

**MINUTES NO. 208
PARKS & OPEN SPACE COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 14, 2004 7:00 P.M.
Regular Meeting
Town Council Chambers
1505 Tiburon Boulevard, Tiburon, California**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair McMullen called the regular meeting of the Parks & Open Space Commission to order at 7:06 P.M., Tuesday, September 14, 2004, in the Town Council Chambers, 1505 Tiburon Boulevard, Tiburon, California.

I. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chair McMullen, Vice Chair Zender, Commissioners Lindqvist and Canter

ABSENT: None

EX-OFFICIO: Town Engineer/Public Works Director Pat Echols

II. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

There were none.

III. SWEARING IN OF NEW COMMISSIONER

Christopher Wand was administered the Oath of Office and sworn in as a Commissioner by Director Echols.

IV. STAFF AND COMMISSION BRIEFING

Director Echols noted that he met with playground safety consultant, Stephen North, at the South of Knoll Playground. Mr. North will provide a written list of recommendations regarding the playground which will be forwarded to the Commission once it is received by Director Echols.

Director Echols updated the Commission on the status of the permanent South of Knoll restroom, stating that the Town Council has directed Staff to develop a wood siding design for the Council to consider as an alternate option. Additionally, Staff will present an alternative location for the restroom, one that is approximately 20 feet closer to the playground than was shown in the initial plan. The alternate design and location will be presented to the Town Council in October.

Commissioner Lindqvist gave an update on the Esperanza Lane path between Esperanza Lane and Mar West. She said that the adjacent property will be doing a lot split but that public access

will not be affected because of an existing easement. Commissioner Lindqvist said that the item will go before the Planning Commission for discussion. Chair McMullen requested that the item be agendaized for the next meeting provided that Staff prepares materials on the subject.

Commissioner Lindqvist noted that broom and star thistle had recently been removed from the Tiburon Ridge trail by a local open space preservation group.

Chair McMullen inquired about the status of the Tiburon Sunset Rotary Club's binocular viewer proposal. Director Echols replied that the item is scheduled to go before the Town Council in October. He noted that the proposal had been revised to include a wheel-chair accessible viewer and that some railing plans had been modified.

Director Echols informed Commissioner Lindqvist that repairs for the Elephant Rock pier are included in the current fiscal year's capital improvement budget.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes of June 8, 2004 (No. 207) approved with the following change:

Page 6, paragraph 5, line 1: Change to "...a certain amount of risk is involved..."

VI. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Discussion of Waterfront Access

Director Echols gave opening comments on the item, stating that the concept of waterfront access was identified as one of the Commission's priorities. He said that the concept of waterfront access was included in the General Plan update and that the Town Council is interested in learning more about its viability. He noted that potential locations for waterfront access are limited and suggested that a subcommittee be formed to further investigate the concept.

Commissioner Canter suggested that environmentally sensitive areas be identified early.

Director Echols replied that a constraints analysis should be one of the first tasks performed by the subcommittee.

The item was opened for public comments.

Jim Hermann, Tiburon resident, said that many Tiburon residents have expressed to him that they believe waterfront access is a great idea. Mr. Hermann said that he meets weekly with a group comprised of council members, merchants, and chamber members to focus on ways of improving downtown Tiburon. Mr. Hermann said that he believes community support for waterfront access would be strong, but that the project would take time and a lot of hard work to implement. He encouraged the Commission to adopt the project and invite members of the

community to participate in the process.

Vice Chair Zender asked Mr. Hermann if he could recommend any potential locations. Mr. Hermann replied that, like parking in downtown Tiburon, location would be a big challenge. He did not have any specific locations to offer, but said that it would be nice if it were located in the downtown vicinity.

Bill Lindqvist, Tiburon resident, stated that he and Commissioner Lindqvist identified several potential sites for waterfront access. He said that he believes the project would be very popular with the local community as well as visitors. He added that, from an environmental standpoint, the canoes and kayaks that would be served by the access are very benign. He concluded by stating that he hopes that consideration of the project is taken seriously by the Commission.

Vice Chair Zender said that she supports the concept of waterfront access and would like to see a matrix developed that identifies the pros and cons of the project. She would also like to get input from the downtown community. Vice Chair Zender said that although she is not certain of any potential locations, she is optimistic that a suitable location can be identified.

Chair McMullen expressed concern over the local tidal areas, stating that tides may pose a safety issue. He said that he would be in favor of a downtown location because its tides are more suitable for boating activities and it would attract visitors to downtown businesses.

Commissioner Lindqvist handed out photographs of the potential sites that she and Mr. Lindqvist identified:

- a) Belvedere Cove
- b) Tiburon Boulevard
- c) Museum Beach
- d) San Rafael Avenue
- e) Main Street Beach

Commissioner Lindqvist said that she prefers the Main Street Beach and Museum Beach sites to the Belvedere Cove and Tiburon Boulevard sites, both of which are located in the city of Belvedere. She asked what steps should be taken next in order to proceed with the concept.

Director Echols replied that a subcommittee of at least two commissioners, as well as interested members of the public, should be formed to develop a matrix listing the pros and cons of various locations. The subcommittee should present the matrix, along with any other findings, and an outline of the process for the project to the Commission before making a recommendation to the Town Council.

Chair McMullen agreed that a subcommittee should be formed. He recommended holding a public meeting so that public comments could be received on the various locations identified by the subcommittee.

Director Echols suggested that the subcommittee's finding be forwarded to the Ark, stating that the Ark would be an ideal mechanism for informing residents of the concept and the various

potential locations.

The Commission discussed who would be interested in serving on the subcommittee.

Director Echols recommended that the subcommittee meet at least once before the next Commission meeting and report back to the Commission with their findings at the next regular meeting.

M/S Cantor/Zender (5-0) to appoint Chair McMullen and Commissioner Lindqvist to the Waterfront Access Subcommittee.

B. Update on the South of Knoll Tot Lot Renovations - *South of Knoll Subcommittee*

Pam Bonnie and Derice Tao of the South of Knoll Subcommittee presented an update of their activities since they last met with the Commission:

- Summer: Solicited new donors for the project. Handwrote approximately 100 letters to local residents and contacted potential donors.
- September: Currently working on a fundraising event that will be held at Town Hall. The event will feature local children's entertainer, Tim Cain, and a 25 dollar per household donation will be requested. Schematics of the playground and tile samples will be available for display. Advertising for the event includes a mailer to all Tiburon residents as well as an advertisement in the Ark.
- October: Possible placement of an advertisement in the Bel-Tib Joint Recreation newsletter, presentations to local preschools, and development of materials for major donors.

The subcommittee reported the playground fund is at \$27,000. The current budget for the project is \$70,000. The budget had been revised to include renovation costs as well as donation solicitations.

Mrs. Bonnie asked that the Commission consider allowing the subcommittee to place a directional sign for the playground at the Blackie's Pasture parking lot. She said that a sign would increase awareness of the location and official name of the playground.

Vice Chair Zender asked if the playground equipment manufacturers could provide poster board schematics to be displayed at the event. Mrs. Bonnie replied that she would contact the manufacturers to inquire about them.

Chair McMullen commended the subcommittee for their hard work.

Director Echols said that he would develop a concept sign that included the playground as well as other points of interest and present it at the next meeting.

Director Echols mentioned his meeting with playground safety consultant, Stephen North, and noted that the following issues were pointed out during their meeting at the South of Knoll

playground:

- a) In order to achieve the required fall zone, the boat structure needs to be turned 90 degrees and moved further away from the sand box.
- b) The use of tot-turf to cover the entire surface of the playground is strongly recommended.
- c) The existing wood railing is not compliant with current safety standards and should be replaced.

Director Echols said that the subcommittee should add an additional five-thousand dollars to their budget to cover the cost of the tot-turf and that it should also be increased to account for the fence replacement.

The commission discussed several types of potential fencing options.

C. Discussion of Annual Coastal Cleanup Event

Chair McMullen gave an overview of this year's Coastal Cleanup Event. He said the event will begin at 9:00 a.m. and that the Romberg Center will be partnering with the Town. The Ark will run promotional copy advertising the event.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

MICHAEL MCMULLEN, CHAIR
Parks & Open Space Commission

ATTEST:

PAT ECHOLS, SECRETARY