

Lamorinda Community, Calendar, Agendas, Notes, News

Moraga

Calendar	
City Council	7:30pm
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School 1010 Camino Pablo Monday, Aug 8	
Planning Comm.	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive Monday, Aug 6	
Design Review	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive Monday, Aug 13	
Park & Rec	7:30pm
Hacienda, Mosaic Room 2100 Donald Drive Tuesday, Aug 21	
Liaison	8:00am
Fire Station 1280 Moraga Way no meeting in August	
Chamber of Commerce	5pm
BBQ Commons, Moraga Friday, July 27	
check online: Town of Moraga: http://www.ci.moraga.ca.us for: • all meeting notes • calendar updates	



Residential Burglary 7/11
House-sitter reported signs of attempted forced entry on Shuey Drive. An unknown suspect (s) unlawfully entered the garage of the residence through a window that was ajar. At that time of the report, the loss was unknown.

Attempted Residential Burglary 7/12
One or possibly two suspects attempted to enter a residence on Paseo Linares at approximately 10:30 while the resident was occupied, by opening a rear sliding glass door. The suspects fled when occupant activated an audible panic alarm. One suspect was observed to be an African American male in his early twenties, 5'8"-5'10" with close cropped hair. No property was taken.

Vandalism 7/13
An Orange Ford Mustang parked on Larch Avenue, was found to be covered in broken eggs with damage to the paint estimated to be \$800-\$1000. Extra patrol was requested to reduce continual "egging" problem in the area.

7/15
Shortly after 2:00pm, officer responded to the City of Lafayette to investigate a traffic collision involving a Lafayette Patrol Vehicle. There were no injuries.

Council Applies Green Building Guidelines to New Subdivisions

By Steve Angelides
Taking its first step to implement the political statement on global warming it adopted in May, the Moraga Town Council added a green building provision for new subdivisions to the Town's Design Guidelines at its meeting on July 11. "New subdivision development should meet Build it Green guidelines for new home construction or equivalent standards," the provision states. The Town has been working on revising its Design Guidelines since 2005 as part of the process of implementing its 2002 General Plan. The Town's Planning Commission adopted the revised guidelines on June 4 without a green building provision. Vice Mayor Lynda Deschambault appealed the Planning Commission decision to the Council because she wanted to add energy efficiency and sustainability to the

guidelines. Deschambault works for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and heads the local environmental group Generation Green. When the Council made its political statement on global warming in May by endorsing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, it was the first time it had ever taken a position on a national or international issue. The green building guidelines represent another historic first for Moraga, because its Design Guidelines had previously covered only the external features of a building. The Green Building Guidelines cover both the external and the internal features of a building, including the site, foundation, landscaping, structural frame and building envelope, exterior finish, insulation, plumbing, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, renewable energy, building performance, finishes, flooring, appliances, and other features. The guidelines use a point system, with a minimum number of points in specific categories. The Green Building Guidelines were developed by Build it Green, a Bay Area non-profit group whose mission is to promote green building. The group's Development Director, Bruce Mast, addressed the Council meeting and presented copies of the guidelines. Other speakers at the meeting included Bill Durkin, head of the local environmental group Sustainable Moraga, and Deva Rajan of Canyon Construction, a local "sustainable builder."

The Council struggled with how to address the green building issue for over an hour before councilmember Dave Trotter, an attorney, proposed the language which ultimately was adopted. The final vote to amend the Design Guidelines was 3 to 2, with Trotter, the swing vote on the Council, siding with Deschambault and Councilmember Ken Chew, an engineering project manager. Mayor Mike Metcalf, an engineer retired from Chevron, and Councilmember Rochelle Bird, a former aide to Republican Assemblyman Guy Houston, were in the minority. During the discussion Metcalf and Bird, and at times Trotter, expressed the view that an ordinance might be a better way to approach the green building issue, but that approach would have delayed action on the issue. The Council majority preferred to act quickly to take advantage of the opportunity, as Chew stated, to apply the green building provision to the new Palos Colorado subdivision, approval of which is currently pending before the Town.

24 Hour Fitness Move Approved

By Steve Angelides
The Moraga Planning Commission and Design Review Board have approved the move of 24 Hour Fitness from 594 Moraga Rd. to 351 Rheem Blvd., the former location of Intematix Corporation. The new 24 Hour Fitness Super Sport facility will accommodate 135 people, including employees, at any given time. It will feature state of the art materials and provide cardiac equipment, personal training, and exercise classes for its clientele.

Interior plans include a workout room, an aerobics room, Kids Club, locker room and office areas. On June 4, 2007 the Planning Commission approved the use permit for the new facility, and the lot and landscaping plans. Lot and landscaping improvements approved include benches, bicycle racks, motorcycle parking, 6 new tree wells, and trimming of existing street trees along Rheem Blvd. On July 9, 2007, the Design

Review Board approved the exterior design. This includes a new entry gable with clay tile and stucco fascia, a new glass storefront, and new signage. The existing entry doors are to be relocated to the left side of the front elevation. The existing facility is quite small and has limited hours. The use permit approved by the Planning Commission for the new larger facility permits the hours to be extended to 24 hours, at the option of its operators.

Albany Lures Moraga Parks & Rec Director

By Steve Angelides
The City of Albany has lured Parks and Recreation Director Penelope Leach away from Moraga. During her two year tenure in Moraga Leach's major accomplishments included overseeing the development of the nearly completed Parks & Recreation Master Plan, reinstating the Town's own recreation program after a three year partnership with Lafayette, and successfully organizing the Town's first triathlon. "Leaving Moraga was a difficult decision," said Leach, "One I struggled over for quite some time. The struggle came from thinking about all the things about Moraga that I love. The Parks and Recreation Commission is the best there is. The Town staff is nothing short of incredible and I will miss working with all of them. The volunteerism in Moraga is amazing and the community groups are so generous with their do-

nations and their time; they are to be commended. Albany will have a tough act to follow!" "She gave us two years of very good work," said Mayor Mike Metcalf, "but frankly we just can't compete with Albany; they have passed four bond measures, she has a staff of seven, and a very, very generous compensation package," Metcalf explained. Town Manager Phil Vince praised Leach in an e-mail to Town officials announcing her resignation. "Penelope almost single-handedly resurrected the Parks/Rec/Open Space department in only two years—quite a feat," Vince wrote. "She will be missed, but I wish her the best in her exciting new adventures with the City of Albany." Leach assures Moraga residents, "The recreation department will continue to grow. This first sea-

son our goal was to offer a few new classes along with the regularly offered classes and to get the new Activity Guide created. I really think everyone will like the "new look". The guide should arrive at homes by early August." Moraga is currently recruiting for Leach's replacement. The starting salary being offered is up to \$93,000 per year.


Moraga Parks and Recreation Foundation presents:
2007 Free Summer Concert Series
Thursdays at the Moraga Commons Park
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

- Thursday, July 26
Mixed Nuts; Decades of Rock
- Thursday, August 2
littledog2; Rock 'N Roll
- Thursday, August 9
Juke Joint; Blues
- Thursday, August 16
Ventana; Latin
- Thursday, August 23
Celtic Heart; Irish



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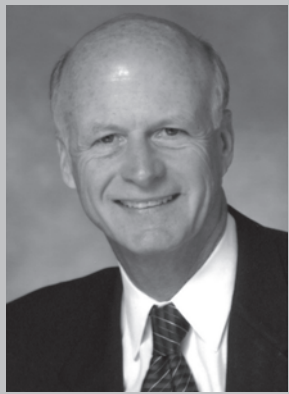
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