

Del Mar VILLAGE VOICE

Where the Turf Meets the Surf

Carmel VALLEY NEWS

The newspaper that Carmel Valley Depends upon

May 21, 2009

Friends of Del Mar Park share ‘vision’

Barbara Mandel Pache and the Friends of Del Mar Park presented an updated “vision” of the park to the Del Mar City Council May 18: “The top priorities voiced by the community for the future uses of Del Mar Shores Park are: a fenced dog park (36 percent), baseball/softball field (31.8 percent), children’s play area (31.8 percent), and soccer field (31.8 percent). The results to date are based on an online survey completed through the Friends of Del Mar Parks website.

“Based on over a year of community input, the Friends of Del Mar Parks created a visual representation of what the Shores Park may look like in the future. The “vision” includes space for a community garden (priority to 27.3 percent of respondents), basketball and tennis courts, the Del Mar Historical Society Alvarado House, open space with benches and picnic tables facing the ocean view, and potential relocation of the weekly Farmer’s Market, in addition to the four top priorities and The Winston School campus.

“The Friends created the ‘vision’ in response to many community members’ questions of what the Shores Park is and what it may become. Community members expressed their opinions through community events, emails and other surveys. The “vision” is not an official plan for the park, but is a visual representation of the many potential uses for the 5.3 acre parcel bounded by Camino del Mar, Ninth Street and Stratford Court.

“Community members have been asked to contribute to the Campaign for Del Mar Shores to pay off the \$3.7 million loan the city of Del Mar committed to last fall with Union Bank. Contributions of \$41 per month for 36 months will reap a contribution of almost \$1,500 per family; if each Del Mar household were to contribute at this level, the full loan amount would be raised. The Friends of Del Mar Parks is a non-profit, 501c3 California corporation dedicated to acquiring, preserving and enhancing recreational and open space in the greater Del Mar community. The Friends committed to raise the necessary funds for the City of Del Mar to acquire this valuable property.

Those interested in more information or to make a contribution can visit online www.delmar-parks.org, or call the Friends of Del Mar Parks at 858-481-4201.”