

MINUTES
PLACENTIA RECREATION AND
PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
NOVEMBER 8, 2010

Meeting called to order at 7:14 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Staff Present: Steve Pischel, Director of Community Services
Mike Kudron, Recreation Services Manager
Maria Elena Maurer, Administrative Assistant, Community Services

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Emrick

SKATE PARK STUDY SESSION - Staff Kudron welcomed those in attendance and clarified that the e-mail sent to the Skate Park group requesting that only selected individuals should speak on behalf of the group was not intended to limit anyone from providing their input. If only a core group of representatives express the general consensus of the group, it will help Staff and the Commission come to a conclusion or recommendation quicker.

The following public was in attendance: Patricia Segovia-Krause, Collin Smith, Robert Loaiza, Taylor Edgerton, Rachel Lew, James Yee, Michelle Faggard, Joseph Faggard, Douglas, Barker, Alexandra Mahan, Jonathan Bouldin, Ryan Nguyen, Zach Jimenez, Leeroy Queriapa, Ruben Castro, Paul Johnson, Matthew Johnson, Trent Frank, Brad Allred, Garret Allred, Douglas Barker, Brandon DuBois, Fernando Giangiulio, Heidi Lemmon, Austin Smith and Christopher Torres. Their comments were as follows:

- Proposed site – current shopping center at the corner of Placentia Avenue & Bastanchury.
- Plan to make it a business, seek sponsors to build it and offer part ownership.
- Skate Park Association representative recommended to make it a public park, built it with public/grant funds. Pictures of three skate bowls in Venice were provided, all ages are able to use it.
- Approximately 25,000 sq. ft. is needed for an all-concrete Skate Park.
- It takes about 2-3 years to build a Skate Park; this includes finding the land, design phase and secure funding.
- Funding can be available through health and fitness grants. Los Angeles recently built 22 Skate Parks with Prop K funds.
- When cities are short of land, they build Skate Parks in school land.
- Skateboarding is one of the fastest growing sports.
- This sport is not limited to boys; the All Girls Skate Champ Association recently taught 300 girl scouts how to skate, and the numbers will continue to grow.

- Cost to build a Skate Park is \$400,000 - \$500,000 and up to \$1,000,000.
- All of the city's parks have been fully developed; open land would have to be purchased.
- Suggestion to have a skate boarding area in multiple parks.
- Consider skate mobile units that can be used at school sites after school.
- Skate Park needs to be parent friendly.
- Kids in other areas have been able to raise up to \$750,000.
- Rob Dyrdek, professional skateboarder promotes "Safe Spot, Safe Skate," Tri-City Park's vacant and not utilized area could offer a "spot" for skateboarding. He could possibly be able to sponsor it.
- Open area near the playground and next to the building parallel to Jefferson at the Placentia Champions Sports Complex, is it big enough?
- Any possible areas in existing parks would require the residents' approval that live near the park; noise is normally a deterrent.

Commissioners agreed that a Skate Park Subcommittee would be needed to continue the dialog with the Skate Park group. Commissioner Emrick thanked the group for their input and encouraged them to come up with ideas that can be shared at future meetings.

MOTION by Commissioner McDermott to form a Skate Park Subcommittee and place this as an item on next month's agenda; **SECOND** by Commissioner Hunt and **CARRIED** by a **5-0-0-2 VOICE VOTE** (Bartelt, Granger Abstained).

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS –

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS – Commissioner Newman reported that a meeting with the Sports Advisory Committee had taken place prior to the Commission meeting. A concern was expressed in regards to the sports fields only being mowed every other week thus creating a hazard. A soccer representative indicated that when the new policy went into effect and fees for the use of the fields was implemented, Staff had assured that the condition and maintenance of the fields would remain the same. Commissioner Newman added it was also mentioned that since CIF rules have changed, there will be less school fields for the sports groups and this could become a problem.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – October 18, 2010

MOTION by Commissioner Dougherty to approve the minutes of October 18, 2010 as submitted; **SECOND** by Commissioner Newman and **CARRIED** by a **6-0-1-0 VOICE VOTE** (McDermott Abstained).

2. **MONTHLY REPORTS** – Staff Kudron reported that a site walk had taken place at Kraemer Park for the restroom renovation project, and 25 firms interested in submitting a proposal were in attendance. The project will include bathroom renovation, relocating the basketball court, and adding a volleyball area. Bids for architectural services are due on Wednesday, November 17, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

Registration for winter programs is scheduled to begin on Monday, November 15. The Winter Holiday Celebration, sponsored by the Cultural Arts Commission, is scheduled on Friday, December 3rd.

3. **SENIOR CENTER REHABILITATION PROJECT UPDATE** –.Staff Pischel indicated that the Commission’s recommendation to use the Federal grant funds available to renovate the E.T. Powell Building was approved by City council. The main areas to be addressed will be renovating the patio, raising the interior floor to one level, adding a computer center to relocate the Cathy Torrez Center activities, and making ADA improvements. The project has been awarded in the amount of \$157,000 plus a 20% contingency with construction starting on Monday, November 15, 2010. In the meantime, the Senior Center activities will be moved to the Backs Community Building.

City Administrator Troy Butzlaff stopped by at this time and added that once these improvements are completed, the building will be a real community asset with the potential to be rented out.

4. **PARK LIGHTING PROJECT UPDATE** - A brief review of the facilities tour that took place last Monday, October 25 was discussed by those that attended the tour. It was agreed that addressing these lighting areas was a good start: lighting the sidewalks so that people do not fall; making the park areas visible from a distance; some areas have other activities that require additional lighting; replacement of those existing lights that are broken and how to protect them.

Staff Pischel stated that the second half of the tour will take place on Monday, November 15. Staff Kudron put together a summary of the last tour and once the second half is completed he will e-mail it to all the Commissioners with all the comments. Commissioner Hunt noted that the walking paths at Tri-City Park are not lit up and this could be a liability to the Tri-City Park Authority. A recommendation can be prepared for the Authority’s consideration. Commissioner Granger suggested that the police input and recommendation as it relates to lighting the facilities would also be very important.

5. **DOG ISSUES AFFECTING CITY FACILITIES** - Commissioner Newman indicated that during the Sports Advisory Committee meeting, it was mentioned that kids did not want to play on the outfield due to dog feces on the field. It was asked if dogs need to be on leashes and if they were allowed on the sports fields. Commissioner Hunt reported that they also complained about dogs drinking out of the drinking fountain. These problems emphasize the point that dogs should be prohibited in sports fields. Staff Kudron mentioned that he contacted some of the surrounding cities and they are all having the same problems. City of Tustin has in place a good ordinance that can be looked at. Staff Pischel noted that it will be important to be specific when amending the current city ordinance and name the fields. The City Attorney is prepared to work with what is being recommended.

MOTION by Commissioner Newman to work with the City Attorney to amend the current ordinance that prohibits dogs in City facilities, including naming the athletic fields by name, parks, playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts; **SECOND** by Commissioner Hunt and **CARRIED** by a **7-0 VOICE VOTE**.

PARK INSPECTION REPORTS - Commissioner Granger reported that many of the tress at Arroyo Verde are dead.

STAFF COMMENTS -

AGENDA BUILDING AND MEETING SCHEDULE – Skate Park Subcommittee Establishment, Dog Issues at City Facilities, Parks Lighting update, Senior Center Rehabilitation Update, Backs Building Update, and Allocation Policy will be placed on the next agenda.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, **MOTION** by Commissioner Dougherty to adjourn to a special meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 15, 2010 to conduct the parks tour; **SECOND** by Commissioner McDermott, **MOTION CARRIED 7-0**. Meeting adjourned on November 8, 2010 at 8:46 p.m.

Maria Elena Maurer, Recording Secretary
Recreation and Parks Commission