

Thursday, May 19, 2022

6:30pm

Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting

NOTES

Members Present: Johnny Calkins, John Kulstad, Ben Winker, Charlie Caldwell, Phil Heidrick, Jane Fusek, Scott Binder, Laura Bridy

Members Absent: Jennifer Ortega, Jeff Dunk

Guests: Pat Kaspari, Martin Fusek, Ciara Torres

Meeting Notes:

Communications:

- None

Public Comment:

- Martin Fusek and Ciara Torres spoke about their interest and intention to be more involved in the McK. Skate park development and requested to be on the PARC agenda for the June meeting.

Recreation Director Report:

Recreation Program Updates

- Drop-in Pickleball is running on Friday evenings 6:30pm-8:30pm. \$4 per person
- Drop-in Kung Fu is on Tuesday and Thursday evenings 5:30pm-6:30pm \$10 per person per class. Bulk class passes are available to purchase at \$7.50 per class
- Drop-in Tai Chi is Sundays 11:00am-12:00pm \$10 per person per class. Bulk class passes are available to purchase at \$7.50 per class
 - The Martial Arts classes are averaging 8-12 people per class.
- Pee Wee basketball for kindergarten through 2nd grade is in full swing. The Program will run through May 21, 2022.
- We are currently taking registration for Tot-letics T-ball, the Kids Camp Summer Day Camp program and the Summer Basketball program. These programs will begin in June and July.

Park & Facility Maintenance Updates

Several open space zones received mowing, hedging and weeding maintenance and detention basins received clearing as part of the Open Space Maintenance Zone agreements. A broken pipe at Hiller Sports Site baseball fields had to be repaired after being broken by coaches. One field was closed for a week to accommodate the repair. 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. Staff reported on a water leak repair to the drinking fountain at HSS that occurred this week.

Facility Rentals & Use

17 Azalea Hall Rentals in May through July. 16 Pierson Park rentals May through July. Activity Center use is primarily recreational programs 5 days per week, with two to three birthday parties scheduled each month.

The Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods Teen Club at the Teen & Community Center is averaging 18-21 youth per day. The kitchen at the teen center continues to be underutilized by vendors. We still do not have anyone on staff with skills or capacity to offer cooking classes.

Vandalism Report

In the last month the only vandalism staff have had to respond to has been on mid-town trail. Additionally there have not been any homeless encampments discovered or requiring clean-up in any of the District's open space maintenance zones or park properties.

Hewitt Ranch Property Updates

No updates at this time.

North Bank River Property Updates

No updates at this time.

Other updates:

- Staff is drafting the Summer/Fall Newsletter and Activity Guide. It will be mailed the week of June 13th.
- Staff continues to participate as members of the McKinleyville Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the McKinleyville Family Resource Center Board of Directors and the Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods Board of Directors.
- Staff continues to provide support to other departments of the District; assisting with accounts payable, payroll, and facilitating professional development workshops.
- Ben Winker extended a thank you and appreciation to the Maintenance Crew for all that they do.

Proposed Facility Use Fee Increases

- Staff presented proposed fee increases to District Facility Use Fee Schedule.
- John Kulstad moved to recommend that the MCSD Board approve the fees as proposed by staff; Charlie Caldwell seconded. Committee voted unanimously in support of the recommendation.

Community Forest Updates

- Staff reported on recent meetings regarding the MCF.
- Charlie commented on his recent conversations with residents in the E. Cochran neighborhood regarding the potential access point at the end of E. Cochran.
 - Staff asked all Committee members to encourage members of the public to contact the Parks & Recreation Director with any questions, comments or concerns regarding the development of the Community Forest.

BMX Track and Park Project:

- Staff provided an update on current status of this project and estimated timeline for the release of the RFP
- Johnny Calkins commented on the work being done on the property to the north of the BMX Track and Park Property.

Dog Park Fencing

- Staff has received three requests from community members for a fenced area for small dogs at the dog park.
 - Staff informed committee that there is no funding for such a project.
- John Kulstad asked for staff to bring an estimate cost for fencing to the June meeting.
- Laura Bridy referred to District's established guidelines for vetting development projects.
- Phil Heidrick commented that three people is not a large number of residents and polling people might stir up more conflict than resolution on the subject.

- Committee members agreed it would be helpful to know an estimate cost for the project before asking the public for feedback.
- Members of the public in attendance, Martin Fusek and Ciara Torres, offered their opinions on the potential of fencing at the dog park.

Intermodal Transportation Committee (Hum. County) Report:

- Ben Winker gave a report of the recent pop-up events hosted by RCAA regarding potential safety measures to be implemented in McKinleyville.
- RCAA has put out a community survey to gather public input. The survey is available on the Humboldt County website. Ben will also send a link to the survey to the PARC members.
- Pat Kaspari, MCSD General Manager, commented on the public meetings he attended.

Report on Actions of the MCSD Board of Directors:

- Staff reported on recent actions of the MCSD Board of Directors at the May meeting of the Board regarding the approval of the annual levy of Measure B assessment fees.

AdHoc Committee Reports:

- Skate Park— Charlie reported on recent meetings with the skate park collective and skate community. The Humboldt Skatepark Collective will be hosting ramps and doing fundraising at the Pony Express Day Festival.
- Fisher Ranch Estuary project— Johnny Calkins reported on current trail work and boat ramp construction. Pat Kaspari commented on the bid release for the paving of the upper portion of the trail.
- BMX— See notes on above
- Community Garden—Ben commented on wanting to coordinate a community garden event during the summer music in the park series.

Agenda Items for next meeting:

- Dog Park Fencing
- McK. Skate Park Community Committee

Adjournment:

- Adjourned: approximately 7:25pm