

MINUTES
PLACENTIA RECREATION AND
PARKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
September 10, 2012

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

ROLL CALL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Granger.

OATH OF OFFICE - Staff Pischel administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Commissioner Sharon Jackson. Commissioner introductions followed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS –

Staff Nicks opened the nominations for the Chair position.

Commissioner Granger nominated Commissioner Newman for the Chair position;
SECOND by Commissioner Bartelt. Staff Nicks closed the nominations for Chair.

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

Staff Nicks opened the nominations for the Vice Chair position.

Commissioner Bartelt nominated Commissioner Granger for Vice Chair; **SECOND** by Commissioner Newman. Staff Nicks closed the nominations for the Vice Chair position.

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None in attendance.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS - Commissioner Bartelt commented that the Library pages were not included in the Fall Quarterly and she was not aware that the City does not do notary. Staff responded that City is mandated to do notary for City business only. Commissioner Hunt requested to meet with the Sports Advisory Committee to continue to update the Field Allocation policy. Commissioner Granger asked that the Subcommittee & Park Assignments be reviewed at the next meeting.

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

MOTION by Commissioner Emrick to approve the minutes of July 9 2012 as submitted; **SECOND** by Commissioner Dougherty and **CARRIED** by a **5-0-0-2 VOICE VOTE** (Hunt, Jackson Abstained).

2. **MONTHLY REPORT -**

Staff Nicks provided summer highlights on the following: The summer Learn to Swim program was very successful with 954 participants and collecting over \$40,000 in revenue. There were no incidents in the water and staff did very well maintaining the high reputation of this program. The excursion to Pageant of the Masters had 18 participants. The P.A.R.K.'s program summer hours have transitioned to the after school hours of operation. Due to donations from Blessed Sacrament Church, Angels Stadium and a grant from the Placentia Foundation through the Community Action Partnership, school supplies and back packs were distributed to children at all four center sites.

In addition, all four center sites participated in "Placentia Has Talent" show at the Backs Building. Judges included Miss Placentia, Deputy Police Chief Ward Smith, and deputy Director of Community Services Jon Nicks. A more complete report will be provided by the Community Services Coordinators at the next meeting.

As a cost saving measure (approximately \$8,000/year) the services of a professional graphic designer for the Placentia Quarterly were eliminated. The fall issue of the Placentia Quarterly is the first to be completed in-house thanks to the talents of part time staff David McLaren and the coordination by Maria Elena Maurer. The Placentia Library decided to discontinue their participation in the City's Placentia Quarterly and 4 pages were eliminated as well as their contribution of \$10,000/year. They will be publishing their own brochure twice a year. This action did affect the City and the elimination of the graphic design services helped close the gap.

Staff Nicks added that the City had previously received a grant of \$2,000 from the Gas Co. that was applied to the free swim program. In addition, Staff had applied for a \$20,000 grant from the Gas Co. of which \$5,000 was awarded. This money, plus \$2,000 received from the Placentia Foundation, eliminated having to charge a fee for the after-school programs as anticipated.

Commissioner Granger asked if the kids that participate in the Volunteen program still get paid. Staff Nicks responded that they used to get a stipend, but that is no longer the case. The hours that they work can be counted as community service hours and use the experience as a possible job opportunity in the future. Commissioner Bartelt commented that she would like to consider adding a Recreation & Parks Teen Commissioner and have a teen's perspective in the Commission. Commissioner Hunt was glad to hear that the kids do not have to pay a fee to attend the after-school programs. His own grandchildren live across the street from the Boys & Girls Club in Brea and because of the fee they charge, the neighborhood children do not attend their programs.

3. PARKS AND FACILITY PROJECT UPDATES -

Staff Nicks reported that the Park Lighting Phase I project is underway. There are eleven LED energy efficient lights being installed at Vaqueros Park; four new low lights at Goldenrod Park; adding 3 new lights at Kraemer Park. This project is expected to be completed by mid October. Commissioner Hunt asked if the Koch Park building roof is expected to be redone. Staff Nicks indicated that it will be replaced as part of the CIP this year.

Staff Nicks added that through the Neighborhood Parks Accessibility project for low to moderate income areas, the following facilities will be improved: Parque de los Niños, McFadden Park, Santa Fe Park and La Placita Parkette. Some of the improvements will include redoing the lighting, the bridge and resurfacing the hand courts at Los Niños, the lighting and drinking fountain at Santa Fe, adding some tables and benches at La Placita Parkette, redoing the lighting at McFadden Park as well as resurfacing the hand courts. This is totally funded by Community Block Grants and the low bidder, Micon Construction, was awarded the project. Staff Pischel added that Staff Nicks has done a tremendous job managing these projects and taking advantage of the grant opportunities.

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

Staff Pischel indicated that the Commission's input had been critical and very important during this property transfer. On July 30, 2012, the three Tri-City Park Authority agencies approved the agreements and on August 21, 2012 all three City Councils ratified them. Some of the sports user groups (JUSA, Little League and YMCA) attended the July 30 meeting and expressed their concern regarding the parking. The County representative identified some options available to the sports groups including a parking pass for \$25. Escrow is expected to close in January 2013.

5. HERITAGE FESTIVAL & PARADE 2012

Commissioners Bartelt and Granger will be available to help with traffic control at the parade. Commissioner Emrick will be available to ride in the parade as a representative for the Commission.

6. PARK VANDLISM REPORT

Staff Pischel reported that throughout the County and the State of California, cities and school districts have been the targets of vandalism. Field Ambassador reported that on August 14 all the lights were out at Kraemer Middle School; it was determined that hundreds of yards of copper wiring around the 9 light poles was stolen. The lowest quote received to replace all this wire is \$28,000. Tuffree field light fixtures were also vandalized and fortunately, Public Works was able to make the repairs. Staff is looking for solutions using tempered resistant alternatives., i.e., installing security cameras, burying the wires deeper than necessary, installing an alarm system, etc.

After some discussion, Commissioners suggested that the media be contacted to make a public announcement and to emphasize that the kids playing sports will be directly affected; creating a "Tip Line" and making contact with the people that

live in the apartments next to the fields to find out if anybody heard of saw anything.

7. PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE CITY

Staff Pischel indicated that some of the partnerships the City has include: Placentia Foundation; Gas Company that has provided \$7,000 in total grant money used for after school programs; Friendly Center providing services at both Gomez and Whitten Centers; Yorba Linda Friends Church providing tutoring in the La Jolla area; LDS Church doing Serve Days; School District providing the use of fields, pools, etc. through the joint use agreement at no additional cost; Placentia Disposal and Edison donating through the Placentia Foundation for special events i.e., Movies and Concerts at the Park.

It was suggested that these groups be acknowledged for their donations/contributions to the Community Services programs and events at the Community Services booth.

PARK INSPECTION REPORTS –

STAFF COMMENTS – Staff Pischel announced that Public Works has a new software program to more effectively manage work orders.

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 Update, Park & Subcommittee Assignments Review and Cell Site Updates.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, **MOTION** by Commissioner Hunt to adjourn to Monday, October 8, 2012 regular meeting; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by a **7-0 VOICE VOTE**. Meeting adjourned on September 10, 2012 at 8:35 p.m.

Maria Elena Maurer, Recording Secretary
Recreation and Parks Commission