

MINUTES
PLACENTIA RECREATION AND
PARKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
January 14, 2013

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

ROLL CALL

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

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

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None in attendance

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS - Commissioner Dougherty commented that last month there was public comment regarding an item on the agenda while being discussed by the Commission. He recommended that in the future, the ground rules for public comment should be outlined at the beginning of the meeting. The Commission cannot take any action during the agenda item discussion. The item can be heard only during Oral Communications. Public comment items discussed, if needed, can be put on future agendas or as a study session for Commission comment/action.

Commissioner Newman outlined the meeting held with Placentia-Yorba Linda Girls Softball Association to discuss the infraction relative to using the fields when they had been officially closed due to weather conditions. They were not happy with the ruling to reduce their allocation of fields by 5% claiming that they had used the fields for a good cause (a benefit for one of the coaches suffering from cancer). The Sports Advisory Committee did not see a reason to change the ruling based on PYLGSA's lack of concern, e.g. using the fields even though the field conditions hotline indicated the fields were closed.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – December 10, 2012

MOTION by Commissioner Granger to approve the minutes of December 10, 2012 as submitted; **SECOND** by Commissioner Dougherty and **CARRIED** by a **6-0-1-0 VOICE VOTE** (Emrick, Absent).

2. **MONTHLY REPORT**

Staff Nicks provided an attendance report on the P.A.R.K.'s after school programs: Whitten Center 1,100; Gomez Center 670; Koch Park 367 (for two days a week), Cathy Torrez Learning Center over 2,000. Commissioner Hunt

suggested that Koch Park be increased to four days per week in the next budget cycle.

Excursions to the Rose Parade and the Big Bad Voodoo Daddy concert took place and were enjoyed by those in attendance. Senior Center had a booth at both the Heritage and the Tamale Festival selling craft items made by many of the seniors. Monies raised (\$600) were used for their Christmas party. The Heritage Festival Committee met last week to begin the planning process for this year's event.

The Cultural Arts Commission is once again hosting the Photography Contest and the CAPES program that benefits teachers for art related projects. Discussion regarding the Holiday Home Decorating Contest took place with a possibility to have both commissions, Recreation & Parks and Cultural Arts, team up in a joint effort to bring it back this year (2013).

3. PARKS AND FACILITY PROJECT UPDATES -

Staff Nicks reported that all the current parks projects have been completed; still waiting on additional park development funds to do additional improvements. Commissioner Bartelt commented that the new sign for the E.T. Powell Building looks great and asked if there are any funds available to replace the windows. Staff Pischel commented that money is tight and staff will be working on prioritizing these types of projects in the C.I.P. according to how much money is available and taking advantage of grant funding.

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

Staff Pischel reported that staff had met with the County to insure that the transition is seamless to the community. The County has been very responsive and willing to do whatever it takes to address all the issues and components of the property transfer. Commissioner Bartelt commented that unfortunately, some people have the perception that the City "lost Tri-City Park". Commissioner Hunt added that a few folks did not know that the three cities were involved in the park's maintenance and operations and are relating this acquisition to what is happening at the Great Park.

Staff Nicks stated that the community will start to notice many of the benefits gained by this transfer, i.e., park ranger availability three times a day, seven days a week; County staff is very conscientious about providing good customer service and is already interacting with people at the park; Placentia Police will continue to patrol the park seven days a week; Concerts in the Park and Heritage Festival will continue to be held at the park and the many park improvements yet to come. It was also noted that the storage bins currently at Tri-City Park will be relocated to the City yard. Staff will continue to meet on a monthly/quarterly basis with the County to insure that the community's best interests are being met.

5. CELL SITE UPDATE -

Staff Nicks reported that the Koch Park and Samp Park cell site projects were on hold and waiting for updates from the companies. The Planning Department has sent out notices to inform them that the permits are due to expire. The Kraemer cell site proposal was approved through the Planning Commission, but the

company has not pulled the permits do date. A call was received in December from a company interested in a cell site at Tuffree Park. The company was informed about co-locating to the existing tower.

6. BOYS & GIRLS CLUB UPDATE

Staff Nicks indicated that the Boys & Girls Club is currently working with the School District, through the ACES program, supplementing after-school programs. Through this grant, schools are qualified to offer the program based on the percentage of low income families attending the school. A few months ago, a meeting took place with the Director of the Boys & Girls Club to discuss a partnership with the Club to offer after-school programs at Koch Park. They felt that in order to offset their staff costs, a daily fee between \$7 and \$9 would have to be charged to each participant. This proposition goes against the City's intent to offer free after-school programs to families that cannot afford it.

Staff Nicks added that the Boys & Girls Club have expressed an interest to do a summer program and an update will be provided in February or March. Staff Pischel reported that the Boys & Girls Club old building on Crowther is owned by the City. There is an indoor skate company with an interest to lease this building. They are interested in offering a learning component/tutorial and recreational skating. Additional information will be brought back to the next Commission meeting.

PARK INSPECTION REPORTS – Commissioner Granger reported a lot of holes made by gophers at Parque de los Niños throughout the park. Los Vaqueros Park has a large area of approximately 5'x10' of standing water approximately 50' south of the playground. The flood control area on the north side needs to be cleaned. Commissioner Bartelt added that the fountain at Kraemer Park has graffiti on the wall.

STAFF COMMENTS – Staff Pischel indicated that a “Community Garden” concept had been presented to staff to find out if there was an interest from the Commission to participate in their program.

A CPRS questionnaire will be e-mailed to the Commission for input on the benefits of parks and recreation, facilities, programs, and services.

AGENDA BUILDING AND MEETING SCHEDULE – Commissioner Bartelt asked for an agenda item to discuss the percentage of facilities' use for programs and activities. Fees discussion to get ready for next budget cycle. A review of what a Park Report should consist of.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, **MOTION** by Commissioner Hunt to adjourn to Monday, February 11, 2013 regular meeting; **SECOND** by Commissioner Granger and **CARRIED** by a **6-0-1-0 VOICE VOTE** (Emrick Absent). Meeting adjourned on January 14, 2013 at 8:31 p.m.

Maria Elena Maurer, Recording Secretary
Recreation and Parks Commission