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Joint Facilities Planning Subcommittee

Notes of Meeting
June 23, 2014

Mosaic Room,
Hacienda de las Flores,
Moraga

Attendees

Members Present

- Moraga School District (MSD): Charles MacNulty, Shari Simon
- Moraga Sports Alliance (MSA): Harry Crouch, Judy McNeil, Ken Towers
- St. Mary's College (SMC): Tim Farley
- Town of Moraga (TOM): Mike Metcalf, Dave Trotter

Staff Present

- Town of Moraga: Jill Keimach, Jay Ingram

Members Absent

- Campolindo High School: John Walker
- Moraga Sport Alliance: Chris Maher
- St Mary's College: Jim Donahue
- Town of Moraga: Phil Crosby

Meeting Notes Approval

- The notes of the May 5th meeting were approved with understanding that the table prepared by Jay Ingram summarizing the brainstorming session, which was included in the staff report for the present meeting, will be included in the final version of the May 5th meeting notes.

Staff Activities Since May Meeting

- Jay Ingram reported that he had conducted further discussions with the sports facility coordinators for each of the four organizations to discuss their respective facility rental activities, and the constraints on their organizations' facilities.
- Jay met with John Walker to talk further about potential JUA with the Town. Progress was made and a first draft version JUA is being looked at by the District office.
- Jay also met separately with Tim Farley to continue discussions on a potential JUA with the Town. The college has embarked on a strategic planning exercise, which will culminate in a new master plan for the entire college. This process is now underway. As the planning progresses, it will become clear how community usage of facilities can be accommodated. Town staff will continue to work with SMC.

Field/Facility Visioning Process

- At the May 5th meeting, Jay Ingram conducted a brainstorming exercise in which the group generated ideas of improvements to the Town's inventory of recreation facilities. A summary of the session was appended to the notes of the May 5th meeting.
- At the present meeting, Jay asked subcommittee members to form pairs and discuss among themselves their fondest recreational memories in their childhood. Each member

reported to the group what had been discussed. The purpose of this exercise was to help each member think of what they remember most fondly about their recreational experiences in their youth. The objective was to help create a group mindset for thinking about what might be possible in Moraga.

- Following the reminiscence exercise, the group considered the brainstorming table, which was developed at the May 5 meeting, and was asked what additional ideas should be considered. The focus was on potential sites for recreational development. The group was asked not to be constrained by issues of land ownership; it was important to imagine what land might be developed to meet known recreational facility needs.
- After considerable discussion, five sites were identified which have potential for recreational purposes.
 - Moraga Center Specific Plan (MCSP) – Site A: This area is located to the west of Moraga Road opposite the Moraga Commons. It generally spans south to the existing nursery business, west to the trailer/vehicle storage park, and north to the Town-owned property on which is located the Town’s marquee. The area is flat. It is identified in the MCSP process as one of two potential sites for a gymnasium/community center. Owned by the Bruzzone Family.
 - Moraga Center Specific Plan – Moraga Royale/Aegis vicinity: The area is an L-shape vacant flat area surrounding the west and rear of Aegis, and the rear of Moraga Royale. The area is identified in the MCSP as one potential site for high density affordable housing. Owned by the Bruzzone Family.
 - JMIS Fields/Gym including Pear Orchard: This site was discussed in some depth at earlier subcommittee meetings in terms of playing fields, gymnasium, and site for a community center. The entire area is flat, with some constraints posed by the active creek transecting the property west of the JMIS school complex. Owned by the Moraga School District.
 - Back 40: Located on the east end of Moraga Commons, and north of the foot bridge opposite the Moraga Library, this flat area has been discussed as a possible site for a gymnasium. Various constraints are posed by an adjacent creek and power lines which cross the property. Owned by the Town of Moraga.
 - Moraga Tennis and Swim Club: Formerly a private tennis and swim club, the facility closed shortly after 2000 and has been mostly vacant since. The property

was being actively marketed at one time; status is currently unknown. The property has seven full-size, lighted tennis courts, a 25-yard swimming pool, hot tub, sand volleyball pit area, club house and developed parking. Owners are Terry and Linda Gong.

- Based on currently available information, Town staff will present a constraints and opportunities chart on all five sites and potential facilities, in order to set the stage for the subcommittee to narrow down the list of sites and facilities for further study.
- Jay Ingram suggested that it would be helpful to solicit further community input from a broad sample of community interests. He suggested hosting a focus group meeting comprising persons of all ages to participate in a facilitated discussion focused on community wishes for recreational facilities, influenced by the five potential sites identified above. The focus group would be led by Jay and Maura Wolf of the St. Mary's College Leadership Center. Each subcommittee member was asked to nominate at least four potential focus group participants. It is intended the focus group discussion would happen during September, after the busy summer season. The subcommittee adopted the suggestion.
- Jay Ingram advised that a field trip is being planned to visit the new Pleasant Hill Recreation and Park District facilities. Members of the Park and Recreation Commission are already scheduled to attend, and the tour will be opened up to others in Moraga such as the Town Council, Planning Commission, Design Review Board, Park Foundation and Hacienda Foundation. All members of this subcommittee are encouraged to attend as well. The field trip is set for 6:00-7:30 pm on Tuesday, August 26. The tour will be led by Bob Berggren, General Manager of the District. All interested members will need to report to the address below no later than 6 pm:

Pleasant Hill Recreation and Park District
Teen Center
147 Gregory Lane
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Next Meetings

- The next subcommittee meeting will be 6-7:30 pm Wednesday, July 23rd in the Mosaic Room, Hacienda.