

APPROVED

MINUTES NO. 204
PARKS & OPEN SPACE COMMISSION
JANUARY 13, 2004 7:00 P.M.
Regular Meeting
Town Council Chambers
1505 Tiburon Boulevard, Tiburon, California

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fraser called the regular meeting of the Parks & Open Space Commission to order at 7:01 P.M., Tuesday, January 13, 2004, in the Town Council Chambers, 1505 Tiburon Boulevard, Tiburon, California.

I. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chair Fraser, Vice-Chair McMullen, Commissioners Zender and Lindqvist

ABSENT: Commissioner Canter

EX-OFFICIO: Advance Planner Bryant

II. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

There were none.

III. STAFF AND COMMISSION BRIEFING

Chair Fraser announced that he is resigning from the POSC to serve on the Planning Commission. This will be Fraser's final meeting as a POSC commissioner.

Fraser recommended that Business Item B be discussed before Business Item A. Elections for Chair and Vice-Chair will be held after discussing all business items.

IV. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Chair Fraser opened the floor to nominations. Commissioner Lindqvist nominated Vice-Chair McMullen for the position of Chair.

M/S Lindqvist/Fraser 3-0-1 (Canter absent) to elect Vice-Chair McMullen for the position of Chairperson.

Commissioner Lindqvist nominated Commissioner Zender for the position of Vice-Chair.

M/S Lindqvist/Fraser 3-0-1 (Canter absent) to elect Commissioner Zender for the position of Vice-Chair.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes of November 11, 2003 (No. 203) approved as submitted.

M/S McMullen/Zender 3-0-2 (Canter, Lindqvist absent) to approve the Minutes No. 203.

VI. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Presentation by Advance Planner regarding Open Space & Conservation Element Issues Paper

Advance Planner Bryant began his overview of the Open Space & Conservation Element Issues Paper by informing the Commission that the process of updating the General Plan began in the summer of 2002, during which time it was clear that the Town's top-rated characteristic was its open space and natural scenic beauty. Bryant hopes that the new General Plan reflects the Town's commitment and appreciation of its open space.

The process of updating the General Plan has been to go through each of its Elements. The purpose of the Issues Paper is to open the Element to discussion and receive comments and suggestions that will be forwarded to the Planning Commission and Town Council to be considered for adoption in the new General Plan.

Advance Planner Bryant pointed out that the main issues in the Open Space & Conservation Element to be as follows:

1. To maintain the emphasis on protecting the Town's open space, including open space that is currently on underdeveloped, private properties. The most notable change in the Element is to recommend that each category of prime open space, such as wetlands and ridgelines, have a policy associated with it.
2. Expand the reach of the Open Space and Conservation Element as follows:
 - a. Include a section on management policies. Bryant noted that he fully expects the Town Council to adopt the management policies already identified by the POSC.
 - b. Expand the notion of conservation beyond the conservation of just open space to include air and water quality improvements and solid waste reduction.

Commissioner Lindqvist recommended that water access be included in the General Plan update. She then asked if the Town had considered adopting an ordinance to deal with pollution of particulate matter as it relates to wood smoke. Bryant replied that although he is aware that many municipalities have adopted such ordinances, the Town has not considered one at this

point.

Commissioner Fraser referenced page A-6 of the Issues Paper and stated that there is no specific maintenance plan for open space regarding issues such as overgrown weeds. He would like to see a specific plan on how to manage open space, including how to fund such a plan and get it in the budget. Bryant replied that the General Plan would not identify funds for maintenance but that he will forward the comment to the Planning Commission and Town Council. If such a plan were adopted, it would be brought back to the POSC for implementation.

Commissioner Lindqvist commented that the wording “preserve as much permanent open space as possible” seemed ambiguous and should be changed to “permanently preserve as much open space as possible”. Bryant noted the comment.

Commissioner Fraser opened discussion of the Issues Paper to the public.

Maureen Meikle, referred to page 42 of the Issues Paper and commented that although she applauds the policy regarding builders’ responsibilities to remove invasive plant species prior to construction of new developments, she finds it implausible. Commissioner Lindqvist informed Meikle that this condition is currently enforced under Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&R).

B. Identify key issues regarding the multi-use path and possible solutions as to how they might be addressed (Fraser/Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee)

As a follow-up to the November 2003 discussion of strategies and suggestions for improving the multi-use path (MUP), Commissioner Fraser stated that he met with Town Manager McIntyre, Senior Planner Anderson, and Town Engineer Echols to further discuss the issue. As a result of that meeting, it was decided that a long-term strategy for MUP improvements was needed. It was also recognized that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee (BPAC) had been working to improve MUP safety, such as conducting signage experiments, and that the POSC and BPAC should have a joint meeting to discuss issues such as safety, maintenance, and repair. The commissioners agreed to the joint meeting. Commissioner Fraser will facilitate organizing the joint meeting with BPAC. Fraser added that he would like the Town Council to be informed of the issues that are identified at the joint meeting before the Council convenes for their annual retreat in late January.

Advance Planner Bryant advised the Commission that the Parks and Recreation Element update would provide an opportunity for the POSC and BPAC to incorporate MUP issues as part of the revised General Plan.

As the current POSC representative for BPAC, Fraser requested that Bryant clarify whether a new commissioner will need to be appointed to represent the Commission now that he is resigning from the POSC.

C. Sign layout for South of Knoll Playground fund-raising effort

Vice-Chair Zender stated that the mailer sent to Tiburon and Belvedere residents to solicit donations for the South of Knoll playground renovation generated approximately \$8,500 in donations. Pamela Bonnie of the South of Knoll Playground Subcommittee added that to date, \$10,045 has been raised since the subcommittee increased efforts to solicit donations in September 2003.

The subcommittee is currently in the third phase of planning and is working to identify playground equipment manufacturers. The second planning phase has not been completed as the subcommittee has yet to decide whether the sailboat structure will be purchased as part of a larger order of equipment or as a single item.

Bonnie presented the proposed poster and sign layouts for the fundraising effort, stating the sign will be placed at the Blackie's Pasture and Cove Shopping Center sign boards in February.

The commissioners commended the subcommittee for their efforts in securing donations for the playground renovation.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Notice of Current & Pending Vacancies on Town Boards, Commissions & Committees

Correspondence noted.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

MICHAEL MCMULLEN, CHAIR
Parks & Open Space Commission

ATTEST:

KEVIN BRYANT, SECRETARY