

CITY OF CAPITOLA
420 Capitola Avenue
Capitola, Ca 95010

Stephanie Harlan Mayor
Bruce Arthur Vice Mayor
Tony Gualtieri Council Member
Dennis Norton Council Member
Gayle Ortiz Council Member

Bob Begun City Treasurer

Richard Hill City Manager
Pam Greeninger City Clerk

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CAPITOLA

Currents



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Please email your comments or suggestions to: lmurphy@ci.capitola.ca.us

CALENDAR OF CITY MEETINGS

City Council/RDA meetings are held in the City Council Chambers, 420 Capitola Avenue. For all other meetings locations or for more information, call 475-7300 or watch Cable Community Channel 8 scroll. Dates are subject to change.

Recreation Dept.:
caprec@cruzio.com

City Web Site:
www.ci.capitola.ca.us

july

8, 22	City Council/RDA*	7:00
1, 15	Planning Commission	7:00
1	Museum Board	5:30
28	Art & Cultural Commission	7:00
6	Finance Advisory Committee	12:00
27	Wharf Group	12:00
27	Village Master Plan Committee	6:30
14, 28	Arch & Site Review Committee	3:30
TBD	Recreation Board	

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No Meetings	City Council/RDA*	7:00
5, 19	Planning Commission	7:00
5	Museum Board	5:30
25	Art & Cultural Commission	7:00
3	Finance Advisory Committee	12:00
24	Wharf Group	12:00
24	Village Master Plan Committee	6:30
11, 25	Arch & Site Review Committee	3:30
TBD	Recreation Board	

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9, 23	City Council/RDA*	7:00
2, 16	Planning Commission	7:00
2	Museum Board	5:30
22	Art & Cultural Commission	7:00
7	Finance Advisory Committee	12:00
TBD	Recreation Advisory	7:00
23	Wharf Group	12:00
23	Village Master Plan Committee	6:30
8, 22	Arch & Site Review Committee	3:30

* RDA meets between 6-7p.m. See agenda for time.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Administration: 475-7300

Building Dept: 475-7300 ext. 218
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
Building Permits/Inspections

Cable TV: Charter TV
1-866-731-5420

City Clerk: 475-7300 ext. 228
City Council Information
Elections
Agendas

Community Development:
475-7300 ext. 216

Emergencies: 911

Fire (County): 479-6842

Garbage: Waste Management
1-800-665-2209

Library: 477-7240

Museum: 464-0322

Recreation: 475-5935

Parking Enforcement: 475-9274

Public Works: 475-7300
Street Repair
Road Information
Parks
Sewer Emergency: 464-5462

Police:
Information: 475-4935
Emergency: 911

NEWS CORNER

NOW REGISTERING: for Summer Camp Capitola at Jade Street Park, Summer Aquatics at Cabrillo College, and for remaining Late Spring classes.

ART & WINE FESTIVAL: September 18th – 19th in the Capitola Village

FARMERS MARKET: Every Thursday 2:30 – 6:00 in the Capitola Theater Parking Lot.

CAPITOLA MUSEUM Exhibit: In the Company of Fredrick Hihn, 874-1913

TWILIGHT CONCERTS: Every Wednesday Night, Esplanade Park, June through August. Check the web site for more details.

ART AT THE BEACH Esplanade Park, 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month 10am – 5pm, May – Sept.

CITY COUNCIL & TREASURER ELECTIONS: Filing papers are due to the City Clerk August 6th for the November 2nd election. Call 475-7300 for more information.

MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS: Your help is needed to greet visitors on Fri., Sat. & Sun. Call 464-0322 for more information or to sign-up.

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City Council Approves November Ballot Measure to Increase Sales Tax By 1/4 CENT

Faced with budget reductions of 12 to 13 percent for the 2004-2005 fiscal year, the City Council approved a ballot measure for November asking the City of Capitola voters for a temporary 1/4 cent sales tax increase which would sunset in five years to maintain general services including public safety and street improvements. In adopting the final 2004-2005 fiscal year budget, the Council noted that without revenue increases next year, further permanent reductions in services would have to be made. During the budget discussions, observations were made that the City lacked funding for an adequate pavement replacement program and other important capital improvements such as new sidewalks, village improvements, parking improvements and major repairs of facilities. The Council also remarked on the reduction of City services from budgets of recent years passed. Police and planning services have been reduced measurably from fiscal year 2000-2001 service levels, and during the succeeding years service demands have increased, especially those for police services.

Interestingly, the budget process began with a presentation from the City Finance Committee during which several revenue generating ideas were presented including the idea of a 1/4 cent sales tax increase. Service level reductions were a prominent part of the budget presentations from staff. It was noted that there were only three ways to balance the budget: reduce expenditures by reducing services, increase revenues, or a combination of the two.

Finally, unable to accept any further reductions of service and agreeing with the need to fund on a routine basis, a pavement replacement program and other capital improvements, the City Council directed staff to return with the legislation necessary place the question of a 1/4 cent sales tax increase on the November Ballot. Those interested in participating in a campaign in support of the measure can contact the City Manager by calling 475-7300.



Landmark Hotel Re-Opens

The landmark Capitola Hotel re-opened after sitting vacant for several years under new ownership on June 11, 2004. The well known hotel on the Capitola Esplanade, built in 1945, was recently purchased and completely remodeled by Michael & Christine Herberg and their partner Nick Infantino.

The Caribbean Plantation themed interior welcomes visitors to a refreshing and relaxing oasis from the everyday hectic busy life we all seem to get caught up in. With 7 rooms, all of which have their own bathrooms and continental breakfast served daily, you are sure to enjoy your stay in Capitola Village.

Michael and Christine live in Alamo, but vacation often in Capitola and when the opportunity to purchase the Hotel became available, they jumped at the opportunity. As a child, Christine and her family vacationed every summer in Capitola and her husband Michael briefly lived in Capitola. Their goal for the Hotel is to create a relaxing, comfortable place to vacation. You can call the hotel toll free at 888 395-9200 or 831 476-1278, or you can visit their web site, www.capitolahotel.com. The email to request information is info@capitolahotel.com

Development Dept News

State Approves City's Housing Element Update & Awards \$2 Million to Capitola Community Development Projects.

\$1 Million for Senior Housing

On April 29th, 2004, the Community Development Department was notified by the State Department of Housing & Community Development that its application for a \$1 million grant for the Silvercrest Apartments Rehabilitation Project was approved for funding. This grant is from the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, which funds local community development projects. Small cities like Capitola have to compete for a portion of California's CDBG funds that are set aside for small cities & rural areas through a competitive grant program administered by the State.

The \$1 million CDBG grant awarded to Capitola will be used to rehabilitate the Salvation Army's Silvercrest Apartments on Bay Avenue. This apartment complex for low-income senior citizens is in need of major exterior repairs & other renovations. Other funding for this \$3 million construction project will come from the Capitola Redevelopment Agency, the Salvation Army, & other grant sources. This project will improve housing conditions for 92 low-income senior households. In addition, it will ensure that the apartments are protected as low-income senior housing for the long term, & will provide prevailing-wage construction jobs for workers in the area during the construction phase of the project, which is expected to begin this fall.

\$1 Million for Resident Purchase of Mobile Home Park

On May 22, 2004, the loan committee of the State's Mobilehome Park Ownership Program (MPROP) voted unanimously to approve the application of Wharf Road Manor residents for a \$1 million low-interest loan to finance their purchase of this mobile home park. MPROP staff recommended approval of this loan in large part because of the degree of support for the project from the Capitola Redevelopment Agency, which will provide a \$400,000 grant & over \$35,000 in legal & technical assistance to assist the resident acquisition effort. The Housing Authority's agreement to assist w/ this project was also instrumental in gaining the loan approval.

\$70,000 Grant Pending for Planning Activities

Also on May 22, 2004, Community Development staff submitted an application for \$70,000 in CDBG funds for Planning & Technical Assistance Activities. If this application is also successful, the grants will pay for city staff & consultant time to conduct predevelopment feasibility studies of certain housing opportunity sites, & to design an interactive City website using a Geographic Information System. This website would allow anyone to read or search the Municipal Code, Zoning Ordinance, or General Plan online, to view maps of City zoning, assessor's parcel data, demographic & labor force data, & much more. Such a site will be useful for anyone looking for detailed information on properties & land use in the City.

Housing Element Certified

In early May, the State notified the City that its Housing Element Update was certified as compliant w/ state law. Thanks to the City Council for adopting the new Housing Element in time to meet the deadline for the City to qualify for CDBG grant programs. W/out this action, the City would not have been eligible for the above funding opportunities. Thanks also to Housing & Redevelopment Planner Suzanne Isé for providing excellent staff work on these projects, & to Grants Coordinator Carolyn Flynn for her expert assistance w/the applications. Congratulations all!

Art At The Beach

Stroll through Esplanade Park & visit with local artists showing their fine art on the 2nd and 4th Sundays through October from 10 am to 5 pm. You might just find that special piece of artwork you have been looking for.



In Company of Fredrick Hihn

exhibit will continue through the summer. Stop in and see Mr. Hihn's Camp Capitola and how it looks in the present day. If you like to sit amongst Capitola's history, greet visitors and have 2 hour to volunteer, call the museum at 464-0322.



Capitola Art & Cultural Commision



The Art & Cultural Commission has been busy planning the upcoming Twilight Concerts in Esplanade Park along with developing the necessary Policy & Procedures for operating the business of the commission. The City Council recently adopted Art Ordinance # 869 which provides funding of up to 2% for Public Art Fee. The commission provides limited funding for local art programs and a Grant Application is being rewritten to provide a streamlined application process. Future commission agendas will include a

Public Art acquisition, an Art Panel and Children's Art Projects. The Art & Cultural Commission meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room with the agendas posted on the city's website. The June and July meetings were changed to Tuesdays due to the Twilight Concerts.

Capitola Art & Cultural Commission and the Capitola Historical Museum are jointly forced to identify and build a database of local artists of distinction from 1849 to 1950. If you have information on artists who have worked or lived in Capitola with their vital statistics and areas of distinction, please call Nancy Davis @ 475-7300 or Carolyn Swift @464-0322. Information can be mailed to the City of Capitola, Attention: Artists of Distinction Project, 420 Capitola Ave., Capitola, CA 95010



Captain White Retires

Captain Pat White has announced his retirement from the Capitola Police Department after a twenty-eight year law enforcement career. I had the pleasure of promoting Pat to the position of Lieutenant in December 2001 and most recently to the position of Captain in 2003. Pat was originally hired by the Capitola Police Department on September 22, 1976. I never realized that Pat was hired on September 22nd, which just happens to be my birth date. Pat accepted a position as a Deputy Sheriff with the Butte County Sheriff's Department in 1981 and left the Santa Cruz area. However, he soon tired of the backcountry life and eventually made his way back to Capitola PD. Pat was promoted to the position of Sergeant in 1990 and had the opportunity to work a variety of assignments including solo motorcycle officer.



Pat and his lovely wife Debbie, who is a schoolteacher, will continue to travel and sail their sailboat from their homeport at the Santa Cruz Yacht Harbor and visit their vacation home in Baja. Pat tells us he's going to buy an even bigger sailboat and hopefully take the trip of a lifetime by sailing around the world, or a good portion of it. I'm finally starting to believe he's really going to do it, as he finally officially announced his retirement, just bought a BMW motorcycle and returned from a solo trip to Seattle and a week in Mexico. Congratulations, Pat and Debbie, on the next phase of your lives. Oh, I almost forgot, Debbie is also a Capitola PD alumna, as she was a Community Service Officer for several years prior to obtaining her teaching credential and accepting her current teaching assignment. I will miss you Pat. Good luck and don't be a stranger.

Capitola Museum Wants You

The Capitola Historical Museum is looking for volunteers to greet visitors at the museum on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. The 2-hour shifts are 12-2 or 2-4. There are openings for regular, occasional and on-call volunteers. Call Carolyn Swift at 464-0322 for more information or to sign up.

WANTED: CANDIDATES FOR CAPITOLA CITY COUNCIL & TREASURER

WE WANT YOU! YES, YOU! Have you been sitting in your living room watching Community Channel 8 on Thursday evenings and thought to yourself that you might like to make decisions and get involved in your community? What better way than to become a City Council Member. Or, if you were interested in the financial aspects of the community, perhaps the City Treasurer position would appeal to you.

The Capitola Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2004. The offices to be filled by election are two (2) members of the City Council and one (1) City Treasurer for 4-year terms.

What qualifications are necessary to run for office? A person is eligible to hold office if he/she is a United States citizen, 18 years of age or older, and is a registered voter residing within the City of Capitola city limits at the time the nomination papers are issued.

Office holders get paid for serving as a Council Member or City Treasurer. Council Members receive \$300 per month salary, plus an expense allowance. Council Members also serve as Directors of the Capitola Redevelopment Agency and, as such, receive \$30 per Redevelopment Agency meeting attended. The City Treasurer receives a salary of \$250 per month.

What do I need to do? Candidates for office in Capitola need to take out, circulate and file Nomination Papers with the Capitola City Clerk. The period for doing so begins Monday, July 12 and ends Friday, August 6, 2004 at 5:00 p.m. Since the two incumbents will not be filing papers, the final date to file will be extended to Wednesday, August 11, 2004. Nomination papers may be taken out and filed during this period. Not less than 20 or more than 30 valid signatures (registered voters of Capitola only) are required for nomination to elected office in the City of Capitola.

If you have questions you may contact the Capitola City Clerk/Elections Official, Pam Greeninger, at (831) 475-7300 or by email at pgreeninger@ci.capitola.ca.us.

Storm Water Pollution Prevention

Tips for Summer: With Summer coming, we'll be out enjoying the beaches. Here are some things you can do at home to help keep Capitola's water clean:

Lawn and Garden:

- Never leave yard waste in the gutter. Put lawn clippings and leaves in a compost pile or in a green waste recycling bin.
- Use pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers sparingly. Use non-toxic alternatives to pesticides when possible.
- Pick up pet wastes and place in garbage can.
- Water only your lawn and garden, not your sidewalks and driveways.

Home Improvement/Remodeling:

- When using concrete or cement, avoid getting materials into the storm drain.
- Always rinse latex paint brushes in the sink. Take leftover paint products and other unwanted household chemicals to the household hazardous waste collection site.

Automotive:

- When washing your car, go to a commercial car wash, or wash it on unpaved surfaces. (Even biodegradable soap is hazardous to plants and wildlife.)
- When changing your motor oil, bring the used oil to a nearby recycling center or call Waste Management at (831) 768-9505 for pickup (Just one quart of used oil can pollute 250,000 gallons of water!). For more information about recycling and waste disposal go to <http://www.ci.capitola.ca.us/capcity.nsf/PubWWaste.html>



Conserve Water

Capitola residents and businesses who are customers of Soquel Creek Water District receive their water from nearby wells in the groundwater aquifer beneath the land surface. Currently, more water is being removed from the aquifers used by the District than is being replenished. Thus, conserving water is important to our community. The average water use per person in Capitola is approximately 78 gallons per day. Ways to conserve water and thus protect the environment and save money are:

- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth – your sink may be drowning.
- Avoid using the garbage disposal – composting is hot stuff and fun for kids.
- Put a bucket in the shower to catch excess water – it's lonely in the shower.
- Replace older toilets and washing machines with newer, energy and water saving appliances (rebates available from SCWD).
- Use a hose spray nozzle when washing your car – don't water the pavement; it'll never grow.
- Plant native drought tolerant plants – be in vogue and the envy of the neighborhood.
- Consider new artificial grass to replace lawn – no lawn cutting means more time at the beach.

If you're a Soquel Creek Water District (SCWD) customer, contact SCWD for a free water use survey to learn how to make your home or business water tight, or pick up free high-quality water saving devices and plant guides. Call Ron Duncan at 475-8500 ext 144, or visit SCWD web site: www.soquelcreekwater.org.

Recycle Those Old Computer Parts & Electronics at the 2nd Annual E-Waste Day!

Remember how when you bought that Pentium 1 it was the best computer on the market? Remember how you thought your cell phone would "definitely last" more than 2 years? Electronics are becoming a growing problem for our landfills, especially computers. Computers contain 5 to 8 pounds of toxic materials such as mercury and arsenic, therefore, many types of electronics can no longer be disposed of in our landfills because of possible groundwater contamination. But fear not, the City of Capitola is here to save the day!

The City of Capitola will be sponsoring a FREE E-Waste day on **Saturday, August 28th, from 9am to 3pm** in the **Nob Hill Foods** parking lot located at **809 Bay Avenue**. All Capitola businesses and residents are invited to help divert toxic materials from our landfills by recycling unwanted electronics and computer equipment (working or not!). Monitors, systems/CPU's, printers, fax machines, copy machines and TVs will all be accepted, as well as keyboards and mouse, cell phones (and cell phone batteries), cables and peripherals. Come and do your part to protect the environment (And clean out that extra space in your garage/home office/work area you always wanted)!

Have questions? Call Lisa Murphy at 475-7300