



## MINUTES

### CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE BEAUTIFICATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Council Chambers – City Hall – 300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA  
*Copies of the agenda packet are available for review at the Pacific Grove Library located at 550 Central Avenue; the CDD counter in City Hall at 300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday; and on the internet at [www.cityofpacificgrove.org/sites/default/files/beautification-and-natural-resources-commission](http://www.cityofpacificgrove.org/sites/default/files/beautification-and-natural-resources-commission). Recordings of the meetings are available upon request.*

#### **DRAFT MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jean Anton (C), Mary Flaig (VC), Dave Myers, Claudia Vierneisel, Thom Akeman (S)  
(Absent: Colleen Goldsmith & Kelly Terry)

#### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Milas Smith, Anastazia Aziz, Laurel O'Halloran, Mark Brodeur

**1. CALLED TO ORDER** at 4:01 p.m.

#### **2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

a. Written Communications:

An email was received from Lisa Ciani about signs along the shoreline and protection of archeological sites.

b. Oral Communications:

Lisa Ciani asked BNRC members to comment to City Council about the LCP, specifically about alternatives to seawalls and protection of scenic areas.

Michelle Raines, a volunteer docent at the Monarch Grove Sanctuary, supported Frances Grate's recent comments about degradation of the sanctuary, loss of butterfly habitat, and existence of a subcommittee on the sanctuary.

#### **3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of January 17, 2017**

Approved with amendment from Commissioner Myers asking in January about the Memorial Wall at the cemetery, which isn't part of the Commemorative Tribute Program.

#### **4. REPORTS NOT REQUIRING ACTION**

a. Council liaison announcements

Councilmember Peake outlined City Council goal setting and said work has started on the storm water program funded by a \$4.5 state grant.

b. Public acknowledgement

Chair Anton recognized Mayor Kampe for his State of the City address, and the city's Public Works staff for the extra work they've had to do with this season's storm damages.

#### **5. UNFINISHED/ONGOING BUSINESS**

a. Election of Officers:

Current officers were re-elected: Jean Anton as chair, Mary Flaig as vice chair and Thom Akeman as secretary.

b. Art Donation Policy

Senior Planner Aziz presented a revised city art donation policy that would have proposals for outdoor, public art reviewed by the BNRC. Commissioners voted unanimously to recommend it for City Council adoption.

c. Commemorative Tribute Program

Community Economic Development Director Brodeur and Planner O'Halloran presented a revised program that would allow contributors to buy teak benches, bike racks, tree grates, stone pavers and boardwalk boards in various places in the city to commemorate people or things they want to honor. Revisions reflect the staff's work with a BNRC subcommittee. The proposed prices, from \$195 to \$4,950, are designed to cover the costs of acquiring, installing and maintaining the commemoratives for at least 10 years, Director Brodeur said.

During public comment, Sally Moore asked if the pavers installations would be permeable (answer: yes).

Commissioners discussed the program and unanimously voted to approve the project concept and send it to the City Council.

#### **6. NEW BUSINESS**

None

#### **7. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

Commissioner Myers said he was concerned about city trash cans and wants to make sure we have some recycling containers downtown. Environmental Program Manager Smith said he is working on a grant for new containers in city parks for both trash and recycling.

Commissioner Akeman asked about the status of a subcommittee on the Monarch Grove Sanctuary, and said the harbor seal pupping along city beaches should start in a matter of weeks.

**8. STAFF REPORTS**

None

**9. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA (March 21, 2017)**

- a. Goals for 2017
- b. Point Pinos Trail Project update
- c. Wildlife feeding signs at Lovers Point
- d. Status of subcommittee on Monarch Grove Sanctuary
- e. The Memorial Wall at the cemetery
- f. Recycling program for downtown trash cans

**10. ADJOURNED** at 4:58 p.m.

MINUTES  
CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE  
BEAUTIFICATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
4:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 18, 2017

Council Chambers – City Hall – 300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA  
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**DRAFT MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jean Anton (C), Mary Flaig (VC), Dave Myers, Kelly Terry, Claudia Vierneisel, Thom Akeman (S)  
(Absent: Colleen Goldsmith)

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Daniel Gho, Milas Smith

**1. CALLED TO ORDER** at 4 p.m.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

a. Written Communications:

None

b. Oral Communications:

Ron Johnston asked if the Commission would be comfortable making a decision about a tree he believes is effecting his health. (As this was a public comment and not on the posted agenda, no action was taken.)

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Minutes of February 21, 2017 approved unanimously.

**4. REPORTS NOT REQUIRING ACTION**

a. Council liaison announcements:

Councilmember Peake provided updates on the LCP, library project, community power and other issues before the Council.

b. Public acknowledgement

Chair Anton recognized Bay Net and the docents for their work along the shoreline, particularly during the harbor seal pupping season underway now.

## **5. UNFINISHED/ONGOING BUSINESS**

### **a. Monarch Sanctuary Update**

Nick Stong, education program manager for the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural Resources, reported that docents in the Monarch Grove Sanctuary contributed 640 hours during the recent monarch season and talked to 30,327 visitors, including 1,511 students on 24 field trips. A grant from the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District allowed the docents to buy new equipment and adapt telescopes to ipads so more people and children could see the Monarchs better. He said it was an average year for the butterflies, with a high count of 17,100 on Nov. 27. That was at a time 90% of the monarchs were outside the sanctuary, clustering at 2 private residences on Ridge Road, he said. The reason for the shift wasn't established, but it may be because it was sunnier and warmer in those trees than in the sanctuary, which had periods of frost this year.

During public comment, docent Michelle Raine urged establishment of a sanctuary subcommittee because the butterfly sanctuary appears to be in serious trouble. In addition to bad weather this past season, neighbors pruned their trees severely and that created wind tunnels through the sanctuary, she said. She said there was little butterfly mating this year because no clusters left when it was time to mate.

### **b. Coastal Trail Update**

Public Works Director Gho reported plans for a one-mile trail to link Asilomar with the rest of the city's coastal recreation trail are progressing to a first construction contract proposal and a community meeting planned in late May. The plan is to do a trail with a 15- to 20-year life span until projected erosion impacts it, then realign Ocean View Boulevard and the trail system.

During public comment, Lisa Ciani said she hopes for more public input before a lot of money is spent for a short-term trail. The archeology and plant maintenance need to be looked at.

Chair Anton said the plan is to put the trail on the oceanside of the street and parking so people could look at the ocean, not cars.

### **c. Recycling Container Update**

Environmental Program Manager Smith said he's ordered sample trash and recycling containers and hopes to have them and new signs to show to the commission next month. A state grant he obtained should buy 60 to 80 new containers for the city. The signs will probably be in English, Spanish and Chinese, he said.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. Goals and Objectives**

Chair Anton presented a draft of goals and projects for the commission, listing 8 areas of primary concern – parks, shoreline trail, Monarch Grove Sanctuary, recycling, trees and landscape, downtown beautification, water, and marine life and harbor seals. After changing only one word, the list was adopted unanimously.

## **7. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

Commissioner Terry presented “don’t feed the animals” signs Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> graders made for a contest to design the best sign. There was a variety of squirrels, birds, seals and fish on the signs with “Please don’t feed...” wording.

Commissioner Akeman reported the harbor seal pupping this year has been better than last, with a few dozen healthy and lively pups so far that are fun to watch. At times they have attracted large crowds to the beach at Hopkins Marine Station and the spillover rookery in the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Cove, which the city closes with temporary fencing.

Chair Anton reported she and Councilmember Peake recently visited the regional dump to see how Pacific Grove is doing with a 75% recycling goal by 2020. We are at 59% now, which is better than many cities. We need to work with apartment buildings on recycling, and encourage restaurants and grocery stores to recycle their food wastes.

She also reported on efforts to restore “The Magic Carpet” next to Lovers Point to its famous exhibition of bold color.

#### **8. STAFF REPORTS**

None

#### **9. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA (May 16, 2017)**

a. Tree Appeal 650 Gibson

**10. ADJOURNED** at 5:10 p.m.