### **A. Orcas Swim Club 2012 Facility Use Agreement**

Recreation Supervisor Younkin introduced the item with background of the evolution of the Use Agreement between the City of San Rafael and the Terra Linda Orcas Swim Team. She described the 2012 Agreement as unchanged in significant ways from 2011. The successful balance of community and swim team use of the Terra Linda Community Pool was achieved over the last few years, and the formula is replicated for the 2012 swim season. Both parties in the Agreement remain flexible to adjust pool lane use to respond to Orcas needs, weather conditions, public attendance and other factors. Younkin noted the projected Agreement revenue to the City is decreased from 2011 because the Orcas reduced swim team practice duration. There is one additional swim meet date included in the 2012 Agreement. The public programs begin in part on April 9 and continue through October 5.

Younkin introduced Brian McDaniel, President and Bruce Keith, Vice President of the Terra Linda Orcas. Mr. McDaniel remarked 2012 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the organization, and recognized the City for the cooperative partnership. Swim team participation is 218 youth ranging in age from 8-18 years, representing a total of 148 families. No fee increases are imposed this year, and scholarships are available. The team motto is Fun, Fitness, Friends, and the organization considers one benefit that of community building. Volunteers contribute 800 hours of service to the Orcas per season. Communication and cooperation has increased and improved with the City and the flexibility in pool lane apportionment works well for the swim team.

Commissioner Warnecke inquired about the public access to the pool during Orca assigned hours. Younkin replied Orcas have primary use from March to the public swim season opening in mid to late April, when the pool is shared with public programs.

Commissioner Lubamersky asked how many high school age swimmers compete with the Orcas and the number of scholarships awarded last year. 18-20 of the 218 swimmers belong in this age group. Rates for high school swimmers are lower, as these athletes usually train with their school teams. The older swimmers are recruited as mentors, and to model commitment, community service and achievement. One full and several partial scholarships were awarded last year, in proportion to other swim teams in the Marin Swim League. McDaniel went on to explain the

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The Organization is soliciting local retail support to help build a larger scholarship fund and other expenses. The Orcas depend on sophisticated computerized timing systems and data systems, sound equipment, pool and training equipment.

Chair Mihan asked about the use of Orca banners, and the presence of alcohol at events. and was told the promotional banners are displayed during swim meets only. Alcoholic beverages are sold or provided at fundraising banquets and similar adult events only. One day permits are obtained by the Orcas to authorize the sales. Mihan also noted that the 2012 season was one week longer. This was due to the MSL schedule for the championships on July 14.

The Commission congratulated the Terra Linda Orcas on 50 years of service to youth in San Rafael and it was

M/s Holm/Lubamersky to approve the Terra Linda Orcas Swim Club 2012 Facility Use Agreement.

AYES: Bustillos, Holm, Jones, Lubamersky, Machado, Mihan, Warnecke

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jones

**B. Terra Linda Homeowners Request to Donate to Freitas Park**

In November 2011, Reuel and Sylvia Brady, representing the Terra Linda Homeowners Association requested to make a donation of a musical play feature to Freitas Park in honor of a neighborhood student. Several Commissioners inspected a similar installation at Civic Center Park. The landscape architect for the recent renovation project reviewed the feature and suggested sites for installation. Satisfied that the donation was appropriate for Freitas Park it was:

M/s Bustillos/Holm to accept the donation of the play feature to Freitas Park

AYES: Bustillos, Holm, Jones, Lubamersky, Machado, Mihan, Warnecke

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jones

**C. California Park and Recreation Society Community Awards Nomination**

In recognition of the 50 years of service to youth and families in San Rafael, the Commission

M/s Warnecke/Machado to Nominate the Terra Linda Orcas for the 2012 Community Service Awards, sponsored by California Parks and Recreation Society District 1.

AYES: Bustillos, Holm, Jones, Lubamersky, Machado, Mihan, Warnecke

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jones

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The award presentation will be held February 26, 2012 at a banquet held at the Pickleweed Community Center.

**D. 2012 Issues Review**

McCart provided an overview of City financial forecast projected for the Fiscal Year 2012-13 in preparation for budget development. She also presented the City Council priority issues to address in the upcoming years along with the list community requested studies and actions under consideration.

**2. Commission Items**

**A. Director Report**

McCart reported the Community Services Department is sponsoring 51 afterschool enrichment classes for elementary and middle school students on 9 campuses. 503 students are currently enrolled. 1400 children are enrolled in Child Care at 9 locations. Marin Junior Volleyball enrolled 350 young women on teams and training programs. The department theater programs serve 90 children in two productions this spring. Kids Club has 50 children enrolled at Pickleweed Community Center, and an additional 400 children are involved in other department sponsored programs.

The Department has scheduled three Meet the Chief public events January 18, 19, and 24.

The City and the San Rafael City Schools District have agreed to continue with the 1978 Joint Powers Agreement for the construction, maintenance and use of the Glenwood Tennis Courts, but to temporarily shut the facilities until such time as funding is identified for court repair.

Neighbors have solicited the City Council to partner with the Lincoln Hill Neighborhood Association for the installation of a mini park on CalTrans property on Brookedale Avenue. In light of the City funding restrictions and Capital Improvement Project Plan for the next five years, the Council will consider the request in 2013.

The State of California now requires deed restrictions for property reviving State Park Bond Act funds. The City Attorney is reviewing the new mandates for local application to funds available for Freitas Park Renovation Phase 2 and Falkirk Cultural Center painting.

**B. Falkirk Report**

Marin Master Gardeners has requested an extension of the current Use Agreement to allow for fundraising and renovation of the Greenhouse structure on the grounds. The current lessee of the second floor office suite is requesting an expansion of space. Both requests are being processed by the Director.

**C. Parks Report**

Superintendent Doughty reported the Parks Division continued with normal maintenance tasks, including loan of 1/3 Parks staff to Streets Division. Lack of usual winter weather has allowed for catch up on some work that otherwise would not have been done, which has helped to mask the effects of the budget cuts and reduced staff levels. Crews started Albert Field maintenance, including re-establishing baselines and turf edges. In addition staff Began working with San Rafael Girl's Softball representative Steve Bottomley to install new pitching rubbers, home plates,

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some bases, etc. Hardware will be installed that the league has provided. Staff will evaluate if any improvements can be made to the domestic water lines for use in wetting down the infields.

15 new plants were installed in the roadway median of Las Gallinas Ave., between Freitas Pkwy. and Las Colindas Road, in an effort to deter individuals from using the median as a shortcut to home or for u-turns.

The automatic fill system at the Terra Linda Pool malfunctioned and leaks were detected beneath the decking and breezeway. Parts were ordered and the problem was corrected. The water bill for the period came in at approx. \$6, 000, normally have been \$1,000 or less. MMWD agreed to reduce the bill by approx. \$4700. A new heater for the pool will be installed next week. Total cost for the replacement is \$36,000. Funds will be taken from the Parks Division operating budget.

**D. Report from Committees**

There was no report

**E. Approval of Meeting Minutes, November 16, 2011**

M/s Lubamersky/Bustillos to approve the Minutes

AYES: Bustillos, Holm, Lubamersky, Machado, Mihan, Warnecke

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jones

**3. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.