

CITY OF COTATI
Community and Environment Commission
Minutes of the regular meeting

July 14, 2008

7:00 p.m.

Cotati City Hall, 201 W. Sierra Avenue Cotati, CA 94931

Call to Order by Chair Wright-Molina

7:07pm

Roll Call by Chair Hutchins:

Present: Commissioners Onines, Wright-Molina, Payne Vaughn, Austin and Hutchins

Absent: Commissioner Claussen

Staff Liaison present: Terry Dutra

Approval of the Minutes: Regular Meeting of June 09, 2008

Motion to Approve: Onines

Seconded: Hutchins

No Discussion

Unanimous Approval

Oral/Written Communications & Public Comment – No member of the public present

Items for Discussion and Possible Action

ACTION:

1. Public Art

Discussion

Payne Vaughn suggested we consider a sidewalk chalk art event in the future.

After discussion of the proposed guidelines, Onines motioned: That the guidelines be modified to add “Cotati City Hall” as the venue for the art covered by these guidelines and that word “visual” be eliminated from the media criteria.

Hutchins seconded. All approved.

Next step is approval by the City Manager.

2. Volunteer Recognition Reception

Discussion

Onines reported that the date for this event will be Monday August 25th at 6pm.

Onines has also drafted a memo that the City Manager can distribute to all the City Hall staff soliciting names of community volunteers.

Dutra started a list volunteers that were suggested by the CEC and the CEC was encouraged to contact her by phone or email will additional suggestions.

3. Park Audits **Discussion & Action**

Re: The uncompleted park audits

- Last week Hutchins e-mailed to the CEC the park audit for Delano
- La Plaza Park – Wright Molina is still working on La Plaza Park
- Claussen was not present to turn in the report on Falletti Park
- Onines submitted the report for Draper Park

4. Holiday Tree Lighting **Discussion & Action**

At the last meeting the CEC approved a motion that the CEC request the City Attorney make a brief presentation to the CEC as to the legal guidelines for this annual event.

Dutra reported that the City Manager wanted to get additional info about the focus of this event before contacting the city attorney: inclusive or non-denominational.

After discussion, the consensus was that the CEC would like to make this event as inclusive as reasonably possible: accepting participation from different established religious groups in Cotati. But the group agreed that the focus should be geared more towards youth and that we did not have the resources to excessively recruit various organizations. The CEC will make a conscientious outreach effort; announcement on the downtown marquee and PSA's. Due to the recent budget cuts the CEC does not have funds for paid advertising.

Agendize for next meeting: brainstorm specific tasks/options for the outreach efforts and the events for the evening. It was noted that the CEC needs specific guidelines from the City Attorney in order to proceed.

6. Items for the Next CEC Agenda on August 11, 2008:
Public Art, Volunteer Recognition Reception, Park Audits, Guidelines for 2008 Holiday Tree Lighting

Announcements from Commissioners:

Payne Vaughn announced her resignation from the CEC, but noted that she would be available as a volunteer for future events. She also encouraged the CEC to pursue an Arbor Day event next year.

Adjourned at 8:07pm by Chair Wright-Molina

Respectfully submitted by Commissioner Hutchins, CEC Secretary