

Community Services Advisory Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Redding Civic Center  
777 Cypress Avenue  
Redding, California  
May 10, 2006, 4:06 p.m.

## MINUTES

### 1. Attendance

Community Services Advisory Commissioner Chair Waybright opened the meeting with the following commissioners present: Peckenpaugh and Bandell. Commissioner McCoach arrived at 4:09 p.m. Absent was Commissioner Parker.

Also present were Community Services Director Niemer, Recreation Superintendent Carpenter, Community Services Projects Manager McGrath and Community Services Executive Assistant Szynal.

### 2. Public Comment

None presented.

### 3. Consent Calendar

The [minutes from the regular meeting on February 8, 2006](#), the monthly [Recreation Division Activity Report](#), the [Convention Center Activity Report](#), [Capital Projects List](#) and [Calendar](#) were presented.

**MOTION:** To approve Consent Calendar as presented. (Made by Commissioner Peckenpaugh, Seconded by Commissioner Bandell)

AYES: Commissioners Bandell, Peckenpaugh and Waybright

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Commissioners Parker and McCoach

### 4. Review Benton Dog Park Association Request

Director Niemer observed that the Commission has several occasions discussed desired improvements at the Benton Dog Park. The Benton Dog Park Association has been in place for the past couple of years and recently sent to staff an email on what the improvements they would like to see at the park. Director Niemer noted some of the requested work is out of the scope of

the school and partnership fund, which is allocated for park development money. Park Development funds are limited to capacity building improvements and not maintenance improvements.

Jan Katz, President of the Benton Dog Park Association (BDPA), noted that the Association's Board has been prioritizing the needs of the people who use the dog park. The first item of priority is the drainage, which needs to be upgraded. The drainage issue has been addressed previously, using all volunteer labor. The Parks Department (Randy Hyde) was on hand to supervise the work. The BDPA was assured by the engineer who provided volunteer hours for the blueprint work that the design would indeed handle the drainage problem at the park. Unfortunately, the type of rock which used was of the wrong type and the drain improvements are not working as planned.

The BDPA proposes removing the road base gravel and using it in the parking lot, then fill the trench with the correct gravel.

The second item of priority is the lighting - in the parking lot & the park itself. While there is no lighting in the parking lot, the park currently has a coin-operated box which allows for lighting (four quarters for 1 hour of light). This box does not always function and to reach it you must cross a dark patch. Many people, particularly women, do not feel it is a safe situation. The Association would like the City to consider a timer to replace the coin box. Several years ago Mr. Katz spoke with Dan Cannon of the Parks Department about the possibility of using solar lighting at the dog park. At that time Mr. Cannon seemed very interested in the possibility and said it was a good idea and should be discussed again in a few years.

Director Niemer mentioned she has spoken with a City electrical technician regarding putting another lamp on one of the existing poles and it is not feasible. The coin-operated lighting was installed at the dog park because of staff's experience at South City Park with a timer. The lights at that park would frequently be turned on as a prank, which would result in calls from neighbors. It was felt that using the coin-operated box at the Benton Dog Park would be a good compromise. The Northern California Dog Club paid for the lights in partnership with the City a number of years ago, with the agreement that the lights would be on in the park on Tuesday night when the Dog Club is there. The coin-operated box is a way to make use of these fixtures every day.

This presentation led to a discussion of funding for park maintenance. Director Niemer noted that park maintenance funding issues fall outside Community Services Department's ability to address. These are important issues which will continue to arise as the City adds new medians and parks and some of the older parks are in bad shape. Park maintenance being adequately funded is an appropriate topic for the Commission to address.

Commissioner Waybright noted that he is not suggesting putting further drains on the General Fund.

**MOTION:** To direct staff to return to the Commission with a detailed proposal. (Made by Commissioner Bandell, Seconded by Commissioner Peckenpaugh)

AYES: Commissioners Bandell, McCoach, Peckenpaugh and Waybright  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Commissioner Parker

## 5. Projects Update

Community Projects Manager McGrath offered updates on the following projects;

### Vista Ridge Park

Irrigation is nearing completion, which will allow us to begin the landscaping. A large portions of the plants for this park have been donated.

### East Oak Park

This 2.5 acre park near Churn Creek & Arizona is scheduled to be completed this summer.

### Caldwell Memorial

The sculpting is 70% complete on the large stone and we anticipate a summer completion date.

### Sculpture Park

The Mosaiculture sculpture was installed this week and under planted with petunias. All of the sculptures are in place and we are ready for the Grand Opening. Director Niemer gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Sculpture Park to both City Council and Redding East Rotary. The Grand Opening will include children's activities, musical entertainment and informal talks by the three sculptors whose work is currently installed in the park. That evening there will be an opportunity to hear the artists speak more extensively on their work.

Community Services Director Niemer provided updates on the following projects;

### Partnerships

The City is partnering with Turtle Bay on a grant application to provide trails thru the bird sanctuary. We have survived two cuts and State will soon be making a site visit, which is a positive sign. The City is working with CalTrans representatives on the bike and trail portion of the bridge overpass, which would take you into the Sundial Bridge.

### State Parks

State Parks Director Ruth Coleman has chosen Redding as the site to unveil the new Central Valley Vision - a plan for improving parks in the Central Valley. Aside from improving access to water, the plan calls for protecting oak woodlands and increasing the number of campgrounds and trails. It does not contain immediate plans to establish new state parks. Director Coleman pointed to Redding as a place whose leaders are working together to vastly increase river access and expand trail networks, to keep recreational opportunities growing ahead of a booming population and to build museums where visitors can stretch their mind as well as their legs.

No action was required on these informational items.

## **6. Soccer Park Update**

Director Niemer noted that the Commission will soon be taking a field trip to the new soccer complex as the construction is progressing nicely. With the retirement of Phil Perry, Director Niemer is the new project manager for this development. The Soccer Association is making great strides and their collective business expertise will serve them well in running the soccer park.

No action was required on this informational item.

## **7. Youth Action Council Update**

Director Niemer mentioned that the Youth Task Force has changed their name to the Youth Action Council. This decision was reached at the group's first retreat which took place April 21-23 at Coram Ranch. During this retreat the activities included team-building and vision/mission setting. The three priorities for the group to focus on were chosen:

- Drug/alcohol use prevention
- Service projects
- Safe & healthy social activities

The group will host 5 gatherings during the summer, to take place evenings at Big League Dreams and will include a disc jockey & activities. They are looking to partner with a local radio station.

A report will be made to City Council at the May 16 meeting.

No action was required on this informational item.

## **8. Subdivision Updates**

Director Niemer provided updates on the following ongoing projects:

### Rivercrest Estates

Staff received permission from City Council to negotiate the purchases of 2 acres from Neighborhood Church. Including the church property, park acreage will be at 6.25.

### Miscellaneous

Jon Thomason is looking at a project off of Knighton Road – surrounded by the Veterans home and some large lots. Staff have been in discussions with him about open space down there, similar to Mary Lake (but without the lake).

Dunmore Communities owns property across from the WinRiver mini-mart where they are considering putting in 200± units. Staff is in discussion with them regarding a potentially private park as the location does not lend itself well to access from other neighborhoods.

Sierra Pacific is considering the purchase of a large piece of land off of Eureka Way near the Old Mill House Deli.

No action was required on these informational items.

**9. Commissioner Comments**

None presented.

**10. Directors Comments**

Director Niemer noted that the previously discussed Lake Boulevard / Buenaventura property trade will be presented to City Council at the May 16 meeting.

Traditionally, it has been the practice for many years that parks/places are not named after actual people. The new Parkview neighborhood park allowed us the opportunity to visit this practice and reaffirm that naming parks after subdivisions or geographically relevant places is the policy to follow.

*Rdg BMX* is a group of young men who would like to have a park which is large enough to more adequately accommodate bikes, as the use of bikes is prohibited at the skate park (primarily for safety reasons). This group is campaigning to raise money to build their own park. They see this as a regional park and are holding fundraisers in Shasta Lake and Anderson, in addition to Redding. They would like to kick off this off with a fundraising event and awareness day at the Redding Skate Park in Caldwell Park. Right now City Ordinance prohibits this although we have the option to close the skate park for this event. The group would need to acquire the appropriate insurance.

No action was required on these informational items.

**11. Adjournment**

There being no further business, at the hour of 5:30 p.m. Chair Waybright declared the meeting adjourned.

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JASON WAYBRIGHT, Chair