

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD CITY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, MAY 09, 2007

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- Mayor Pro-Tem Binnie called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Council members in attendance: Bhardwaj, Miller, Fulkerson. **Mayor Lin was absent.**
- City Staff in attendance: City Clerk, Gabriel Adams; Police Chief, Ken Thrailkill.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION – No closed session.

IV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion (Fulkerson/Miller) to approve the agenda as submitted. Passed unanimously.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 11, 2007 cc

Motion (Fulkerson/Miller) to approve the minutes as amended. Passed unanimously.

VII. COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

Binnie - Parks and Recreation, Streets

Trails: Parker Creek Trail signage – The Coastal Conservancy investigated the status of Parker Creek trail easements. Research determined that the City doesn't have easements over 2 properties, and that the issue must be resolved before signs are installed.

TPW: Public Works purchased a 2005 Ford Ranger pick-up. The department is also working with State Parks to have a gate installed at the end of Underwood.

Bhardwaj – Health & Human Services, Planning

Health: Nothing to report.

Planning: Mike Morgan was appointed as Chair of the Planning Commission. City Planning was awarded a \$300,000 clean beaches grant from the State to trace source pollution at the beach. Septic repair funding will be available for qualifying residents as part of the grant. Septic ordinance will be brought to the Council at a future meeting.

Attended a funding conference in Eureka regarding Housing & Community Development. She reported conference highlights, and explained that the State HCD is very supportive of second units and encourage local jurisdictions address the issue.

Lin – Water, Town Hall (Mayor Pro-Tem Binnie reported the following information on behalf of Mayor Lin)

ASBS: Announced watershed management plan meeting next Tuesday.

City Hall: 1) Tsurai Management Plan final draft is in. 2) Coast Guard is preparing to transfer ownership of Trinidad Head housing station. The City will pursue ownership of the property.

Miller – Finance

Budget: First budget workshop scheduled for Monday, May 25 at 2:00pm.

Fulkerson – Public Safety

Deferred to Police Chief's report.

VIII. STAFF REPORTS

City Clerk/IWMC – Adams:

Answered various recycling questions regarding the community recycling center, Post Office recycling, and beach waste.

City Attorney – Guttero: **Absent.**

Police Chief – Thrailkill – Announced arrests, service calls, and statistics. Also announced that the Corvette has been outfitted with a light bar, graphics, and a radio. Thanked Sharp Auto Graphics & RWS in Fortuna for donating their services.

IX. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

(Three (3) minute limit per Speaker unless Council approves request for extended time.)

Jim Cuthbertson – Trinidad

1) Thanked the City for repairing the Van Wycke Trail. 2) Various criticisms of the Council regarding “secret” communication. 3) The Tsurai Area Management Plan is complicated and should be reviewed in sections.

Dean Heyenga – Trinidad

The Management Plan for the 12.5 acres is a very complex document. Some parts are not controversial, others very controversial; some statements have no legal consequences, others may prompt litigation. Having taken part in drafting the document over four years, here are some thoughts about its approval and implementation for your consideration.

Approving and implementing the Management Plan

- There is no deadline requiring the Council to immediately approve the Plan.
- There is no legal requirement to approve the entire Plan which means endorsing all statements, assertions, and recommendations included in it.
- There is no legal requirement for the Council to deal with the contentious and controversial issues by adopting the Plan in its entirety.
- Implementation can be done step-by-step without approving the entire Plan; identify specific projects that all parties agree should be done and proceed to work on them.
- The Council has already begun working to solve one important recommendation - protecting the Tsurai Village by dealing with Parker Creek drainage. This is an example of implementing part of the Plan without having to approve the entire document, in fact, without even having seen the final version of the Plan.

Committee structure to oversee implementation

- Successful implementation depends on establishing an oversight committee to meet regularly over the years needed to address the many issues in the Plan.
- There are three governments involved: the State of California, the Yurok Tribe, and the City of Trinidad.
- A committee structure must ensure that each agency is fairly represented. Fairness will help establish the sense of trust and common purpose necessary to cooperatively implement specific projects, and will facilitate identifying funding sources for projects.
- One approach would be a committee comprised of two City Council members, two Yurok representatives, and one Coastal Commission representative. Such a make-up would ensure each agency is fairly represented. If the Yurok Tribe wanted they could appoint one or even both of their representatives to be from the Tsurai Ancestral Society.
- Insisting on an equitable committee structure ensures that City and Tribal interests will be fairly represented and each will have an equal voice in implementing the Plan.

Glenn Saunders – Trinidad

The owners of the Harbor Cottage on Ocean Avenue should have been notified of the fire hydrant relocation.

Richard Johnson – Trinidad

Invited City officials and staff to the next Chamber of Commerce dinner. The guest speaker will discuss disaster preparedness.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Proclamation #2007-03; Recognizing the 2007 North Coast Stand Down committee and volunteers for their efforts to address the needs of veterans on the North Coast and encourages all North Coast veterans in need of services to attend the Stand Down.

Bob Gelder of the North Coast Stand Down explained the event and thanked the Council for their support.

Motion (Fulkerson/Miller) to approve the consent agenda. Passed unanimously.

XI. AGENDA ITEMS – No agenda items.

XII. COUNCIL REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- None

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

- Council meeting ended at 8:15pm.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Gabriel Adams
City Clerk

Stan Binnie
Mayor Pro-Tem