

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Parks Department



DATE: July 21, 2015

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: August 6, 2015

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Carla Schoof, Community Programs Specialist
SUBJECT: Report on Volunteer and Community Programs

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and accept report.

BACKGROUND:

Volunteer and Community Program updates and items of interest to the Commission.

DISCUSSION:

Volunteer Activities

Spring and Early Summer Volunteer Activity: A variety of special volunteer service activities took place in San Mateo County Parks in addition to the service provided by Friends and other partners. Students from Sequoia High School, Sacred Heart High School, San Mateo Kiwanis and Key Club members, and North Shoreview School with a total of 350 students contributed 1,300 hours of service. In addition, adult volunteers from Thermo Fisher Electronics, and the Student Conservation Association in partnership with Genentech volunteered at Edgewood Park and San Bruno Mountain Park, respectively. Approximately 50 volunteers, including crew leaders from the Trail Center, partnered with Park staff to celebrate National Trail Day and clear and widen the Skyline Trail segment of the Ridge Trail in early June.

Scout Projects: The Department has strong relationship with scout troops throughout the County. This spring and summer, scouts are working with staff to achieve the highest awards in their programs. Below are some projects that are in progress or have been completed:

- Split rail fence installation, Merchant Marine Overlook, Coyote Point Recreation Area
- Beach group landscape improvements, Coyote Point Recreation Area
- Beach area cleanup and rock removal project, Coyote Point Recreation Area

- Develop two accessible paths: From the old Beach lot to the duck pond area and another between the lawn and the Beach group picnic area.
- Edgewood Trailhead at Edgewood Road: replace aged metal culvert with plastic culvert and build retaining wall on both ends.
- Install new post and add sand to the volleyball court at Werder Shelter at Huddart Park to make it a regulation size court.
- Flood Park: install the brick planter boxes at Flood Park in front of the old office.

Community Engagement

Update: Reimagine Flood Park: Close to 80 people attended the second community meeting on June 23 held at the Fair Oaks Community Center to learn what park users would like to see in a redesigned Flood Park. The same format as was presented in the first meeting in May was followed and garnered a lot of enthusiasm and ideas. In order to capture the needs and interests of those who were not able to attend the meetings, an on-line survey in English and Spanish was made available and remained open for 30 days. At the end of the survey period, 209 people had shared their ideas in this way.

Gates + Associates, Flood Park project consultants, will analyze the data collected from meetings and surveys to develop three conceptual designs which will be presented at the September 1 community meeting. At this meeting participants will be asked to voice their preferences of the models and elements.

July 11 Take A Hike: Park staff partnered with volunteers with San Bruno Mountain Watch to lead this month's hike on the Summit Loop and Saddle Loop trails. Sixty hikers joined us for a beautiful morning that allowed hikers to take in spectacular views from either trail.

Upcoming Community Activities

- Take A Hike, August 1, 9 a.m., Junipero Serra Park
- Family Nature Event-Bats, August 22, 11 a.m., Memorial Park
- Movie Night in the Park (Despicable Me 2), August 28, 6 p.m., Quarry Park
- Reimagine Flood Park, September 1, 7-9 p.m., Fair Oaks Community Center
- Family Nature Hike, Geology of Earthquakes, September 12, 9 a.m. – Sawyer Camp Trail

Communications

Print and Electronic Media Outreach: The Department used a variety of vehicles to inform the public about park services and events June and July.

- July issue of Discover County Parks E-Newsletter, which included articles on Flood Park Project, Take A Hike, Camping Alternatives, Buses on Kings Mt. Road, Coyotes at San Bruno Mountain, Tour de Peninsula and Moss Beach Park.
- Press Releases:
 - Coyote Point Marina Fuel Dock Re-opens

- San Mateo County Parks - SCA Green Projects, Measure A Funding
- County Selects Chaparral to Manage Folger Stable Rental and Concession
- Facebook:
 - Magic Mountain Playground Re-opens, June 4
 - Take A Hike, San Bruno Mountain, (July 11) June 4
 - Duck Farm at San Bruno Mountain, Throw Back Thursday, June 11
 - Pacific City/Coyote Point Park, Throw Back Thursday, June 18
 - Sam McDonald's Grandniece Visits Sam McDonald Park, June 18
 - Reimagine Flood Park Reminders, June 18 and 23
 - Memorial Park Then and Now, Throw Back Thursday, July 2
 - Sawyer Camp Trail at Jepson Laurel Closed to Through Traffic, July 5
 - Take A Hike, San Bruno Mountain, Reminder, July 9
 - Sawyer Camp Trail Closed July 21& 22; San Andreas Trail Closed July 23 & 24, (posted July 15 & 16)
- Twitter:
 - Take A Hike, Sheep Camp Trail, June 2
 - Magic Mountain Playground Re-opens, June 4
 - Woodside Store in 1890s – Throw Back Thursday, June 4
 - Reimagine Flood Park – Share Your Ideas, June 19
 - Reimagine Flood Park –Meeting Invitation, June 23
 - Reimagine Flood Park – Thank you, June 24
 - Clipper Ridge Re-opening Postponed, June 25
 - Reminder Take A Hike July 11, Not July 4, (Posted July 2)
 - Make A Difference, Support Parks Foundation ED Recruitment, July 18