

Community Services Advisory Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Redding Civic Center  
777 Cypress Avenue  
Redding, California  
April 13, 2005, 4:07 p.m.

## MINUTES

### 1. Attendance

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

Also present were City Manager Warren, Community Services Director Niemer, Support Services Director Kersten, Recreation Superintendent Carpenter, Convention Center and Visitors Bureau Manager Green, Community Projects Manager Hanson, Community Projects Manager McGrath, Community Services Management Analyst McCallum, Tourism Officer Warren, Senior Planner Toy, Electric Group Manager Keener and Community Services Executive Assistant Szynal.

### 2. Public Comment

None presented

### 3. Consent Calendar

The minutes from the regular meeting on March 9, 2004, the minutes from the special meeting on March 15, 2005, the monthly Convention Center and Convention & Visitors Bureau Activity Report, the Convention Center Capital Projects List and Calendar, and the Recreation Division Activity Report were presented. A brief discussion of the reports ensued.

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

**AYES:** Commissioners Bandell, McCoach, Parker and Peckenpaugh

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**ABSENT:** Commissioners and Waybright

#### **4. Projects Update**

Staff provided updates on the following projects; Caldwell Expo, Jump River Playground, Vista Ridge Park and the City Hall Sculpture Park.

Superintendent Carpenter provided the following update

##### Caldwell Expo

On Saturday, April 9th the Caldwell Park Expo drew a couple hundred guests to Caldwell Park to see and experience a variety of summer activities for the young and young-at-heart. The Caldwell Recreation Center, Aquatic Center, Teen Center, Carter House Gallery, Jump River Playground, Lake Redding Boat Ramp and Carter House Gallery and stage featured special hands-on activities. Visitors to all seven venues collected a stamp at each booth and redeemed their passport for a free frozen treat.

Staff thanked the commissioners who helped out at the information table. There were a number of partners who were involved, including the Shasta County Office of Education, Shasta County Public Health, American Trails and the North Valley Art League. Approximately 137 passports were handed in for free frozen treats and when including the number of people who did not participate with the passport, we estimate a couple hundred people joined in the various events and activities. We felt it was worthwhile and are looking at ways to improve it for next year. Overall it was very informative and we look forward to holding this event again.

Community Projects Manager McGrath offered the following update:

##### Jump River Playground

Jump River Playground was opened for a few hours during the Caldwell Expo and it was gratifying to see children playing on the equipment. We are awaiting weather to clear to complete the first phase. Everything is lined up to go forward with completing the irrigation so that the sod can be installed. We recently received a picnic table donation for underneath the pavilion.

##### Vista Ridge Park

We have confirmed food donations for all preparation days, the local McDonald's, In & Out Burger and Burger King.

More than 60 volunteers have signed up for the build day on May 5<sup>th</sup>. In addition, Home Depot will provide 100-150 associates from Red Bluff and Chico to provide coverage for the Redding staff who will be at the park on that day.

We are two weeks away from Build Day and the Commissioners are encouraged to attend and, if possible, to participate. It should be a very unique event for people who are interested in park development and construction.

##### Sculpture Park

Specification package is being detailed and should be out to bid by May 1<sup>st</sup> or sooner with

construction expected to begin in July. Transportation is being arranged for the stone sculptures from Dr. Moon's home and their placement in the garden.

No action was required on these informational items.

## **5. Soccer Park**

At the March 15, 2005 Special Meeting, a Motion was made to send a letter to the City Council outlining the Commission's recommendations regarding use of Park Development Funds. This letter was sent on March 18<sup>th</sup> and the City Council will hear the item at the next meeting on April 19th.

Director Niemer reminded the Commission that they had previously discussed being present at that City Council meeting and inquired whether one of the Commissioners were interested in speaking.

After some discussion it was agreed that at a member of the Commission would explain Commission's position to the City Council.

**MOTION:** Present Commission's position at the next City Council Meeting. (Made by Commissioner Peckenpaugh, Seconded by Commissioner Bandell)

**AYES:** Commissioners Bandell, McCoach, Parker and Peckenpaugh

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Waybright

## **6. Hilltop Business Improvement District**

Hilltop Drive's hotels and restaurants are often a visitor's first impression of Redding, which clearly makes this an important venue for the City. Approximately 18 months ago, the City was approached by Hilltop business and property owners about partnering on a plan to make some physical improvements to the Hilltop Drive area and create an association to partner with the City on other Hilltop Drive enhancements. After hearing their concerns, the City Council agreed to support the Hilltop business owners in their desires to change the landscape on Hilltop Drive. This resulted in the proposal for formation of a special district which would help pay for Hilltop's updated look. Improvements may include burying utility poles that line the street, landscaping around sidewalks, street banners, putting in flower-studded medians and decorative streetlights.

The City's Electric Utility is working with the area's business owners on actual formation of the district and which properties will be included in the district. Interested property and business owners have met a couple dozen times over the past year and a consultant was selected who is helping them to decide the type of district to form. The model currently favored is a pass-through assessment on the hotel owners for a period of time to show the other business owners on Hilltop what can be done with some landscaping improvements. Redding Electric Utility has committed to the utilities being underground in FY 2008.

Electric Group Manager Pat Keener, the lead person on the project for the City of Redding, provided an overview of the situation to date. This item was brought to the Commission today because Hilltop Drive is critical to the hospitality industry in the City and this effort will bolster the Drive and keep it vibrant.

No action was required on this informational item.

## **7. Parks, Trails and Open Space Workshop for Proposed West Ridge Subdivision**

Commissioner Bandell stated he has a conflict with this topic and will observe from the side.

The West Ridge Subdivision is a proposed 296-unit single-family project on 400 acres located in west Redding. The *Parks, Trails and Open Space Master Plan* was adopted listing West Ridge as a Large Neighborhood Park. The City has hired a consulting firm to prepare an environmental impact report and to date the City has held a scoping session to allow input on possible environmental issues posed by the project. The Community Services Advisory Commission's recommendations will first be incorporated into the EIR and eventually forwarded to the Planning Commission and City Council for inclusion in their deliberations. The western portion of the subdivision is under consideration for annexation. The project's park dedication requirement is between 2.9 acres and 3.3 acres, depending on the outcome of annexation. Staff have reviewed several alternative park locations and configurations and narrowed the options to two. Final consideration of the exact location and configuration cannot be decided until the overall environmental and design issues for the subdivision undergo further review. For that reason, staff is recommending the Commission's recommendations be limited to park size and funding. Staff recommends a 20-acre site to address the fact that: 1) in the SW Quadrant, existing parks are all substandard in size; 2) no park in this quadrant west of Market Street is large enough to provide activities such as baseball, softball or soccer; and 3) this park's service area includes a significant number of homes and potential homes in the county that have no recreation opportunities.

Community Projects Manager Hanson provided an overview of the proposed subdivision and recommended a park of at least 20 acres in size with the following five conditions:

- 1) The developers willingness to provide 10 to 12 acres in exchange for in-lieu park fee credits.
- 2) The City exercising its ability to reserve and purchase the additional 8 acres, as described in RMC 17.41.070, and subject to the provisions of Section 66479 of the Subdivision Map Act.
- 3) The final location and configuration of the park site shall be based on a recommendation by the Community Services Advisory Commission after the subdivision layout has been reviewed in detail by the City.
- 4) The developer is to build a reasonable first phase of the park and receive credit on the project's Park Development Fees. The details of the park improvements in the first phase and the amount of credit towards fees are to be approved based on recommendation by the Community Services Advisor Commission.
- 5) The contribution of park fees toward the cost of land acquisition and park development shall not exceed the fees generated from this project.

City Manager Warren provided the clarification that while the City has been in discussion with the developers, these discussions are still in the early stages. The developers are willing to work with the City to have the In-Lieu and Park Development fees go to the parks. While specific details have not been finalized, there is a definite willingness to work with the City.

Consultant Eihnard Diaz, who represents the three developers involved in the project, stated that this is a rare opportunity in that there are three property owners who have decided to work together to create a master plan for the orderly development of the subdivision including the provision of parks, open space and infrastructure, etc. They will work toward the park being developed in the Greenview area (nearest Placer Street). Mr. Diaz requested that the Commission not make a decision at this meeting but hold off until the next meeting, which will provide the developers an opportunity to work with City Staff in resolving some of the issues. An invitation was extended for one Commissioner from the Community Services Advisory Commission and one from the Planning Commission participate in these discussions.

City Manager Warren suggested the Commission provide guidance to staff relative to park size and request staff return with specific information.

**MOTION:** Direct staff to proceed with negotiations consistent with the five conditions outlined in the staff report. Recommend one Community Services Advisory Commissioner and one Planning Commissioner attend meetings with City staff and the developers. (Made by Commissioner Parker, Seconded by Commissioner McCoach)

AYES: Commissioners McCoach, Parker and Peckenpaugh

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Commissioner Bandell

ABSENT: Commissioner and Waybright

## **8. Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Peckenpaugh attended the monthly meeting of the Benton Dog Park Association, from which a suggestion arose of installing a container whereby people can recycle their plastic grocery bags so others can pull them out of the bottom to use as pooper scoopers.

This is the first formalized 'Friends of the Park' constituency group and we hope to spread this model to other parks. The City of Red Bluff recently contacted us requesting information on developing a dog park.

No action was required on this informational item.

## **9. Director's Comments**

Nationally recognized artist Donna Billick was commissioned last year to design a 10x12 mosaic tile piece for the Mayor's Memorial Fountain. Ms. Billick work is almost exclusively public art and she

has been in Redding and over the past few days installing the piece. We will hold the unveiling in the near future.

Last Tuesday Councilperson Mary Stegall and I attended the Public Health Advisory Board annual luncheon and the Community Services Department received an award for our efforts to improve community health and reduce obesity.

The Public Health Officer for the State of California will be in Redding on May 5<sup>th</sup> to talk about his ideas on trends in physical activity and community health.

The City is in the midst of the bi-annual budget process. We are being asked to reduce by 5% for the next two years, which may result in personnel cuts of FT Temporary position in park maintenance and an increase in the admission Aquatic Center admission fee. The application for CDBG funds for Aquatic Center Scholarships and the Plunge Pass program was denied, so we will be actively sourcing other grants/funds for these programs. The good news is there are no FT Permanent staff being laid off.

The Northern Region of the League of California Cities will be visiting May 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> and will be taken to the Clover Creek Preserve, Big League Dreams, The Cascade Theatre and Sundial Bridge. We will show what we have been able to do with the Commission's and Council's assistance.

Our next meeting will provide a preview of the McConnell Arboretum and Gardens in a joint tour with the Art in Public Places Committee.

No action was required on this informational item.

## **10. Adjournment**

There being no further business, at the hour of 5:22 p.m. Chair Peckenpaugh declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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GERRINE PECKENPAUGH, Chair