

Town of Fairfax
Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC)

Elon Rosenfeld, Chair; Vicki Burns, Treasurer; Richard Pedemonte, Karen Arnold, Ivy Meissner, Youth Commissioner, Shoshana Parry, Sam Parry, Artists in Residence, David Smadbeck, Community-at-large representative

Minutes of
Fairfax Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, April 15, 2009
7:00 –9:00 p.m.
Youth Center
16 Park Rd. Road

PARC Commissioners in attendance: Elon Rosenfeld, Vicki Burns, Karen Arnold, David Smadbeck Staff in attendance: Michael Rock, Town Manager, Yvonne Roberts, Management Analyst, Maria Baird, Community Resources Coordinator
Others in attendance: Patrick Troupe, Aaron Gardener, Coral Honey, Mercedes Ramjerdi, Camille Esposito

Karen Arnold made a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting; Elon Rosenfeld seconded. Maria announced that Shoshana had called and was detained in San Jose, therefore the presentation by the Artists-in-Residents was deferred until next meeting. The minutes of the March 18, 2009 meeting were approved. Maria disseminated a letter from Marin Arts Council requesting a donation; request will be forwarded to Artists-in-Residence.

1. New Business

- a) **Village Festivals in the Park**-Patrick submitted an application to conduct mini-festivals (25 attendees) in Bolinas Park every Sunday, beginning in May (see attached). Patrick will coordinate with the Sustainable Garden Network to share food at these events. There will also be music, open mike, etc. PARC Commissioners responded he did not need PARC approval to hold informal gatherings. Patrick wanted to include vendors selling goods in the park, but he was instructed they would need permits to sell items in public parks. It was suggested he conduct more research on this topic and then re-approach PARC at a later date if he wants to pursue it. A few other suggestions: advertise the rental of shelves at Bookbeat to local artists as a low cost way to sell crafts, etc.; have vendors pay to participate in the Farmer's Market; get involved with local merchants through the Chamber of Commerce, such as the First Friday events. It was noted that he should keep his venue to trading/bartering/displaying, which is in the original application. Michael Rock added that trying to compete with local businesses during these tough economic times would be

challenging. Even the Farmer's Market does not make a profit in town.

- b) **FOCAS**-Camille reported she had met with Maria, Laurie Ireland-Ashley, Town Finance Director, and Linda Neal, Senior Planner, regarding her proposal to offer recreational programming in Fairfax through a contract. The only amendments she has made to the proposal include giving 55% to the instructors, rather than 50%. A draft contract was distributed for discussion to PARC Commissioners. It will go before the Town Council on May 6th. Camille reiterated she does not want the new program to create additional work for Town staff. Camille expressed her interest in developing a website for PARC sponsored events and classes, which is only \$20 per month. The on-line promotion of events at the Pavilion could bring more potential building rentals to the Town. Michael Rock would like to meet with David Donner, new Community Services Director for the Town of San Anselmo, along with Karen Arnold, Maria and Camille. This meeting will be scheduled prior to the Council meeting where Camille's contract will go before the Town Council. **ACTION ITEM: Karen Arnold made a motion to accept the proposal submitted by Camille, Vicki Burns seconded. PARC voted to support Camille's proposed FOCAS contract with the Town. PARC recommended that this item be brought before the Town Council for approval.**
- c) **Easter Egg Hunt**-Maria acknowledged Ivy for her portrayal of the Easter bunny this year at the egg hunt. Some suggestions that were made for next year: limit age group to 8 and under, spread group out across entrance to Bolinas Park to avoid trampling. Overall, the egg hunt was a huge success (300 kids)!

II. Old Business Reports

- a) **Peri Park update**- David reported a clean-up day has been scheduled for Saturday, May 2nd. The playground equipment has been repaired by Public Works. David will meet with Madeleine Wood and Camille on April 24th. Yvonne Roberts stated the playground sand will come from Shamrock Materials this year.
- b) **Grants update**-Yvonne gave a presentation on Town grants to date: The Pavilion will get solar panels on the roof, to be installed within the next few months of this year. There will be an informational/educational presentation likely at Town Hall to inform the public on the project. The Pavilion will also have an electrical upgrade to the building. There will be fiber optics running to the Pavilion through a trench. A grant from the California Energy Commission may fund the project. The Clean Renewable Energy bond for the solar installation, a zero interest loan, will be paid back by

the Town over 16 years. We are still waiting to hear the results of the Pavilion Seismic Retrofit grant; hopefully it will be approved.

The FEMA flood reimbursement for the tennis courts will allow for an ecologically sensitive support system. The process will tear out the old tennis courts, re-pave, and look at using LED lights for night use. The red-legged frog is an endangered species that lives in habitats similar to our creek, so the proper measures will be taken to protect its habitat.

The pedestrian bridge near the creek is in the permitting phase. It will be 8 feet wide and 50 feet long (Yvonne submitted plans). Work may begin as early as July 15th and conclude in October, using FEMA funds. FEMA is only paying for replacement of what was there before the storm. The bank erosion control project is in Phase II.

The Town also submitted a grant for Hazardous Fuel Reduction that would go to fund neighborhood brush clearing/chipping events to suppress fire hazards. We will receive notification in late April.

- III.** **Next meeting-** scheduled for May 13th at 7:00 p.m. Items on agenda: recruitment of new members. PARC would like Maria to follow up if the by-laws of the Parks and Recreation Commission can be changed to include members who reside outside Town limits but within the 94930 zip code. She will check with Michael Rock regarding this issue; changes to the Town code would have to be made through the Town Council.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.