

Thursday, May 20, 2021

6:30pm

Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting

NOTES

Members Present: Johnny Calkins, Chad Sefcik, Scott Binder, Laura Bridy, John Kulstad, Charlie Caldwell,

Members Absent: Ben Winker, Jeff Dunk

Guests: Jennifer Ortega, Pat Kaspari

Meeting Notes:

Communications:

- None.

Public Comment:

- None

Recreation Director Report

- The Recreational Afternoon Program is running smoothly currently serving 18 elementary school children per day. Totletics, tee-ball will begin June 5th and has a full roster of toddlers.
- We are currently hiring Leaders for our Summer Day Camp Program as well as the MUSD Expanded Learning Program that will offer support and assistance during the school day to students participating in distance learning classes.
- Staff hosted a third virtual Paint Night class on April 24th. The class had 7 participants, The next class will be on Thursday, May 27, 2021. Classes will be held virtually until it is deemed safe to host classes in person again.
- Several open space zones received mowing, hedging and weeding maintenance and detention basins received clearing as part of the Open Space Maintenance Zone agreements. The Parks crew and NHES continue the routine schedule for maintenance on Central Ave. landscaping. Staff continues to keep up with daily/weekly routine facility and vehicle maintenance. Monthly inspections were conducted on all facilities and Open Spaces. The Parks Dept. purchased a used truck from the Operations Dept. to replace one in the parks fleet. The one being replaced is currently for sale via a closed bid process. The bid opening is scheduled for May 27th at 2:00pm.
- The HSU Ecology students completed their capstone project providing recommendations and invasive plant species monitoring strategies for both the Hewitt Ranch Property and the North Bank River Property.
- Staff attended Board meetings for board service on both the McKinleyville Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, McKinleyville Family Resource Center Board of Directors and the Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods Board of Directors.
- Staff continues to provide administrative support to the Support Services Dept.

Committee members had no comments and no questions

BMX Track & Park Project:

- The BMX community has been meeting monthly, working on fundraising and planning. T-shirts are available for purchase.
- The BMX community has been meeting monthly, working on fundraising and planning. McKinleyville BMX has a tentative fundraiser date of July 10th.

Community Forest

- Staff continues planning and preparing for the acquisition of a Community Forest.
- Staff met with staff of Green Diamond Resource Co. and Trust for Public Lands on May 3rd. Access points were discussed again as well as the grant agreement between Trust for Public Lands and the State Natural Resource Agency. MCSD staff requested an MOU between TPL and MCSD be drafted to clearly delineate the responsibilities of each agency in terms of meeting the grant agreement requirements before and after the transfer of the property.
- Staff met with Hank Seeman from the County of Humboldt and Mark Andre to learn from their experience in the acquisition and development of a community forest. Staff gained valuable insight into necessary and immediate actions such as, applying for the required General Plan Conformance Review. Given that the General Plan Conformance review can take 6 months to a year to complete, staff is postponing the process to develop the formal Community Forest Committee until the fall.
- No comments or questions from the committee

Considerations and Process for Parks & Recreation Development

- Committee member John Kulstad proposed that checklist or matrix of criteria to be researched and considered for new park and recreation development ideas be created so that committee members and member of the public can propose ideas that are researched and well informed toward the needs of the Parks & Recreation Dept.
- Staff supports this idea and will draft a checklist of criteria for the committee to review at a future meeting.

Disc Golf Course Discussion of Possible Locations

- Committee Member John Kulstad requested the PARC members re-visit the idea of developing a disc golf course within the District. It is an activity that does not require substantial investment of equipment to play; it is accessible for all ages; Development of a course can be easily supported by business donations and sponsorships.
 - J. Kulstad, wondered if it would be possible to install a small course along the trails at Hiller Park
- Staff agreed that Disc Golf is a great activity. Given the nature of the game, the weight of discs and the velocity with which they can be thrown, staff does not feel it is an appropriate activity for a multi-use area as small as the Hiller park trails system.
- Member Charlie Caldwell informed the committee that the Disc Golf community that he has been working with recently, is interested in the possibility of developing a course within the McKinleyville Community Forest at some point in the future.
- Committee member were also informed of the existing 9-hole course located within the Beau Pre golf course.

Report on Actions of MCSD Board

- Staff reported on actions taken by the Board of Directors on May 5, 2021

AdHoc Committee Reports:

- Hewitt Ranch—entry trail at Bryant could use mowing. J. Kulstad asked if MCSD would acting on the recommendations from the ecology students to partner with HSU's Natural Resources Club for the removal of invasive plants. Staff affirmed that MCSD would reach out to the HSU club.
 - General Manager, Pat Kaspari, gave an update on the land acquisition on Cochran that will likely enable the development of access to the property via the water tank site.
- Skate Park—HSC did not receive the Coast Central Credit Union grant, but did receive a \$1500 donation from CCCU
- School and Washington Property—looks mowed

- River Property—no report
- Fischer Ranch Estuary project—staff reported that the final permit from the Coastal Commission has been granted and the trail design is moving forward.
- BMX— See notes on above

- Requested that the Community Garden be added as an AdHoc Committee with Ben Winker as the Lead

Agenda Items for next meeting:

- Community Forest
- MCSD water bill “Message from MCSD” use

Adjournment:

- Adjourned: 7:23pm