



City of Saratoga Parks and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting

MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, November 13, 2012

TIME: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Recreation Center
Multi-Purpose Room
19655 Allendale Avenue
Saratoga, CA 95070

Call to Order

Roll Call

Present: Thomas Soukup, Terry Ward, Vita Bruno

Staff: Mainini Cabute

Report on Posting of the Agenda: Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2, this meeting was properly posted November 8, 2012.

Accept Agenda Items: No additional items may be added pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2.

Oral & Written Communication: Any member of the public may address the Commission about any matter not on the agenda for this meeting for up three minutes. *Commissioners may not comment on the matter, but may choose to place the topic on a future agenda.*

Approval of Draft Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) Minutes:

- September 11, 2012
- WARD MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.
- SOUKUP 2ND THE MOTION.
- ALL COMMISSIONERS PASSED.

Old Business:

1. Let's Walk Saratoga

Issue: In calendar 2012, the PRC has conducted 3 Let's Walk Saratoga events at Joe's Trail, Village Montalvo and Fremont Older. At the recent Joint Meeting with the City Council and the PEBTAC Committee, the Council expressed their interest in having a guided walk coordinated by the PRC of the Congress Sprints Quarry. Two members of the PEBTAC Committee expressed interest in participating in the coordination of the event and may attend future Commission meetings to discuss coordination.

Action: Discuss Fremont Older Walk and continue planning of guided walk at the Quarry.

- BRUNO REPORTED THAT THE VICE MAYOR EMILY LO PARTICIPATED AT THE EVENT.
- COMMISSIONERS ALL AGREED THAT CONGRESS SPRINGS WALK SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN MAY 2013 AFTER THE RAIN SEASON.

2. PRC Work Plan

Issue: At the recent Joint Meeting with Council and PEBTAC, the PRC briefly discussed its work plan with Council. This item will be a standing item to discuss the various items on the work plan, such as the two Master Plans for Village Creek and the Quarry. This item will also include discussions regarding the Nesting Boxes and the Daffodil Bulb planting projects until such time these individual items require extensive conversation.

Action: Director of Public Works, John Cherbone will be available to provide a status of the Quarry Master Plan and Village Creek trail. The Commission must also discuss the status of the Daffodil project.

- CHERBONE VILLAGE CREEK TRAIL- TWO GRANTS. 1) FOR OBTAINING EASEMENTS- PLANNING, 2) FOR CONSTRUCTION. WE HAVE \$ FOR PLANNING BUT NOT YET FOR CONSTRUCTION. ONE OF THE PROPERTY OWNERS GOING TO GIVE FULL TITLE.
- MASTER PLAN FOR QUARRY. STAFF IS PUTTING TOGETHER AN RFP FOR CONSULTANT IN THE WINTER.
- COMMISSIONERS DO NOT WANT TO BE HEAVILY INVOLVED IN THE RFP PROCESS. TIMELINE FOR RFP IS TO HAVE A CONTRACTOR HIRED BY FEBRUARY.
- RFP WILL FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND WILL BE SELECTED BASED ON EXPERIENCE AND COST.
- DAFFODIL PROJECT CAN BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT WORK PLAN DISCUSSION. WORK PLAN WILL BE DISCUSSED NEXT TIME THE COMMISSION IS FULLY COMPLETE.
- NESTING BOXES POSTPONE UNTIL NEXT WORK PLAN DISCUSSION.
- WEST VALLEY COLLEGE TO PERFORM NESTING BOX PROJECT PARKS MANAGEMENT. ASK MARK TO CONNECT WITH CHRIS CRUZ ABOUT NESTING BOX TRANSITION PLAN.

New Business

3. Fredericksburg Drive Access

Issue: At the September 5, 2012 Joint Meeting with Council and PEBTAC, concerned residents attended the meeting to express their frustration with the wall that blocks access to Fredericksburg Drive. Council members stated that they would like to begin the process of reaching out to the neighbors that live near that access to inform them that the Council would like to discuss and consider the removal of the wall at Fredericksburg Drive. Council directed the Parks and Recreation Commission to hold a public meeting at their next regular meeting to allow public members to comment on the issue. Attached is the letter that City staff sent to approximately 170 residents who live in the Fredericksburg Drive access.

Action: Open public comments.

- 1) ANN KAY LIVES ON SHERIDAN AND SPOKE IN FAVOR OF THE OPENING THE FREDERICKBURG ACCESS TO HAVE MORE CONVENIENCE TO WALK TO THE NEARBY AREAS, RATHER THAN DRIVING TO THE AREAS .
- 2) DONALD MORGAN LIVES ON WILLIAMSBURG AND SPOKE IN FAVOR OF THE FREDERICKSBURG REOPENING. HE STATED HE HAD NO PROBLEM WITH THE ACCESS WHEN IT WAS OPEN AND

- WAS SURPRISED WHEN THE ACCESS WAS CLOSED AND SURPRISED THAT PEOPLE HAD TO DRIVE THEIR CHILDREN TO BLUE HILLS SCHOOL.
- 3) JACK COLLEN LIVES ON FREDERICKSBURG AND IS IN SUPPORT OF REOPENING THE ACCESS. HE STATED THAT HIS FAMILY NEVER HAD PROBLEMS WITH THE OPEN ACCESS WHEN HIS KIDS WERE YOUNG. HE STATED THAT IT IS PROBABLY MORE DANGEROUS TO HAVE KIDS WALK FARTHER AROUND THROUGH THE STREETS RATHER THAN JUST WALKING THROUGH THE ACCESS.
 - 4) DON POPPENHAGEN LIVES ON FREDERICKSBURG DRIVE AND DOES NOT WANT GUAVA COURT REOPENED. THE OPENING IS ABOUT A 10TH OF A MILE TO THE TRAIL AND HE'S CONCERNED ABOUT BICYCLE CLUBS COMING THROUGH THE ACCESS TO THE TRAIL. CITY COUNCIL INFORMED THEM THAT THE ACCESS WOULD NOT BE REOPENED.
 - 5) SHERYL LIVES ON FREDERICKSBURG AND IS IN FAVOR OF REOPENING FREDERICKSBURG. SHE HAS FOUR CHILDREN AND HER YOUNGEST CHILD IS UNABLE TO WALK TO SCHOOL.
 - 6) BOBBY GLONER, STUDENT AT LYNBROOK STATED THAT HE IS IN FAVOR OF REOPENING FREDERICKSBURG. HE WENT TO MIDLER, BLUE HILLS SCHOOL AND WAS ABLE TO USE THE OPENING DURING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. HE WOULD LIKE TO USE IT AS ACCESS TO ENJOY AS A NEIGHBORHOOD PRIVILEGE.
 - 7) LINDA COLLEN LIVES ON FREDERICKSBURG AND IS IN FAVOR OF REOPENING THE FREDERICKSBURG ACCESS. CHILDREN USED THOSE CROSSINGS IN THE PAST AND IT WAS FINE. SHE STATED THAT THE ACCESS HAS BEEN A CONVENIENCE AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IT OPEN AGAIN TO CONNECT THE COMMUNITY. SHE HAS 9 GRANDCHILDREN AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE ACCESS POINTS OPEN SO THEY CAN RIDE THEIR BIKES AND RUN.
 - 8) LESLYE LIVES ON FREDERICKSBURG AND SHE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE PATH OPEN TO HAVE THE ACCESS TO THE SCHOOLS AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE EASIER ACCESS TO JOE'S TRAIL. THE ACCESS WOULD OPEN THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND RECONNECT THE TWO SIDES.
 - 9) DIANA TRUJILLO LIVES BY COX AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ACCESS TO REOPEN SO THAT THERE IS MORE ACCESS.
 - 10) JACKY AND HUSBAND HAVE LIVED IN THE AREA FOR 40 YEARS AND ARE IN SUPPORT OF REOPENING BOTH FREDERICKSBERG AND GUAVA ACCESS.
 - 11) MARYANN SWAN ATTENDED AND STATED THAT SHE DOES NOT LIVE NEAR THE TRAIL BUT LIVES NEAR DOUGLAS AND STATED THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A PARKING PROBLEM WHERE SHE LIVES.
 - 12) JACKY IS IN FAVOR OF THE REOPENING OF FREDERICKSBURG AND GUAVA AND DOESN'T BELIEVE THERE WILL BE AN INCREASE IN TRAFFIC
 - 13) JIM STALLMEN STATED THAT VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY HAS \$300K EARMARKED FOR BLUE HILLS PROJECT CALLED BLUE HILLS RAIL ROAD SAFETY CLOSING. HE STATED THAT COUNCIL MEMBER HOWARD MILLER IS THE REP AT VTA AND ENCOURAGED RESIDENTS TO CONTACT HOWARD AND ALSO COUNCIL MEMBER CHUCH PAGE, WHO HAS INFORMATION.
- CHERBONE STATED THAT THE ACCESS WAS CLOSED ON BOTH ENDS BECAUSE THE CITY WAS ORDERED TO CLOSE IT BY THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION. THE CITY HAS CORRECTED THE AREA AT FREDERICKSBURG DRIVE AND THE CITY CAN OPEN IT IMMEDIATELY. GUAVA WILL NOT BE REOPENED CURRENTLY OR EVEN IN A YEAR DUE TO FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS BUT IT MAY BE OPEN IN FIVE YEARS.
 - SOUKUP STATED THAT HE LIVES NEAR BLUE HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD AND HE HAS WALKED DOWN THE RAILROAD TRACKS. HE STATED THAT HE THINKGS ITS IMPORTANT TO HAVE KIDS WALK AND RIDE THEIR BIKES TO SCHOOL BUT ALSO UNDERSTANDS THE CONCERN ABOUT CONGESTED PARKING. SOUKUP WANTS TO KNOW HOW STAFF DISCOURAGES HEAVY BIKE TRAFFIC. SOUKUP ALSO STATED THAT REOPENING BOTH FREDERICKSBURG AND GUAVA ARE IMPORTANT.

- WARD STATED HIS SUPPORT AND ADDED THAT THIS ACTION WOULD ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY INTERACTION AND UNITY.
- BRUNO PROPOSED REOPENING THE FREDERICKSBURG DRIVE ACCESS AND AGENDING THIS ITEM 6 MONTHS TO REASSESS THE STATUS.
- SOUKUP MOVED TO REOPEN ACCESS FROM FREDERICKSBURG DRIVE AND DIRECTED JOHN CHERBONE TO PURSUE THE ACCESS NECESSARY TO OPEN THE GUAVA COURT SIDE AND REPORT BACK TO THE PRC AT THE NEXT PRC MEETING ON DETAILS ON WHAT STAFF NEEDS TO DO TO OPEN GUAVA.
- SOUKUP ALSO MOVED TO AGENDIZE A SESSION FOR REVIEW OF IMPACT OF NEIGHBORHOOD IN 4 MONTHS TO UNDERSTRAND WHAT ELSE NEEDS TO BE DONE TO MITIGATE ANY PARKING OR ANY OTHER ISSUES OF THIS DECISION.
- WARD 2ND MOTION.
- COMMISSIONERS PASSED.

4. Wildwood Cinema Movie Night Series

Issue: At the September 19th City Council Meeting, the City Council directed staff to work with the Parks and Recreation Commission to come up with a plan to host more movie nights in the summer of 2013. City Council suggested having a movie night series in July and/or August and would like the PRC to coordinate the events. Attached is the staff memo of comparable cities in the Bay Area that conduct movie nights to give the PRC some background about what was discussed at the September 19th Council Meeting.

Action: Begin discussion about hosting a series of movie nights in 2013 and consider forming a subcommittee to take the lead on the coordination.

- WARD STATED THAT COMMISSIONERS SHOULD CONSIDER ANOTHER PARK, MAYBE CONGRESS SPRINGS OR QUITO PARKS.
- SOUKUP AGREED TO CONSIDER SWITCHING PARKS.
- BRUNO SUGGESTED TO COORDINATE WITH DOWNTOWN MERCHANTS.
- SOUKUP SUGGESTED THAT THE COMMISSIONERS SHOULD ASK MAYOR JILL HUNTER TO TALK TO DOWNTOWN VILLAGE GROUP TO PARTNER WITH THEM AND FIND OUT IF THERE IS INTEREST TO HOST THE MOVIE NIGHT EVENTS TOGETHER.
- SOUKUP STATED THAT IF MERCHANTS ARE INTERESTED, SUMMER MOVIE NIGHTS SHOULD REMAIN AT WILDWOOD PARK.
- COMMISSIONERS BRAINSTORMED ON STORES THAT MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING DURING THE SUMMER MOVIE SERIES:
 - ROSE MARKET (RENEE)
 - JAKES PIZZA
 - FLORENTINE
 - SUSHI PLACE
 - GELLATO- (THOMAS)
 - STARBUCKS- (VITA)

- COMMISSIONERS BELIEVE HAVING MOVIE NIGHTS THE 3RD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH FROM JUNE THROUGH AUGUST: JUNE 21, JULY 19TH AND AUGUST 16TH.
- COMMISSIONERS PLAN TO SHOW CHILDREN'S MOVIES AT 7:30 P.M.

Commissioner & Staff Reports *(This includes committee updates and park reports. This section is informational only; no actions will be taken.)*

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- January 8, 2012
- MOVIE NIGHT.
- REPORT FROM STAFF ON GUAVA AND WHAT IS NEEDED TO OPEN GUAVA. GIVE RESIDENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO VOICE THEIR OPINIONS.
- ACTION DAY CARE PRIMARY PLUS- SARATOGA STAFF EMAIL.

Adjournment: 9:15 P.M.

- SOUKUP MOTIONED TO ADJOURN.
- WARD 2ND THE MOTION.
- COMMISSIONERS ADJOURNED THE MEETING.

Respectfully Submitted:

- Mainini Cabute, Administrative Analyst II