

Town of Fairfax  
Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC)

Elon Rosenfeld, Chair; Yvonne Roberts, Vice Chair/Historian; Vicki Burns, Treasurer; Richard Pedemonte, Karen Arnold, Maya Meissner, Youth Commissioner, Shoshana Parry, Artist in Residence, David Smadbeck, Community-at-large representative

Minutes of Joint  
Fairfax and San Anselmo Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, May 14, 2008  
6:00 –9:00 p.m.  
Youth Center  
16 Park Road

PARC Commissioners in attendance: Elon Rosenfeld, David Smadbeck, Yvonne Roberts, Richard Pedemonte, Karen Arnold, Vicki Burns, Shoshana Parry. Staff in attendance: Kathy Wilkie, Maria Baird.  
San Anselmo Representatives: Doug Long, Greg Mihan, Tom McInerney, Gene Childs, David Donery, Doug Kelly  
Others in attendance: David Cort, Executive Director, San Geronimo Valley Community Center, Terry Ciafrei

The minutes of the April meeting were approved. The item of Tree Committee was removed from the agenda due to the length of the joint meeting.

1. New Business

- **Introduction-Kathy Wilkie, New Public Works Director-** Kathy introduced herself to the PARC Board members. She stated that e-mail was the best way to communicate with her. Yvonne gave a brief synopsis of on-going Park & Rec projects involving the Public Works Department. One of these is the Master Plan for the creek through the Park, which addresses the stabilization of the bank. One option according to the consultant is to install boulders, which would cost between \$200-\$250,000. Another option is building an access path between the Women's Club and the Pavilion, by the ball field, including where the bridge was washed out during the 2005 floods. The cost for that is approximately \$50,000 (PARC bond funds could be used for that project). The Roberti Z Berg grant which is for approximately \$25,000 expires in March of 2009. An RFP will be issued soon so work can be done before the rainy season begins.

II. Ongoing Business

- a) **Peri Park Clean-up**-David distributed a handout on Peri Park issues that need to be addressed. He gave an overview of the park clean-up day on

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, which was a huge success. New sand was laid in the playground, benches were re-finished, and potential new projects were identified. David has researched water play features in other communities. He made recommendations to PARC as to what would be ideal for Fairfax; basically a water spigot. **MOTION: Karen moved to accept David's recommendations to install a water play feature similar to the spigot type used in a Berkeley park, with a sprin-loaded handle.**

Other safety considerations: tot's slide is too slippery-find method to slow kids down. Wood structure has too wide of a gap-a method must be employed to prevent kids from crawling underneath and getting stuck. This could involve just shoring up the bottom of the structure. Some benches need to be lowered; they are too high off the ground. The entry gate needs to have a child proof latch installed. David will work with Kathy to do a walk through evaluation of Peri Park to determine what Public Works staff needs to repair.

- b) **Artist in Residence contract renewal**-Shoshana will submit her application for another year's extension and add her husband Sam Parry to the team. Maria instructed that they must fill out a new application together, and go before the Town Council on June 4<sup>th</sup>, most likely on the consent calendar. Work on the kaleidoscope will begin soon, so it can be up in time for the festival. In addition, Shoshana is working with Huta at Revolution 9 to re-paint the mural along the ball field before the Festival. She will e-mail us a proposal once it is conceptualized.
- c) **Fairfax Festival**-Terry Ciafrei attended the meeting to give suggestions on the children's play area for the festival, which will be held at the ball field this year. He will provide some shade structure for the event. This year the kid's area will include badminton, a community mural, a magician, bounce house, etc. Volunteers are still needed to help with the kids section on Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. On Friday night, the movie *Waterhorse* will play at the ball field at 8:30 p.m.
- d) **Pavilion Kitchen Update**-The \$5,000 donation from Supervisor Hal Brown will be put towards a new refrigerator for the Pavilion. The plans are still in the design/cost estimate stage. The kitchen will end up extending into the outdoor section behind the Pavilion.
- e) **Pavilion Restoration Committee**-met on May 8<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the kitchen work, the bathrooms need approximately \$1,500 in repairs/upgrades. The Chamber will be approached to cover this expense. Signage in the Pavilion needs to be improved so facility users can find cleaning supplies, etc. **ACTION ITEM: Request to add the following names to the list of people who are authorized a key to the storage rooms of the Pavilion: Jay Cimo, Vicki Burns, Terry Ciafrei.**

### III. Joint Meeting with San Anselmo & San Geronimo Valley-

- a. Introductions
- b. **Goals & Objectives-** The goals & objectives identified at the November 2007 meeting were re-visited. One of these is to increase recreation to Fairfax residents. Greg distributed a handout that outlined the list of classes offered in Fairfax. It includes: Ballet, Tap & Tumbling, Hip Hop, Samba, Volleyball drop-in, and Tai Chi. It does not include the classes that were pre-existing prior to the MOU that were incorporated into San Anselmo Rec, such as the Toddler's Playgroup and Capeoira. Greg announced he had conducted a survey monkey (on-line survey), to see what existing participants want in classes, and received a 5-10% response rate from Fairfax residents. Some new proposals for the future include targeting instructors from different communities, doing press releases, a postcard mailing to ensure Fairfax residents know about the joint programming, doing a survey on the Town's website that can be linked to San Anselmo's website, etc. There was some discussion of the budget it would take to do more advertising. Cost of producing the Recreation Guide is approximately \$45,000. It gets mailed out three times a year to about 10,000 households. The ads cover about \$4,000 of the printing costs. **ACTION ITEM: PARC will look into costs for additional outreach of the program, which may take the form of a postcard/direct mail/e-mailed piece to potentially include some type of survey.**
- c. **San Geronimo Valley Community Center-** David Cort of San Geronimo Valley stated that they do a great deal of outreach through the school. There are 280 families that receive a school newsletter. They also have a yahoo list serve of 450 participants. They do a quarterly newsletter that gets mailed out to all residents. David went on to give a brief outline of everything the San Geronimo Valley Community Center offers, including licensed day care, First Five of Marin, After-school tutoring, Teen Center, Sprout crew (for young adults 19-24 mentoring program). The program began in August 1978. The Center is scheduled to be completed in November. It will offer 1200 square feet of space. St. Cecilia's CYO basketball will then play in San Geronimo Valley. The goal of the San Geronimo Valley program is healthy youth development. One of the areas they would like to target is more middle school activities, and have partnerships with the Fairfax after-school program. **ACTION ITEM: Follow-up with St. Cecilia's need for the Pavilion this fall.**
- d. **On-line registration-**Greg announced that in June there will be a link to San Anselmo's website that will allow for on-line registration. The deadline for copy of the Fall Recreation guide is June 4<sup>th</sup>. It will be mailed to all households in August. A special page will be devoted to

Fairfax classes, to highlight the program. Other ideas include promoting the websites more heavily.

- e. **Joint Recreation District**-Doug announced he had re-visited this option of forming a joint recreation district with San Anselmo, Fairfax, and possibly San Geronimo Valley, and was given new information by LAFCO, that would make the communities eligible for a joint rec district. In order to accomplish this, it will take resolutions by the governing bodies, Board of Supervisor approval, and a funding mechanism. Sustainable funding would be needed, in the form of a special tax, which would require a 66% threshold. Other communities that have joint rec districts include Strawberry and Marinwood. It would take anywhere from 12-24 months to form. **ACTION ITEM: Doug will prepare a proposal which will then be forwarded to the Town Managers and Town Councils to see if there is support for such a partnership.**
  
- f. **Potential Joint Grant Merger**-This could be pursued towards programs for youth, youth leadership. The topic will be discussed with Maya, PARC's Youth Commissioner.
  
- g. **Activities for teens**- Dave referenced the San Rafael Youth Community Center as a model, which provides group orientation, cooking, ceramics, etc. Some areas of collaboration for youth include: poetry reading, music shows, arts shows. It is envisioned that once a month there be an event for teens at the Pavilion.
  
- h. **Next meeting**-scheduled for Thursday, November 6 at 7:30 p.m. in San Anselmo. Next PARC meeting set for Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.