

SUMMARY MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 23, 2006

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Lin called the meeting to order at 11:05am. Present were Councilmembers Marlow, Heyenga, and Cuthbertson. Bowman was absent. No staff were present.

Guests included: Dr. Tom Gates, Su Corbaley, Kelly Lindgren, Kathleen Sloan.

II. AGENDA ITEM(S)

1. Workshop to discuss repair plans for the Axel Lindgren Memorial Trail

[Note: the summary minutes below include pertinent comments related to repair/rebuilding the bottom of the Axel Lindgren Memorial Trail. Topics off this agenda item were discussed but those comments are not included in these summary minutes.]

Mayor Lin welcomed the guests and went right to the agenda item, introducing the topic as a workshop on repairing/rebuilding the Axel Lindgren Memorial Trail which was damaged in recent winter storms. He said the City is looking for a permanent fix and ways to finance the project.

Marlow presented preliminary and not yet complete estimates from the California Conservation Corps, including ways to stabilize the bank where the steps had been washed out.

Corbaley questioned the \$150,000 estimate which had been reported. Marlow said that was a rough estimate to put permanent steps in the same location with lots of concrete. Corbaley said the Conservancy takes the position that the trail must be reopened, and that any design must fit the area culturally and aesthetically, and not degrade the hillside.

Gates noted that in the original trail the Yurok Tribe did the work, but the project ran out of money before the trail could be built to the large anchoring rock.

Heyenga asked that, if the Conservancy were to provide major funding for the rebuilding, what would the Conservancy need to see for approval. Corbaley said they would want to see a design plan, cost estimate, and work schedule; show all bids solicited and received; justification for the bid selected; photos showing the need for the proposed design; evidence that the design was prepared by a qualified person.

Gates suggested Steve Fisher, who works for the State Parks Department and has many years experience and expertise in designing trails.

The group discussed various options for closing the trail. Sloan suggested trail use could be seasonal, open during the summer and closed in winter when storms occur. Corbaley said the Conservancy was not opposed to a seasonal trail, but she could not support putting the trail back in the same location. She also noted that seasonal trail schedules can be confusing to the public and there may be legal issues based on the Settlement Agreement [covering various City trails.]

Gates drew conceptual sketches of some basic design elements and described the engineering issues in each area.

Corbaley suggested the City fund transitional repairs while studying a permanent solution. Lin said that FEMA funds may pay for repairs and possibly even restoration. Corbaley said that the most efficient way to proceed is to get a trail expert to identify the key elements, what we need to address them, and then to produce a design. Sloan noted that the CCC is a good labor force but not necessarily for trail design.

Heyenga recommended that the City get in touch with Steve Fisher, whom everyone agreed had the most expertise. Lindgren said that her brother Axel Lindgren works with Fisher and could put him in contact with Marlow.

Mayor Lin summarized actions needed to proceed:

1. Marlow and Fisher will get together to work on designs for temporary and permanent solutions. Others will be asked to participate in this process.
2. CCC should identify the cost of a temporary fix, which might be reimbursed by FEMA

III. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Lin adjourned the meeting at 12:57pm.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Dean Heyenga
Councilmember

Chi-Wei Lin
Mayor