

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
LARKSPUR PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
JULY 19, 2018

COMMISSION: PRESENT: Acting Chair Koeppel, Blauvelt, Friedel, Harrison

COMMISSION: ABSENT: Chair Sunshine

STAFF: PRESENT: Recreation Director Dick Whitley

1. Roll Call

Acting Chair Koeppel called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Approval of the Consent Calendar

3.1 Approval of Minutes: May 17, 2018

M/s Blauvelt/Friedel, to approve the May 17, 2018 minutes as submitted.

Ayes: Blauvelt, Friedel, Harrison, Acting Chair Koeppel

Absent: Chair Sunshine

4. Business Items

4.1 Overview of Super Cool Summer School (SCSS) 2018

Recreation Director Whitley introduced Summer School Directors Erin Duggan and Beth Suess.

SCSS Director Duggan presented a PowerPoint presentation and described the program: 1) There are two, two-week sessions; 2) Students can register for four classes per day, starting at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 1:05 p.m.; 3) The program has grown from 250 to 884 kids, filling over 1,100 session slots; 4) 78 different classes were offered this year; 5) 45 teachers; 6) 109 aides who are interviewed and mentored throughout the program; 7) 40 full scholarships to Larkspur/Corte Madera School District students; 8) Before-care that was used 620 times; 9) Two campuses- Kindercamp at Bacich Elementary and SCSS (1st through 8th grade) at Hall Middle and/or Neil Cummins Elementary Schools (on a rotating basis). She stated the intent of the program was to develop children's imagination and creativity. Classes include art, sports, drama, crafts and textiles, science, math, reading, music, history, film-making, dance, and more! Classes for the older students are more in-depth and challenging.

Commissioner Blauvelt asked how they find such phenomenal teachers. SCSS Director Duggan stated she finds a lot of the teachers by attending different festivals, crafts shows, and events throughout the year. She looks for teachers who are passionate about what they do and want to pass on that passion to the students. She noted the class fees were very reasonable which allows students to try a variety of things.

Commissioner Friedel asked if a lot of the aides/counselors were alumni. SCSS Director Suess stated “yes, probably about 70%”. They make room for as many aides/counselors as possible since they contribute a lot to the program.

Commissioner Blauvelt asked about the age of the aides/counselors. SCSS Director Suess stated they must be at least entering 8th grade in the fall (non-paid positions). They hire a lot of high school and college students.

Acting Chair Koeppel noted scheduling classes could be a bit competitive and he asked if the program was the “right size”. SCSS Director Duggan stated some of the classes were difficult to get in (cooking, etc.) but there is a “rotating system” of registration that works well. In addition, students can change classes during the session.

Acting Chair Koeppel asked if they have to scramble to find locations. SCSS Director Duggan stated the program takes over the entire campus so they rotate campuses.

Acting Chair Koeppel asked if there was anything the Commission could do to help the program. SCSS Director Duggan stated they would think about this and come back to the Commission with ideas. She thanked the Commission and staff for their continued support.

The Commission thanked the SCSS Directors for creating a wonderful program.

5. Director’s Oral Report

Recreation Director Whitley welcomed new Commissioner Vicky Harrison. He reported that Supervisor Stone was working on the fall brochure- it should be available the beginning of August. The first Music in the Park event was held on June 29th, featuring the Zydeco Flames and catered by Pig in a Pickle- it was a huge success! New Administrative Assistant Drew Bendickson started in June. The Piper Park tennis courts will be closed from July 30th through August 31st for resurfacing and fence repair. Repairs to the Piper Park Sand Volleyball Courts have been postponed until there is sufficient money in the budget. The Hall Middle School Gymnasium floor has been sanded and lined and will undergo final waxing and finishing in time to open in August. Construction of the outdoor gym space at Neighborhood Park should begin in September. Construction on the Bon Air Bridge has started and the mitigation projects in Piper Park (dog park and marsh restoration) will begin in the spring of 2020. The Commission will not be meeting in August.

Acting Chair Koeppel asked about the attendance for the Music in the Park. Recreation Director Whitley stated there were about 400 people in the park. Acting Chair Koeppel

asked if there would be any future events. Recreation Director Whitley stated "yes". Staff is working with the Corte Madera Recreation Department to hold one more music event and one more Movie Night this summer. He said that joint programming will continue next year.

6. Commissioner's Reports

Commissioner Friedel reported on the status of the Rec'ing Crew, a not-for-profit group (501(c)(3) that supports the activities of the Larkspur Recreation Department. The group sold beer, wine, champagne, and water at the Music in the Park event and made \$1,100. They are looking forward to participating in the upcoming events. The group plans to hand out scholarships throughout the school year. She will continue to report to the Commission on the Rec'ing Crew activities.

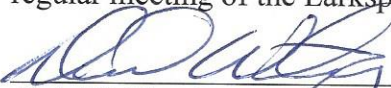
7. Adjourn Meeting

Acting Chair Koepfel adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni DeFrancis
Recording Secretary

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were duly and regularly adopted at a regular meeting of the Larkspur Parks and Recreation Commission.



Dick Whitley, Recreation Director