



Meeting Date: April 20, 2010

**TOWN OF MORAGA**

**STAFF REPORT**

**To: Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**From: Jay Ingram, Parks and Recreation Director**  
**Subject: March Agenda Items**

**Unfinished Business**

**2010 Commission Goals (discussion/action)**

At the February and March Commission meetings we discussed Commission goals for 2010. Staff suggests we conclude our discussions and identify goals for 2010 this evening. A joint meeting is scheduled with the Town Council from 6:30 -7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28. In the interest of time, Staff suggests discussing the following two goals with the Town Council.

**1) Work with Moraga School District and St. Mary's College to enhance public recreation in Moraga.**

At the March Commission meeting the four commissioners in attendance provided feedback regarding additional opportunities that both the Moraga School District (MSD) and St. Mary's College (SMC) could present to residents.

**Programs/Activities already in progress with MSD**

- 1) Grant application for \$734,000 submitted to EBRPD for Camino Pablo sports fields.
- 2) Camp Kinder Cool – A Bridge to Kindergarten program for summer of 2010 taught by credentials school teachers at Rheem and Los Perales School.
- 3) Moraga Sports Camp at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School, taught by Jerry Gruen and Brett Lorie (JMIS teachers).

With additional support, the Moraga Parks and Recreation Department can continue to provide existing, as well as new, opportunities at school sites during times that do not conflict with educational instruction.

**Programs/Activities already in progress with SMC**

- 1) SMC advertises to the community through the Town Crier publication
- 2) SMC provides approximately 30 volunteers for the annual Moraga Triathlon

- 3) Moraga Parks and Recreation is offering a summer youth tennis camp at SMC
- 4) The SMC Office of Institutional Research has created an on-line survey for the Parks and Recreation Department in Moraga that will be advertised in the summer Activity Guide.
- 5) The Parks and Recreation Department is assisting with the SMC Community Celebration scheduled for May 2, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Commons Park
- 6) Mary Coe, Lecturer in the School of Economics and Business Administration at SMC will be offering a Community Marketing class during the next January term.
- 7) The Revenue Enhancement Committee Outreach to Neighborhoods (RECON) will be using space at the college for focus group interviews.

Staff feels that the recent developments with both MSD and SMC can lead to a larger benefit for the residents of Moraga. We are currently in the beginning stage of exploring additional opportunities and shared resources with both MSD and SMC.

#### Recommendation

Discuss additional opportunities that MSD and SMC can provide to enhance public recreation in Moraga. Develop a potential list that can be shared with Town Council on April 28.

## **2) Master Plans**

In recent years, master plans have been an often-reoccurring topic of discussion for the Park and Recreation Commission. The Town embarked on a Town-wide master planning process in 2006, which was completed in 2008. The Town also completed a Hacienda Business Plan in 2008 and, in 2009, the Park and Recreation Commission requested funds from Town Council to develop a master plan for the Moraga Commons Park. The Park and Recreation Master Plan recommend a site-specific master plan happen at each park, including the Hacienda de las Flores.

With the recent development of bocce ball courts and a suggestion to locate a dedicated dog park facility on existing Town owned land, Staff suggests that we not request a site-specific master plan at this time for the parks. If we started the master plan process now, it could potentially take more than one year to complete the plan. This process, while important, would cause unnecessary delay, as we would be no further along in any existing park-related projects. Staff feels that current park issues can be addressed without an existing site specific plan.

Recently, there has been renewed interest in the Hacienda property. Town Council has made the Hacienda Plan an “Important” goal for 2010. The Hacienda Foundation has made great strides with their efforts to increase programming (Cinco de Mayo and Oktoberfest, for example) and facility improvements (for example the painting of the Dance Room, Fireside Room and Ladies Lounge, as well new curtains and lamps). While it may not be financially feasible to conduct a site-specific master plan for the Hacienda, some sort of general plan or vision needs to be developed. This plan will facilitate much needed improvements and to enable the Hacienda Foundation to conduct

additional fundraising efforts, as well as allow Town staff to continue to make the facility marketable to the community. As previously mentioned the Town completed a business plan for the Hacienda that was addressed by the Town Council in 2008.

Staff suggests that a site-specific master plan for the Hacienda is premature at this point. However, that should not prevent the Park and Recreation Commission from additional planning with staff and the Hacienda Foundation. Since the Hacienda Plan implementation is an “Important” goal for Town Council this year, there should be a discussion on how best to proceed with plan recommendations. This discussion should incorporate the data that the Hacienda Foundation has gathered, as well as their agenda and goals for the property.

#### Staff Recommendation

Revisit the Hacienda Business Plan, see link below, before meeting next Tuesday and be prepared to discuss any thoughts and suggestions. Also, provide direction to Staff in order to enable the Park and Recreation Commission to accomplish the most during their discussion with Town Council on April 28.

<http://moraga.ca.us/documents/Recreation/Hacienda%20Business%20Plan.pdf>

#### New Business

**None**