City of Calistoga COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMISSION

Chairperson: Karen Chang
Vice – Chair: Chris Henderson
Members: Sandra "Sue" Harper

Bev More Indira Lopez



MINUTES COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING Wednesday, November 19, 2008 – 5:30 P.M.

A) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner More on November 19, 2008, at 6:01 p.m., at the Calistoga Village Inn & Spa. Commissioners present included Vice-Chair Henderson, Commissioners More and Lopez, and Jonathan Mills, Interim Secretary to the Community Resources Commission. Absent were Chairperson Chang and Commissioner Harper.

B) PUBLIC COMMENT

Arthur Lisch (no longer resides in Calistoga), invited Francesca and Joe Wignall to talk to the Commission about Calistoga's need for a Senior Center. They are the owners of 1231 Stevenson Street, Calistoga.

Francesca Wignall, P.O. Box 167, St. Helena, CA 94574. Mrs. Wignall feels that this property would be a great location for a new, improved Senior Center. The home has been completely renovated and is ready for occupancy. It also has wheelchair access and a handicap ramp. She, herself, is lacking funds to run a Senior Center, but is working to get local seniors involved and make them aware of the location. She attended the Creative Living luncheon and made an announcement to the attendees there. She pointed out that some years ago, the City was considering 1231 Stevenson Street as a location for new a Senior Center. She would like to make the Community and the CRC aware of the location and seek direction about donations and funding possibilities, which she would like to work on over the next couple of months.

Arthur Lisch pointed out that there should be City Council minutes from 25 years ago that discussed this location for a Senior Center. Mayor Jack Gingles was a Councilmember at that time and participated in the discussion.

There was discussion about contacting the Senior Center and Creative Living to get them involved in the project. Mrs. Wignall noted that she is making as many contacts as possible and is also holding an open house on November 20th from 3:00 - 5:00 pm.

It was noted that Commissioner Sue Harper is very involved with Senior issues, but unfortunately, is ill today.

Mrs. Wignall indicated that her number can be given out to anyone interested; (707) 953-0233 and (707) 963-4747.

Mr. Lisch asked the CRC about any current work regarding senior issues. He notes that senior issues are not on the agenda. Commissioner More informed him that senior projects are on agenda, but that the Senior Center has not come before the Committee.

Vice Chair Henderson thanked Mr. Lisch and Mr. & Mrs. Wignall for their efforts and stated that the CRC would be more than happy to assist in fund raising efforts and asked that they keep the Commission updated.

Shelby Valentine, 2771 Foothill Blvd., Calistoga. She comes before the Commission mainly in the interest of Green practices, but today questioned whether it is within the framework of the CRC to interface with the City on grants and development issues. The issue around low market rate housing is an important and disruptive topic these days. In her past experience, the Community Resources Commission was involved in the development of grants and land acquisitions for locations designated feasible. She asked that someone look in to a role for the Commission to play a part in the grant process. She feels that redevelopment and housing are real estate issues, but also human resources issues and that it is as important as what the Planning Department reviews and plays a big role in what the Community wants, how to enhance the lives of everyone, and work together to achieve a common goal.

Commissioner More indicated that the CRC has not been involved previously. The scope of the Commission does include development/rehabilitation, recreation, youth services, cultural arts, neighborhood development, and grants as may be referred to the Commission by City Council. Vice Chair Henderson noted that it is certainly a concern and believes that this is within the scope and capacity of the Commission.

Commissioner More thanked Ms. Valentine for her comments and noted that the CRC will look into this matter further.

C) ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA

Vice Chair Henderson asked for a motion to adopt the Agenda for the November 19, 2008, Community Resources Commission meeting. Commissioner More moved to adopt, Commissioner Lopez seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

D) CONSENT CALENDAR

The following items listed on the Consent Calendar are considered routine and are approved by a single motion. The Chairperson or any member of the Commission or of the public may request that any item listed under the Consent Calendar be removed and

action taken separately. In the event that an item is removed from the Consent Calendar, it shall be considered in its numerical order.

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1) Minutes of the regular Community Resources Commission Meeting on October 29, 2008. RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve Minutes.

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Commissioner More noted a typo in line 51 of the Minutes. The word minutes is repeated in the sentence. Noted to change to "meeting."

Vice Chair Henderson asked for a motion to approve the minutes with the change noted above. Commission More moved to approve, Commissioner Lopez seconded and the motion carried.

2) Location of the December 17, 2008, meeting changed to the Calistoga Village Inn & Spa meeting room at 1880 Lincoln Avenue, Calistoga.

Vice Chair Henderson and Commissioner More both stated a conflict with the December 17th date. He asked for other meeting date options. Lorie Goldbeck to check schedules and find a mutually appropriate date. The meeting time was then discussed and is now on record to begin future meetings to 5:30 p.m.

Vice Chair Henderson asked for a motion to adopt the consent calendar with discussion and changes as noted. Commissioner More so moved, Commissioner Lopez seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

E) GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Discussion and direction regarding the draft FY 08/09 work plan.

Jonathan Mills addressed the Commission and indicated that a work plan for the CRC has not yet been adopted by City Council for the 2008/09 work plan. At the October meeting there was discussion about setting achievable goals for the CRC. Some of the goals that were discussed were Green Sustainable Practices. Rest Stabilization Ordinance, and Aquatics Programming.

Vice Chair Henderson stated that certainly Green Practices would remain as they are mandated by City Council for the CRC to work with the City and move forward. He has had discussions with Steve Kokotas who has agreed to speak to the Commission, possibly at the next meeting.

Jonathan noted that the City has completed municipal inventory data collection and that has been given to Steve Kokotas for compilation. Associate Planner, Erik Lundquist, has been assigned to work on the Climate Action Plan and attended a workshop by ICLEI and NCTPA Bay Area Quality Management. They are working on a Community scale inventory to develop baselines and usages for the Community. He will update the CRC on his work and findings at the next meeting.

Frustration was expressed about the inability to complete the task as mandated by the City Council because information was not being relayed timely and they were not kept

up to date on the study that was being conducted other studies being conduced by the City. They are happy to be moving forward now and want the CRC to play a larger role and keep this issue moving forward per the City Council mandate.

Vice Chair Henderson suggested that either he or Chairperson Chang go before City Council to get a clear understanding of the CRC's exact role in this project. Commissioner More agreed that more direction is needed and coordination with current efforts at the City level.

There was discussion about Earth Day in April. Vice Chair Henderson would like to get the City involved and use the CRC to promote ideas and provide information to the public as their input and cooperation is a big part of the effort. A community wide process will give a much clearer idea of the needs of the community. He is trying to work with Upper Valley to inquire about recycle bins and other possible programs.

Commissioner More discussed the new aquatics programming and is looking forward to being involved. Vice Chair Henderson asked for an update on the Aquatics Manager position. Jonathan noted that the item was on the agenda for City Council, however, the job description was pulled to be more closely defined. However, we are actively recruiting and are hoping for a possible January hire date. We are also recruiting for local youth lifeguards.

Commissioner More questioned the construction timeline for the new recreation facilities at Logvy Park. Jonathan will look into dates for the construction of the facility. Commissioner More noted that she was on the Logvy Planning Commission and thought the drawings were being done by Pam Kinsey.

The next issued discussed was the new Activity Guide for Spring/Summer 2009. Vice Chair Henderson asked if there is any new programming for classes. Jonathan noted that there currently is a tentative schedule for the aquatics programming, but still need it still needs to be refined. We are also sending a letter to local businesses to offer them the option of purchasing an ad in the new guide in order to increase local advertising and also to keep costs to a minimum. We will also be including county wide resources and not just classes offered in Calistoga. We will present a draft as it develops. Jonathan also asked the Commissioners for ideas for any possible new programs to include. The Commissioners offered ideas for local businesses that also offer fee for classes, i.e., Calistoga Hot Springs, Solage, and Fitness First.

Jonathan then talked about one of the goals brought up by Sue Harper. She would like staff to provide outreach or educational lectures regarding the Rent Stabilization Ordinance to local senior citizens. Jonathan will discuss this with Erik Lundquist, Associate Planner, and attempt to get a presentation on the issue at the next CRC meeting.

There was a question about whether or not the Senior Association is a non-profit organization as it would be easier to initiate fund raising for a Senior Center. Jonathan will check with them and asked whether or not the CRC would be interested in looking more closely into Mrs. Wignall's proposal for a new Senior Center. Vice Chair Henderson said that it would be great to offer support for fundraising efforts, but certainly not in a position to offer any funding. It was also noted that it is hopeful that the new Logvy Recreation facility will also accommodate senior activities.

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There was discussion about the Gazebo project at Pioneer Park. Commissioner More indicated that she received some information from Public Works and will follow up and bring to CRC for further discussion.

Jonathan updated the CRC on past projects; the CRC identified a suitable location for the Dog Park and that is now in the hands of CalDogs who is in the process of drafting plans for submission to the Planning Department. Also, the Sidewalk Dining Ordinance was passed by City Council at their November 18th meeting.

Vice Chair Henderson asked for a motion to approve the draft work plan. Commissioner More moved to accept the six items in the proposed work plan for fiscal year 2008/09. Commissioner Lopez seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

F) COMMISSIONERS OPEN DISCUSSION

Vice Chair Henderson asked if Stephanie Perry from the Family Center has ever presented to CRC. It would be valuable to know what programs they are currently involved in. Commissioner Lopez will speak with Stephanie and find out if either she or Stephanie can do a presentation for the CRC.

G) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Community Resources Commission was adjourned at 7:18 p.m. to the next scheduled meeting of the Commission on Monday, December 15, 2008, at the Calistoga Community Center, 1307 Washington Street, at 5:30 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Jonathan Mills, Police Chief Interim Secretary, Community Resources Commission

Approved by: Karen Chang, Chairperson