



CITY OF NOVATO
PARKS & RECREATION

**Recreation, Cultural and Community Services Advisory
Commission**

MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, September 9, 2021 - 7:00 PM

Teleconference Only

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Crow at 7:02 P.M.

Commissioners Present: Dennis Bentley, Ericka Erickson, Erin Lacey, Betsy Ricketts, Nancy Weber, Vice Chair René Pouteau, Chair Suzanne Crow

Commissioners Absent: Patrick Giambalvo

Commissioners Late: Jessica Fernandes-Miller, arrived at 7:17 PM

Staff Present: Deputy Director of Parks Recreation and Community Services Katie Gauntlett, Recreation Supervisor Perry Siu, Recreation Supervisor Alexandra Kambur, Management Analyst I Christina Soares

B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

Commission Action: Upon motion by Vice Chair Pouteau and seconded by Commissioner Bentley, the Commission voted 7-0-0-2 to approve the final agenda.

Ayes: Bentley, Crow, Erickson, Lacey, Pouteau, Ricketts, Weber

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Giambalvo, Fernandes-Miller

Motion Carried

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

D. CONSENT ITEMS

D.1. Approve the Meeting Minutes from July 8, 2021

Commission Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Weber and seconded by Vice Chair Pouteau, the Commission voted 7-0-0-2 to approve the July 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Bentley, Crow, Erickson, Lacey, Pouteau, Rickets, Weber

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Giambalvo, Fernandes-Miller

Motion Carried

E. UNFINISHED AND OTHER BUSINESS

None

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

F.1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Upon a motion by Commissioner Lacey, the Commission voted 6-0-1-2 to approve Commissioner Rickets as Chair.

Ayes: Bentley, Crow, Erickson, Lacey, Pouteau, Weber

Noes: None

Abstain: Rickets

Absent: Giambalvo, Fernandes-Miller

Motion Carried

Upon a motion by Commissioner Weber, the Commission voted 6-0-1-2 to approve Commissioner Lacey as Vice Chair.

Ayes: Bentley, Crow, Erickson, Lacey, Pouteau, Rickets, Weber

Noes: None

Abstain: Lacey

Absent: Giambalvo, Fernandes-Miller

Motion Carried

F.2. Presentation from Recreation Supervisors Alexandra Kambur and Perry Siu on Novato Gymnastics Center Classes and Programming

Recreation Supervisors Kambur and Siu presented a report to the Commission on the Gymnastics Center and programming activities with a focus on current enrollment and enrollment through the pandemic, revenues for fiscal year 20/21 and YTD Fiscal Year 21/22, and goals of increasing weekly participation and revenue.

The Commissioners asked questions regarding staff vaccination requirements, financial assistance programs or discounts, revenues, and the booster program.

F.3. Discussion of proposed mural at the Museum of the American Indian located at Miwok Park.

Victoria Canby with the Museum of the American Indian at Miwok Park presented and proposed a mural project at the museum; the three proposed murals will be inclusive to all indigenous people throughout the Americas and will serve as a teaching tool to the community.

The Commission members asked questions and discussed the project, funding, and how to get the community involved. Requested future agenda item to be added to discuss funding support for this project.

Commission Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Crow and seconded by Commissioner Miller, the Commission voted 8-0-0-1 to recommend the approval of the murals at the Museum of the American Indian at Miwok Park.

Ayes: Bentley, Crow, Erickson, Fernandes-Miller, Lacey, Pouteau, Ricketts, Weber

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Giambalvo

Motion Carried

F.4. Receive an update on the progress of the Facility Fee Study from Deputy Director Gauntlett.

Deputy Director Gauntlett presented an update on the progress of the City Facility Fee Study, which was last conducted 10 years ago. The study was put on hold due to staff changes and the impacts of the pandemic.

The study reviews user and regulatory fees, facility rental fees, and incremental adjustments to the exclusive facility use rates. Cost recovery is a focus. Proposed

rate adjustments are to ensure that the City remains competitive in the region for rentals of fields, picnic areas, and facilities.

Once the fee study is finalized, there will be extensive community outreach and the public hearing notice will be posted prior to Council review.

F.5. Receive an update from the Ad Hoc Committee for Naming and Sponsorship Opportunities.

Commissioner Weber explained that the Ad Hoc Committee continues to discover more assets and will present additional findings at the next meeting.

G. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

G.1. Staff Updates

Deputy Director Gauntlett shared an update stating that the Margaret Todd Senior Center (MTSC) has opened, the Senior Citizen's Club has returned, and facility rentals have resumed at the MTSC. The Hamilton Pool will remain open through September 30th, and outdoor movies have returned to the Civic Green, and the Not So Scary Halloween Magic Show has moved to the MTSC. Additionally, the Fall Activity Guide was released, and in-person programming has been expanded.

Deputy Director Gauntlett discussed the replacement of recreation software, which will be launched in time for summer programming. The Pioneer Park project is progressing; more information to follow at November meeting. Community Outreach continues with the Communications Team on the Share the Path initiative through an educational approach on social media.

A new Recreation Coordinator will start at the end of the month.

G.2. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Bentley asked if the Rotary Club could participate in funding for the Pioneer Park Project. Deputy Director Gauntlett stated that all Rotary groups in town have been contacted to participate in the project.

Commissioner Erickson wanted to know what guidelines are used for cancelling events as air quality issues develop as the result of increased wildfires in our region. Deputy Director Gauntlett stated that the City follows the safety metrics provided by the County.

Commissioner Erickson asked to agendize a discussion of the 250 million dollars that the Legislature's version of the 2021-2022 California State Budget has allocated for local park projects to celebrate California's diversity and cultural heritage.

Commissioner Crow asked for regular updates on the Community Garden.

Commission Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Weber and seconded by Commissioner Crow, the Commission voted 8-0-0-1 to modify the language in the previously approved minutes and to re-approve the meeting minutes from July.

Ayes: Bentley, Crow, Erickson, Fernandes-Miller, Lacey, Pouteau, Ricketts, Weber

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Giambalvo

Motion Carried

H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 PM.

The next RCCS meeting is on November 11, 2021.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were duly adopted at the RCCS Commission meeting of November 11, 2021.

/ Jean Holzgang de Buren /

Jean Holzgang de Buren, Senior Office Assistant