

Community Services Advisory Commission
Regular Meeting
Redding City Hall
777 Cypress Avenue
Redding, California
February 13, 2008, 4:13 p.m.

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Community Services Advisory Commissioner Bandell opened the meeting with the following commissioners present: McCoach and Peckenpaugh. Absent was Commissioners Parker and Waybright.

Also present were Community Services Director Niemer, Convention Center Manager Green, Parks Superintendent Cannon, Recreation Superintendent Carpenter, Community Projects Manager Hanson, Community Projects Manager Glover and Management Analyst McCallum.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

The [minutes from the regular meeting on January 9, 2008](#), the monthly [Recreation Division Activity Report](#), the monthly [Convention Center Activity Report](#), [Calendar](#) and [Capital Projects List](#) were presented.

Motion: To approve Consent Calendar. (Made by Commissioner Parker, Seconded by Commissioner McCoach)

AYES: Commissioners Bandell, McCoach and Parker

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Commissioners Peckenpaugh and Waybright

PRESENTATION OF PARK DEVELOPMENT FUND FINANCIAL REPORT

Director Niemer noted this annual update allows us to adjust projections in the Capital Improvement Plan to the reality of the marketplace. Management Analyst McCallum proceeded with an overview of the current state of the Park Development Fund, noting that growth

expectations for calendar years 2008-2012 have been lowered in anticipation that current economic conditions will continue in the near term.

As of December 31, 2007, net current Park Fund balances totaled \$3,353,349.94, including \$1,044,370.24 in accumulated Park In-Lieu deposits, a short term deficit of \$1,236,572.44 in Park Development funds which is offset by an State Parks grants accounts receivable totaling \$2.8 million and the \$745,552.14 remainder of the 2004 City Park Bond.

At the February 2007 Commission meeting, staff lowered revenue projections in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Actual fee collections for 2007 were \$1,033,437, a sum \$378,746 below the downwardly-revised estimates and essentially break-even with debt servicing costs. Reasons for the lower-than-anticipated revenues included both the downturn in residential markets and a greater portion of multi-family and group residence projects.

In anticipation that the sluggish construction market will continue through 2009, revenue projections in the February 2008 CIP were lowered even further through fiscal year 2011-12. Based on the current project load and projected timing of the projects, the revised plan anticipates a positive cash flow through 2011-12, utilizing fund reserves and delaying the Westridge Park project by one year. However, staff noted there is no capacity to undertake additional projects not currently listed on the plan.

No action was required on this informational item.

BUENAVENTURA TRAIL UPDATE

In 2000, the City received a \$3M State grant for trails. The City Council authorized 12 trail projects with the intent of connecting multiple neighborhoods to the Sacramento River Trail and extending the River Trail to connect it to both Whiskeytown and Shasta lakes. Ten of the 12 projects have been completed. One project will be completed this month and the last project, the Buenaventura Trail, began two weeks ago.

Community Projects Manager Hanson provided a summary of the work performed to-date on the Buenaventura Trail. The Buenaventura Trail runs from the Blue Gravel Mine Trailhead at Placer and Buenaventura, along Buenaventura, connecting with the Sacramento River Trail. Erosion control improvements have begun, along with ground clearing.

The 6-foot wide trail will be a combination of compacted road base and natural surface and include 10 small pedestrian bridges. The grade of the trail ranges from 3 to 11%. Neighbors were all contacted to inform them of the work being conducted in their area and have responded positively. The trail is expected to be completed by mid-March, weather permitting.

No action was required on this informational item.

PROJECTS UPDATES

Community Projects Manager Glover provided updates on the following projects:

Alta Mesa Park

The Redding Active 20/30 is partnering with the City, KaBOOM and California Volunteers to build a playground in Alta Mesa Park. Several years ago the play equipment was deemed unsafe and removed. This neighborhood is filled with families and the park is adjacent to Alta Mesa School. A Design Day has been held and weekly meetings are taking place in anticipation of Build Day on Saturday, March 29. A mural will be painted and a garden planted, along with various children's activities. It is expected that 300 volunteers will come out that day.

Foxtail Park

Demolition began yesterday and new playground equipment will be installed this week. This park has also been adopted by the Youth Action Council.

Community Services Director Niemer provided updates on the following projects:

Lake Boulevard Community Center

The road trip to visit 5 communities between Redding and San Jose took place last month over a two-day period. Director Niemer, Commissioner McCoach and Mayor Stegall joined several other community partners and a Lake Boulevard resident at these informative venues. The facilities ranged from a newly-built mega-community center in Woodland to less elaborate center run by organizations in Sacramento. The similarity among all the facilities was the comment about the necessity to talk to the neighbors and make sure the programs are geared to what is wanted, so the facility gets used.

Bikeway Plan

Community Projects Manager Chris Glover will be working with Healthy Shasta, the Bike & Trailways Council, Shasta Wheelman and others to develop a bikeway plan.

Department Website

Executive Assistant Mari Szydal has been working with a website designer to completely revamp our website. This is a very attractive, interactive design which will allow our residents to find where parks/trails are, what are the amenities, how to make a park reservation, etc. The Recreation Division pages will be updated next.

No action was required on these informational items.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None.

DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Park Superintendent Cannon noted he has been busy working on getting baseball fields ready for play and the Aquatic Center ready for the summer.

No action was required on these informational items.

RECREATION STRATEGIC PLANNING FOCUS GROUP EXERCISE

Director Niemer recalled that the Community Services Department embarked on a Strategic Planning process for the Recreation Division several months ago. As part of that process, staff have retained the services of Linda McBride, a long-time educator, former Director of Early Childhood Education Services for the Shasta County Office of Education and skilled facilitator. Linda has been conducting focus groups with recreation employees, City recreation partners, coaches and parents of children who attend our classes.

These focus groups allow us to see if the participants perceptions match what our perception is of how we're doing. It also allows us to promote the concepts of physical activity, nutrition and asset building as our primary goals.

Discussion ensued among the Commissioners, Director Niemer and Linda McBride about their overall vision for the Recreation Division.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at the hour of 6:03 p.m. Commissioner Bandell declared the meeting adjourned.

Leonard Bandell, Chair