



CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
(Commissioners Moravec, Rood and Brentwood, Chair)
October 10, 2013, 6:00 p.m.
Municipal Center - 421 Main Street, Conference Room 1

Materials related to an item on this Agenda are available for public inspection in the Park Division Office at 965 Fir Street during normal business hours or online at <http://www.chico.ca.us/>.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. REGULAR AGENDA

2.1. INTRODUCTION TO THE CAPER ACRES RENOVATION AND MASTER PLAN

Due to aging infrastructure and the need for renovation, the BPPC included the renovation of Caper Acres in its 2013-2014 Work Plan. This is the first in a series of public meetings that will allow opportunities for public input and will provide an overview of the facility and layout the planning process. *Staff seeks public and Committee input on the upcoming Master Plan for Caper Acres.*

3. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to the next regular meeting on 11/14/13 at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room 1, Chico Municipal Center building (421 Main Street, Chico, California).



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Natural Resources Committee Report

Meeting Date 10/10/13

DATE: 10/03/13
TO: Natural Resources Committee (NRC)
FROM: Dan Efsseff, Parks and Natural Resources Manager and Lise Smith-Peters, Park Services Coordinator
SUBJECT: Introduction to the Caper Acres Renovation and Master Plan

Recommendation

Staff seeks public and Committee input on the upcoming plans for Caper Acres.

Background

The Chico Junior Women's Club was a moving force in the conceptual planning of the Caper Acres playground and the popular playground was funded through Chico's generous community. Caper Acres received its name through a community contest held in 1958. A newer portion of playground equipment was added in 2007 for toddlers and is known as the Nico Cardoza Memorial Play Area. Friends and family helped design and fund the area in memory of local toddler, Nico Cardoza, who passed away unexpectedly in 2005.

Throughout the years, Park Division maintenance staff has devoted a lot of time to repairs and daily cleanup of Caper Acres aging infrastructure. The Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) originally included the renovation of Caper Acres in its 2011-2012 Work Plan and again in its 2013-2014 Work Plan. With the City's budget reductions and a decrease in Park maintenance staff, the playground was temporarily closed Monday through Thursday until a local business, ServPro stepped forward to offer its professional cleaning services. The company is providing janitorial services at Caper Acres and other areas until November 1, 2013 to help free up Park staff to work on Caper Acres and other Park areas.

Report in Brief

The Park Division will develop a Caper Acres Master Plan. At this kickoff meeting, staff will layout the process and start collecting public input at subsequent Natural Resource Committee meetings. We will also conduct a site visit to Caper Acres in November. Input will also be sought from Caper Acres visitors. The information gathered will be used to develop a list of priorities, needs, and costs. The plan will address improvements that lessen the maintenance load, improve safety, and retain the unique character of the site. The identified priorities and costs will be used as part of a capital campaign (and seeking other funding sources) to improve the facility. Staff anticipates several NRC meetings and additional community meetings to consider the various elements of the renovation plan and to receive public input.

Distribution: BPPC; BPPC and NRC Lists