

MINUTES  
PLACENTIA RECREATION AND  
PARKS COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING  
February 27, 2012

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Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Bartelt, Dougherty, Granger, Hunt, McDermott, Newman  
Absent: Emrick  
Staff Present: Steve Pischel, Director of Community Services  
Jon Nicks, Deputy Director of Community Services  
Maria Elena Maurer, Administrative Assistant, Community Services  
Steve Drinovsky, Director of Public Works

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by Commissioner Dougherty.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** –

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS** - Commissioner Dougherty will be moving Item 3 on the agenda so that Staff Drinovsky can provide an update on this item.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** –January 9, 2012

**MOTION** by Commissioner Granger to approve the minutes of January 9, 2012 as submitted; **SECOND** by Commissioner Newman and **CARRIED** by a **5-0-1-1 VOICE VOTE** (Emrick Absent; McDermott Abstained).

3. **STREET AND SIDEWALK DISCUSSION** -

Staff Pischel introduced Steve Drinovsky, Public Works Director. Staff Drinovsky explained in detailed the role of the Recreation and Parks Commission when the adoption of Chapter 14.12.020 of the Municipal Code was established in the early 1970's. With the formulation and adoption of this code, the Recreation and Parks Commission's role was to work with the Public Works Department to prepare a plan including the type, variety, location and spacing of trees and shrubs to be planted in the City and submit it to the City Council for its adoption. In June 2010, City Council temporarily suspended this code and the language takes away the duties of the Recreation and Parks Commission as it relates to street tree removals due to conflicting policies.

In the meantime, at the Public Works Director's discretion, only those trees that create potentially hazardous or harmful conditions to persons or property can be removed. Homeowners wishing to trim the parkway trees are required to fill out a request that will be evaluated by the Public Works staff, and pay for this service. In order to effectively manage residential street trees and the permit process regarding removal, a tree plan has to be revisited and a Tree Advisory Board is

being created. Staff Drinovsky added that members of the community with expertise, including licensed arborists, may work with staff as a Tree Advisory Board and that Recreation and Parks Commissioners individually would have the opportunity to be part of this board.

**2. MONTHLY REPORT -**

Staff Nicks reported that registration for spring classes for Placentia residents begun on Tuesday, February 21 and it is going well. An e-blast to let people know the Quarterly is out was sent creating about 6,500 hits to the City's website. Jr. and adult sports as well as an Excursion to the Getty Center have had great participation.

Staff Pischel added that the Vietnam Memorial Wall is coming to Tri-City Park on March 13 – 18. It will be escorted as it exits the freeway by Brea and Placentia's Police officers arriving at the park at about 2:00 p.m. An opening ceremony is scheduled the morning of the 14 at 10:00 a.m. The cities of Brea, Fullerton and Placentia as part of the Tri-City Park Authority were pleased and proud to host this event.

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

Staff Nicks reported that the new Grand-opening of Kraemer Park renovation has been rescheduled for Thursday, March 22 at 5:00 p.m. There is also a Neighborhood Conversation the same day at the Backs Bldg. starting at 6:00 p.m. The Gomez Community Center renovation is near completion with the punch list and final walk through being scheduled with the contractor. New tables and chairs and carpeting have been ordered. Center programs and activities should resume in mid March.

Staff is working with Richard Fisher & Associates, lighting project architect, to prioritize the lighting project and divide it into two phases. Phase one will include Los Vaqueros and Goldenrod Parks with plans to go out to bid in mid March. Phase two will include Arroyo, Koch and Tuffree Hill Parks to be done in the summer. Staff Pischel indicated that staff will be meeting with the State grant representative to walk through the projects for sign ups and to continue the working relationship and opportunities for future grants.

**5. REVIEW OF PROPOSED FEE SCHEDULE -**

Staff Nicks explained how staff has been working for several months to calculate the various components of staff time to process facility reservations, class registrations, etc. and determine fees. Some of the City's fees for activities like swimming, sports programs, are based on direct costs and do not include how much the fee would be if it included supervising the staff, processing the registration and other overhead costs like maintenance of the building, utilities, etc. The Finance Department and a Consultant have put together a model for staff to use to calculate what it really costs the City to put on a program, activity or rent out a facility.

Staff Nicks distributed a list of programs and activities that included the current fee, cost to the City and a recommended fee. Commissioners review each of the items on the list and agreed to make the following changes: Athletic Light Fees

at \$15/hr. and field use fee at \$6/hr to remain the same; facility rentals no change; youth sports for PeeWee Basketball & Soccer to go up to \$60/participant and Placentia Youth Basketball and Teen Hoops to go up to \$85/participant; adult sports to be raised from \$175/team to \$200 for Futsal and from \$275/team to \$300/team for Basketball. The percentage of class fee to be split with outside instructors to change from 35-65% split to 40-60% if using onsite facility, and 35-65% if using offsite facilities.

**MOTION** by Commissioner McDermott to recommend that the changes discussed on the Community Services Department Fee Analysis be changed as agreed; **SECOND** by Commissioner Newman and **CARRIED** by unanimous **VOICE VOTE 6-0-1-0.**

6. **TRI-CITY PARK/COUNTY OF ORANGE PROPERTY TRANSFER CONSIDERATION UPDATE -**

Staff Pischel discussed that the Tri-City Park Authority is interested in the Commission's opinion and the potential impact of the County to take over Tri-City Park. The three cities have expressed they are not able to continue with the short and long term maintenance and operations of the park. There are certain concerns and deal points to be discussed with the County; as a norm, the County parks charge a parking fee and due to limited parking for the sports fields adjacent to Tri-City, parking in Tri-City Park is necessary. Community events including the Annual Heritage Festival, Summer Concerts in the Park would need to continue to be held at Tri-City Park without incurring any costs; discussion regarding the County's commitment to the CIP and the current \$400,000 fund balance in the Tri-City account expecting the County to match within 1-2 years as well as a commitment to some of the improvements outlined in the Master Plan.

Commissioner Hunt stated that the parking could become a real problem if no special conditions are part of the agreement and continue to allow parking at Tri-City Park for the sports groups that rely on it. In the long term, it will impact City streets and surrounding neighborhoods. Commissioner Bartelt stated that the County does maintain their parks at a higher level and she recalls that just fixing the irrigation system at Tri-City was going to require over a million dollars. Staff Pischel will continue to update the Commission on new developments regarding this transfer consideration.

7. **DOG ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTATION -**

Staff Pischel indicated that the signs are not up yet. There has been some discussion between Public Works and the City Attorney to come up with the proper wording. It is anticipated that they will be up within 30 days. Commissioner Hunt expressed disappointment that it has taken so long for these signs to be up. The sports groups have started their season and the signs are the first step in educating the people.

8. **SPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE -**

Commissioner Newman reported that a Subcommittee meeting had been held prior to the Commission meeting to continue the discussion and to go over the rest of the allocation policy and modify/make changes/recommendations. In addition, a meeting was held with JUSA regarding their use of the fields when

they were closed. They were notified in writing that as a result, 5% of their next allocation would be taken away. There is a possibility that Girls Softball might have used the fields when they were closed by the City and if confirmed, the letter will follow. A meeting with the users will be scheduled in April. Staff Nicks added that the 5% penalty equates to one week suspension.

**9. CELL SITES UPDATE -**

Staff Pischel indicated that the Planning Commission has approved the cell site proposed for Kraemer Park and City Council at next week's meeting will be looking at the lease agreement with Verizon.

**10. SERVE DAY PROJECTS -**

It was agreed that this item will be brought back for discussion at the next meeting.

**PARK INSPECTION REPORTS** – Commissioner Hunt commented that there is a safety hazard on the east side hillside between Munoz and Valadez fields where there is heavy erosion and will need to be repaired soon or it will affect the sidewalk.

**STAFF COMMENTS** – Staff Pischel asked what the consensus would be if the meeting in March was dark. After some discussion, it was agreed that none of the items had urgency and decided to cancel the March meeting due to lack of agenda.

Staff Nicks commented that he had contacted Nathan, from the Skate Park group, and stated that when their group was ready to present a proposal to the Subcommittee they would contact us; it has been about a month and Nathan has not been in contact. Commissioner Dougherty stated that unless there are any developments or contact from this group, this item will be postponed to be further discussed.

**AGENDA BUILDING AND MEETING SCHEDULE** – The following items may be placed on the next agenda: Sports Advisory Report, Tri-City Park/County of Orange Property transfer consideration, Serve Day Projects, Bike and Trails Update, Sex Offenders Update and Budget Update.

**ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further business, **MOTION** by Commissioner McDermott to adjourn to Monday, April 9, 2012 regular meeting; **SECOND** by Commissioner Hunt and **CARRIED** by a **6-0-0-1 VOICE VOTE** (Emrick Absent). Meeting adjourned on February 27, 2012 at 9:20 p.m.

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Maria Elena Maurer, Recording Secretary  
Recreation and Parks Commission