

MINUTES
PLACENTIA RECREATION AND
PARKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
September 9, 2013

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Bartelt, Dougherty, Emrick, Granger, Hunt, Jackson, Newman

Staff Present: Steve Pischel, Director of Administrative & Community Services
Jon Nicks, Deputy Director of Community Services
Maria Elena Maurer, Community Services Coordinator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Newman

ELECTION OF OFFICERS –

Commissioner Newman opened the nominations for the Chair position. Commissioner Bartelt nominated Commissioner Dougherty for the Chair position; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick. Commissioner Newman closed the nominations for Chair.

MOTION by Commissioner Granger to appoint Commissioner Dougherty for the Chair position; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by a **6-0-0-1 VOICE VOTE** (Dougherty, Abstained).

Chair Dougherty opened the nominations for the Vice Chair position.

Commissioner Bartelt nominated Commissioner Jackson for Vice Chair; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick. Commissioner Dougherty closed the nominations for the Vice Chair position.

MOTION by Commissioner Bartelt to appoint Commissioner Jackson for the Vice Chair position; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by a **6-0-0-1 VOICE VOTE** (Jackson, Abstained).

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None in attendance

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS -

Commissioner Bartelt commented that she had been approached by someone regarding problems with the sound system provided by a volunteer and a Councilmember at the Concerts in the Park. She was blindsided and did not know what had happened. Staff Pischel mentioned there had comments made at a City Council meeting regarding a potential “gray area.” A sound company was hired by the City to provide the sound services at the Concerts in the Park this past season.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – August 12, 2013

Commissioner Granger noted that a correction was needed on page 4, Park Inspection Reports, fourth paragraph the women's bathroom was running to "the women's toilet was running".

MOTION by Commissioner Granger to approve the minutes of August 12, 2013 as corrected; **SECOND** by Commissioner Hunt and **CARRIED** by a **6-0-0-1 VOICE VOTE** (Newman, Abstained).

2. **MONTHLY REPORT**

Staff Nicks provided updates regarding the Senior Center lunch program. Staff met with other cities and the County to discuss solutions to the recent cut in funding made by the National Council on Aging; they have been supplying the funding for free lunch meals to those over 60 years old or by donation of \$5 to those under 60. The initial cut was going to affect one day a week, but it was agreed that the cuts would eliminate one day of free meals per month. The City will seek donations from local restaurants to supply this meal. Thanks to an OCTA grant, there were three buses that transported seniors to the Aquarium of the Pacific on Senior Day.

The Adult Basketball play-offs are taking place this week. Futsal has begun their season and the rest of the programs are transitioning from Summer to Fall. The Community Centers are open Monday – Thursday for the after school programs. Community Services staff anticipates beginning training in January for the new on-line registration software system.

3. **PARKS AND FACILITY PROJECT UPDATES** -

Staff Nicks reported that a pre-bid meeting was held for those interested in the Kraemer Middle School Athletic Field Lighting Repair Project. A total of 15 electrical contractors registered and approximately 25 people walked the job site. Placentia Steelers and North Orange County Soccer have expressed their willingness to commit dollars toward this project. The fields at Kraemer Middle School are a key component to the upcoming football program. The estimated cost is \$30,000 and all funding needs to be committed before City Council's meeting next Tuesday, September 17, 2013.

Staff Pischel commended Staff Nicks for his diligence in putting together this project in a short period of time, partnering with the user groups and the School District to share the load with the City, and getting the interest of 15 people for the pre-bid.

Staff Nicks added that staff is moving forward with the proposed cell site at Koch Park and finalizing the details. Another cell provider is interested in co-locating to the cell tower at Tuffree Park. They are offering to allocate space and create an equipment storage cabinet near the gym, and to repair the walkway that leads to the gym. Staff Nicks indicated he did not have an update on the Valadez field maintenance issue. Staff will continue the discussion with the School District as they are responsible for the field maintenance until they build the restroom/concession stand as per the agreement made ten years ago.

4. **SKATE PARK PROPOSAL – FORMER BOYS & GIRLS CLUB FACILITY**

Staff Nicks reported that on August 20, 2013, under closed session, City Council was provided with an update and the evaluation from Beacon Economics regarding revenues proposed for the Skate Park. City Council wanted more time to review the information.

Commissioner Hunt stated that he had been approached by some people regarding their dissatisfaction with the Skate Park proposal. This was also tied in with the proposed electronic signs. Some of the points raised included: Bad location; No government money for private items; Did more than one person bid on the project; A guarantee that the City gets all the money back invested. Commissioner Hunt related the information he had including that the Jeep dealership has threatened to move out of the City if their electronic sign by the 57 Freeway is not repaired, and it was in the City's best interest to fix the sign and keep the car dealer's tax dollars in the City.

Staff Nicks added that the City of Yorba Linda had financed the Black Gold Country Club with money from a bond measure. It is managed by an outside company and the bond will be paid off in approximately 15 more years. The Skate Park proposed is very similar, but with a lot less cost and a quicker payoff time. It is not unheard of that a City would partner with a private company to operate a recreational amenity. Commissioner Hunt stated that it is no different than the Angels Baseball Team and Angel Stadium. Commissioner Granger noted that she had concerns about the location and felt it should be centrally located. Staff Pischel commented that once the under pass is complete, the Skate Park would be very accessible.

The process and updates will continue on this item as further direction from City Council is received.

5. **BUDGET REVIEW -**

Staff Nicks indicated that City Council had approved the changes in facilities' fees proposed as discussed last month with the Commission, and that they had been implemented on September 1, 2013. Staff Pischel added that the City continues to have challenges and several of the revenue expenditure adjustments are still "works in progress"; the Electronic Signs, Skate Park, employee concessions by bargaining groups, refinancing of a deficit bond, etc. If they do not come to fruition, there will be some triggers that will come up in October in the way of program cuts, potential employee lay-offs and furloughs, Citywide, upon City Council direction. All departments are working very hard to avoid these cuts.

Staff anticipated working once again with Management Partners to do a more in-depth analysis of the City's operations and provide a fiscal recovery plan. Commissioner Newman asked what the cost would be for Management Partners work. Staff Pischel indicated that it could vary depending on what City Council directs and how expansive the scope of work. The estimate is \$25,000 - \$30,000.

6. **HERITAGE FESTIVAL -**

After discussion, it was agreed that Commissioners Bartelt and Granger will be participants in the Festival's parade. Commissioners Hunt and Newman will be helping at the Car Show, Commissioner Emrick will be in the parade with his son's school and Commissioners Dougherty and Jackson will not be able to attend.

PARK INSPECTION REPORTS -

Commissioner Hunt asked who sets the size of the pitching mounds at Placentia Champions Sports Complex. Staff Nicks responded that the Public Works Department staff does the prepping of the fields. Commissioner Hunt noticed the mound height at El Dorado baseball fields is higher than at Champions and the same kids play on both fields. Staff Pischel noted that it is safer if a mound is flatter when multiple age groups use it and multiple pitching rubbers are in place.

STAFF COMMENTS -

Staff Pischel thanked Commissioner Newman for his contributions as Chairman and those Commissioners that had reapplied to be part of the Commission.

AGENDA BUILDING AND MEETING SCHEDULE -

Skate Park Update, After School Programs Attendance Update, Overview of Senior Center Programs/Attendance, Summer Program Wrap up, Review of Parks & Facilities Study.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, **MOTION** by Commissioner Hunt to adjourn to Monday, October 14, 2013 regular meeting; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by a **7-0-0-0 VOICE VOTE**. Meeting adjourned on September 9, 2013 at 8:03 p.m.

Maria Elena Maurer, Recording Secretary
Recreation and Parks Commission