

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
LARKSPUR PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
DECEMBER 19, 2013

COMMISSION: PRESENT: Chair McNally, Friedel, Matteo

COMMISSION: ABSENT: Blauvelt, Hauser

STAFF: PRESENT: Recreation Director Whitley
Recreation Supervisor Clegg

Chair McNally called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval of Minutes of September 19, 2013 and October 17, 2013

M/s Friedel/Matteo to approve the minutes of September 19, 2013 as submitted.

Ayes: All Absent: Blauvelt, Hauser

Chair McNally noted they did not have a quorum for approval of the October 17, 2013 minutes. The approval of these minutes would be continued to the next meeting.

OPEN TIME

There were no comments

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Review of Operation of Larkspur Recreation Tennis Program

Recreation Director Whitley presented a staff report.

Chair McNally asked if the City maintains a contract with Tennis in Marin. Recreation Director Whitley stated “no”. Chair McNally stated the statistics for the new tennis programs run by Mr. Leo Giraldi look great.

Commissioner Matteo asked about the differences in the prior and current programs. Recreation Director Whitley stated Mr. Giraldi spent a lot of time at the Piper Park tennis courts while employed by Tennis in Marin. His students expressed an interest in forming teams. Mr. Giraldi was able to create two teams with the help of one tennis assistant.

Commissioner Matteo asked if these were adult teams. Recreation Director Whitley stated “yes”. He is also offering a training class for high school players. Chair McNally

asked if a player had to be a resident of Larkspur to be on the team. Recreation Director Whitley stated “no”.

Chair McNally asked if the City makes money on the programs. Recreation Director Whitley stated “yes”. Mr. Giraldi averages between 75% to 80% of the revenue.

Commissioner Matteo asked if the dollar figures indicated in the staff report were net. Recreation Director Whitley stated “no”.

Chair McNally asked about the length of Mr. Giraldi’s contract. Recreation Director Whitley stated it was open ended- either party could terminate the contract at any time (30 day notice).

Commissioner Matteo asked about the typical fee for a class. Recreation Supervisor stated a 12-week class runs about \$295. The average is about \$25 per class.

Commissioner Matteo asked if people sign up through the department. Recreation Director Whitley stated “yes” and a lot of people sign up on-line.

Chair McNally asked if there was a maximum number allowed for classes. Recreation Director Whitley stated “yes” and the number depends on the class.

Chair McNally asked if courts were still available during these classes. Recreation Director Whitley stated “yes”.

Chair McNally asked if the department has other similar contracts. Recreation Director Whitley stated “no” but they do rent fields to clubs.

The Commission commended Mr. Giraldi for a great job.

RECREATION DIRECTOR’S ORAL REPORT

Recreation Director Whitley reported the Marin Rowing Club contract was up for renewal in March, 2014. He would submit the draft contract to the Commission at the January meeting. The Commission would make a recommendation on the contract to the City Council. He reported that the Winter/Spring brochure was again a joint effort between Larkspur and Corte Madera. The new signage at Remillard Park was completed thanks to the efforts of the Friends of the Corte Madera Creek Watershed. He displayed a photograph of the “before” and “after” signs. He stated that Larkspur resident Laura Lovette was instrumental in this project. The new City Council was sworn in last week- Councilmember Catherine Way was assigned to be the Parks and Recreation Commission liaison. Council liaison Way would receive the Commission agendas and minutes. He reported that the Twin Cities Day Care Center vans were underutilized, out of compliance, and were sold. Commissioner Friedel suggested they replace the vans with some grant money. She suggested they hire a grant writer who would work on commission. Recreation Supervisor Clegg stated the van must be classified as a 10

passenger vehicle for it to be compliant for department use. Commissioner Friedel stated she could come up with some names of grant writers.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Chair McNally had questions about the status of the Tree Removal Permit for 323 Wilson Way that was previously reviewed by the Commission.

Commissioner Matteo asked about the Piper Park Sleep-Over Event. Recreation Supervisor Clegg stated it was a huge success with over 20 kids. They carved pumpkins, toasted marshmallows, played some games, watched some movies, and ate some popcorn, etc. Commissioner Matteo asked about the age of the participants. Recreation Supervisor Clegg stated they were middle school age. Mr. James Fester, Hall Middle School Social Studies teacher, helped out with the event. Commissioner Friedel asked if they need to worry about an adult to child ratio. Recreation Supervisor Clegg stated “no”. She noted she was gearing up for the summer teen/tween programs including a trip to Disneyland.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni DeFrancis
Recording Secretary