

MINUTES
PLACENTIA RECREATION AND
PARKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
May 13, 2013

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Staff Present: Steve Pischel, Director of Administrative & Community Services
Troy Butzlaff, City Administrator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Dougherty.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None in attendance

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS - Commissioner Bartelt expressed concerns, especially because of summer activities starting soon, about the recent news article in the Placentia News Times regarding suspicious activity taking place in City parks. She suggested that a Police Department representative be invited to a Commission meeting to provide an update.

Commissioner Hunt commented that Tri-City Park is looking better than in previous years. The grass is very green and the Rangers are present several times each day. Commissioners agreed that it would be nice to have the County provide an update on the maintenance issues that needed to be addressed and what their plans are.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – March 11, 2013

MOTION by Commissioner Dougherty to approve the minutes of March 11, 2013 as submitted; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by a **5-0-2-0 VOICE VOTE** (Bartelt, Granger Abstained).

2. **MONTHLY REPORT**

Staff Pischel announced that a couple of weeks ago, Jon Nicks and his wife became the proud parents of a healthy baby boy. Staff Nicks is expected back to work the end of May.

Staff Pischel commented that the opening of Summer Registration will take place on Saturday, May 18, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. It is anticipated that a large number of people will be coming to register their children for the popular aquatics program. Numbers will be given out starting at 7:00 a.m. for their convenience. Non-resident registration will start on Monday, May 20, 2013.

In addition to Saturday's special registration, a Green Business Expo component will be added. Various organizations will be giving out useful information

regarding recycling programs and how to save money on utilities. City Clerk's office and the Placentia Library will also be participating in this event. The People's Choice voting for the Photography Contest that the Cultural Arts Commission sponsors will take place as well. As a side note, staff Pischel added that at the last City Council meeting, the Cultural Arts Commission was suspended due to a drop in membership from seven (7) to three (3) members. Staff will follow through with the Concerts in the Park and the C.A.P.E.S. program until a full Cultural Arts Commission is reinstated. Commissioners were asked to review and provide comments to the scope and responsibilities for the Recreation and Parks Commission as it is being updated to provide a detailed description of what the Commission's responsibilities are.

Staff Pischel reported that the Kraemer Park cell site is close to being completed. The trash and equipment to maintain the cell site enclosures will have a block wall and a nice door to access the trash containers. The Koch Park cell site proposal is coming back for re-submittal and more updates will be provided at the next Commission meeting. The first orientation for part time summer staff was held last week. There are approximately 22 new staff hired for summer.

In regards to the Boys & Girls Club, to date they have not submitted a proposal for a summer program to be held at the Teen Center.

Secretary's Note: Troy Butzlaff, City Administrator, arrived at this time.

3. SKATE PARK PROPOSAL – FORMER BOYS & GIRLS CLUB FACILITY

Staff Pischel indicated that staff has been working with the developer, Daddy O's, to develop a Skate Park project at the former Boys & Girls Club facility. This would be a private/public partnership. Commissioner Granger asked if this property was no longer needed for parking for the Metrolink Station. Staff Butzlaff responded that initially OCTA had given a requirement to have 500 parking spaces; however, this number has been reduced to 390. With the Skate Park proposal, there is an opportunity to keep the building and generate revenue. Other types of potential use have been looked at before; a North County Animal Shelter since the current facility in Orange will be moving to Tustin. This possibility would require the City to spend several million dollars to improve and make the facility suitable for animals.

Staff Pischel reviewed the information provided on a slide presentation. In summary, the project has great partners that are willing to provide in-kind support and it is being used as a model project for other cities to use. This would be a recreation extension run by the private sector, but working collaboratively with the City. It also has the potential to bring in \$300,000 in net annual revenue.

Commissioner Bartelt asked if the City's contribution for improvements would come from the Park Development Fund. Staff Pischel responded that a portion would (although there is only \$67,000 currently in this fund), in addition to one-time settlement money and non-general fund sources and grants. Commissioner Bartelt indicated she had visited the Boys & Girls facility and found it to be a beautiful building and this proposal would meet the need that has been requested by the skate community.

Commissioner Hunt expressed concern about the City spending \$550,000 on this building when current facilities are in desperate need of repair/remodel. Daddy O's in kind support is only \$260,000 and it should be more. Staff Pischel commented that the in-kind support figures are estimates. In-kind costs of marketing and promotion is a large component that will be provided and Daddy O's has great connections with the skate community. Once the building is renovated, the amenities would be owned by the City and general fund monies would not be touched. In addition, the project would generate revenue that can be used for City-wide improvements. Staff Butzlaff added that this is more of a passion project for the developer to educate and provide a safe environment for kids and it is not limited to just operating a skate park; his actual commitment is much more and may include a 1.5% of all charge card transactions going back to Parks & Recreation.

Commissioner Hunt recommended that all of the information including revenues/returns should be included as part of the project analysis to ensure that it makes business sense. Commissioner Bartelt added that it would cost \$5 for 3 hours of skating, making it affordable. Staff Pischel indicated that scholarships and monthly passes would also be offered, as well as "tickets" given out for skating properly. Tickets would then be redeemed for a free skating session. As an additional partnership, many Southern California high schools and middle schools are implementing Skate Teams that would go to competitions. Daddy O's will be meeting with the School District to consider integrating this into the after school programs.

Commissioner Hunt commented that the Commission is not in the position to recommend spending this kind of money. Commissioner Newman added that the Commission can give direction as he sees no problem with the concept and based on the revenue stream projected, this is an opportunity to take advantage to fulfill a need.

Commissioner Dougherty made a **Motion** that the Commission express the position that this is a viable project and to move forward to the next step. A second was not offered.

Additional discussion took place in regards to the start and completion of the project and concerns about depleting the Park Development fund. Commissioners expressed concern in regards to taking the full balance from the Park Development fund towards this project and not leaving any reserves. Question was raised whether once the projected revenues from this project start coming in to the general fund, if a portion can be dedicated to Park Development. Staff Pischel answered that through the CIP, monies from the general fund can be earmarked for a specific park project (it does not always have to come from Park Development funds).

Staff Butzlaff added that this is a recreation benefit that is filling a need previously requested by the skate community. This is an opportunity to partner up using a combination of Park Development and other fund sources, and create a revenue

generating opportunity. Ultimately, Staff can make a recommendation, but it is up to City Council to decide where the money comes from and how to utilize it.

Commissioner Dougherty stated that for most part, Staff has done a good job with other projects. Commission needs to look at a balance and whether it is good for the City, and if the project is sound and has value. Ultimately, it is up to City Council to make the final decision.

MOTION by Commissioner Dougherty for support for concept of the Daddy O's Skate Park and recommend taking the next steps to move forward for evaluation by City Council; **SECOND** by Commissioner Hunt and **APPROVED** by **7-0 VOICE VOTE**.

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

Staff Pischel reported that as part of the CBGB grant funding, ADA sidewalk accessibility improvements are being completed throughout the City. Commissioner Bartelt observed that as a walker, there is potential for injury due to the curb height being too high as you step down at the intersection of Richfield and Buena Vista.

5. **BUDGET REVIEW -**

Staff Pischel reported that on Wednesday, May 15, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., there is a scheduled budget review by City Council. The second component will be a presentation on fiscal sustainability by a third party company that has analyzed the City's fiscal condition. On May 28, 2013 a more formal study session will take place focusing on each department's budget. Updates will continue to be provided at the next Commission meeting.

6. **SPORTS ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE -**

Commissioner Newman indicated that a meeting was held with all the user groups primarily to ask for feedback regarding the Field Allocation Policy changes proposed by the Subcommittee. A representative from the School District attended the meeting and discussed the potential to recoup some of their costs. Commissioner Hunt added that the revised Allocation Policy will go into effect on August 1, 2013. It will be brought back to the Commission at the next meeting in June with the group's feedback.

Commissioner Newman added that Kraemer Middle School lights were discussed. Some of the user groups suggested a partnership with the City to include in-kind licensed electrical work being provided and others mentioned monetary support. It was made clear that this in-kind support in no way will give individual groups "better allocation".

PARK INSPECTION REPORTS -

Commissioner Granger submitted a report on Vaqueros Park. There is a 5'x10' area that fills with water near the water channel. Commissioner Hunt reported that at Koch Park, east of the building, the grass is dying and it needs to be watered. Also, when the walking rails were painted at Champions Sports Complex, as part of the Serve Day, the rails were rusted where they meet the concrete. The rust should have been sanded and sprayed with Rust Prevention 415 prior to painting as this will become a problem. There

is also a problem with erosion and planter beds that need replanted. This complex is only 15 years old and is showing deterioration.

STAFF COMMENTS – Staff Pischel commented that the LDS Church had about 400 volunteers on Serve Day. Five locations were cleaned up and/or painted that included Whitten Center, Gomez Center, Placentia Champions Sports Complex, Kraemer Park and the old Boys & Girls Club location.

AGENDA BUILDING AND MEETING SCHEDULE – It was agreed the June 10, 2013 Commission meeting will be held at the Backs Community Building.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, **MOTION** by Commissioner Bartelt to adjourn to Monday, June 10, 2013 regular meeting; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by a **7-0-0-0 VOICE VOTE**. Meeting adjourned on May 13, 2013 at 9:05 p.m.

Maria Elena Maurer, Recording Secretary
Recreation and Parks Commission