

MINUTES
PLACENTIA RECREATION AND
PARKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
September 8, 2014

Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Emrick, Granger, Hunt, Jackson, Newman
Absent: Bartelt, Dougherty
Staff Present: Jon Nicks, Community Services Director
Maria Elena Maurer, Community Services Coordinator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Granger.

RECOGNITION FOR STAFF STEVE PISCHEL -

Staff Nicks indicated that the Commission had requested a formal recognition for Steve Pischel to thank him for his support of the Commission all these years. Commissioner Newman stated that it has been a pleasure being in the Commission for 26 years and working with Staff Pischel and he will be missed.

Staff Pischel stated that the Community Services Department is in good hands under the direction of Jon Nicks and the full and part time staff. It has been a privilege to work with each of the Commissioners and it has been a great partnership. Commissioner Jackson expressed that as a newcomer, she was very impressed by Staff Pischel's leadership style, dedication and knowledge of the City. Commissioners Hunt and Granger stated that Staff Pischel allowed the Commission to disagree and question things during challenging times, look at all sides and make the right decisions.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS -

Commissioner Granger announced she had received an invitation from Supervisor Shawn Nelson to attend a meeting to discuss the 66 mile OC Loop. The meeting is on Wednesday, October 1, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. to noon and she plans to attend. Commissioners Bartelt and Jackson and Staff Nicks will also attend.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** –

June 9, 2014 Minutes

Minutes' approval of June 9, 2014 will be postponed due to lack of quorum.

July 14, 2014 Minutes

MOTION by Commissioner Granger to approve the minutes of July 14, 2014 as submitted; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by a **4-0-2-1 VOICE VOTE** (Bartelt, Dougherty, Absent; Newman, Abstained).

2. **MONTHLY REPORT**

Staff Nicks indicated that Community Services staff will be presenting a review of summer programs and activities at the October meeting. The Fall Quarterly highlighting the 50th Anniversary of the Heritage Festival has been delivered to all Placentia residences and registration for classes has started.

Staff Nicks reported that the Landscape Maintenance District assessment previously discussed had not passed. Almost 600 No votes were received and counted and as a result, the City must reduce the level of service to this district to match available funding. Cuts in mowing, power sweeping, watering and general landscape maintenance will be apparent and will impact the Placentia Champions Sports Complex. Commissioner Hunt stated that the sports groups are paying fees to use the fields and they expect the fields be maintained at a higher level. Staff Nicks commented that the fields will continue to be maintained on a regular schedule; these fees generate approximately \$40,000/year and staff will be looking at restructuring how the fields are rented and may include the additional costs the City incurs for maintenance and capital improvements.

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

Staff Nicks reported that the Chamber of Commerce and the Community Foundation's "Taste of Town" held at the last Concert in the Park on August 14 was a great success and some restaurants run out and had to go back and bring more food. About 700 people attended, which was a great turn out for the first year. The event raised over \$7,000 which will be split between the two groups. Two of the restaurant owners are going to help gather more restaurant participation for next year's event.

Staff Nicks stated that staff had applied for a \$75,000 grant that promotes health and obesity prevention in low income areas through St. Jude Mobile Clinic, and he was happy to report that the grant awarded was for \$125,000 and it has no match. \$102,200 will be used to add exercise equipment at both Kraemer Park and McFadden Park. A series of workout stations will be placed along the walking paths. \$8,000 will be used for the general plan's health and wellness component. The balance will be used to hire a grant writer in order to apply for more grants.

The School District completed the fence at Tuffree Middle School that includes two large gates and two man gates for access. The following is an update regarding the cell tower proposals: Verizon has not returned the signed lease agreement for Tuffree Park; it was awarded back in February; the cell tower construction at Koch Park is expected to be completed this month, they have started making the lease payments; AT&T's has proposed to co-locate on the cell tower at Kraemer Park, no further communication has been received; Samp Park, Verizon wanted to make a small contribution in lieu of capital improvements to the park. They were informed that the City is looking at \$50,000-60,000 capital improvement contribution. Wagner Park, Verizon found a clause during a title search created in 1971-72 that requires a majority vote of the homeowners to approve any structure that is not a single family home. City attorney is reviewing the documents.

Bimbo Bakeries has approved a \$6,000 donation through the “Good Neighbor Program” to make improvements to Tynes Gym. Improvements will include new doors, interior and exterior lighting replacement, and painting.

4. **GENERAL PLAN UPDATE -**

Commissioner Granger reported the Committee had not met. She talked to the Assistant City Administrator, Damien Arrula, who indicated that a community survey will be conducted at the Farmer’s Market. Community workshops are planned in November. Staff is still working on the General Plan draft elements, economic development, sustainability and the health and wellness components. Next meeting will be scheduled in October.

5. **BOYS & GIRLS CLUB AND MUCKENTHALER PROGRAMS PROPOSAL UPDATE**

Staff Nicks reported that the Boys & Girls Club Teen Center attendance has grown to 15 kids per day. The program is offered Monday – Friday from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. He also received a revised proposal from the Executive Director, Zoot Velasco, from the Muckenthaler Center (Muck) outlining the sponsorship resources they are bringing to the table totaling \$133,200. This includes a contribution from the Placentia Foundation of \$1,000. The letter also outlines a request that the City provide \$5,000/year contribution for three years to be used for Muck programs at the site and be seed money for more funding; the Muck intends to match this with grant funding and attract new funding and programs.

Commissioner Hunt stated that it bothers him that the initial presentation had no mention of needing a monetary contribution from the City other than having the building in shape. Considering the funding resources and community programs the Muck will provide, Staff feels the request is not unreasonable. It was agreed that this contribution from the City would not be paid up front, but rather in installments once the Muck starts the programs and they reach a set of milestones/goals.

MOTION by Commissioner Newman to go forward with the Muckenthaler proposal with the following changes: the City is in control of the building; the City’s contribution of \$5,000 is based on progress payments the first year after reaching certain milestones to be determined; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by a **5-0-2-0 VOICE VOTE** (Bartelt, Dougherty, Absent).

6. **REVIEW OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FACILITY PERMITS POLICY-**

Staff Maurer stated that the changes on the Facility Permits Policy are necessary to update, clarify, and add a reference as needed to Placentia Municipal Codes that are not noted in the current policy (last updated on March 5, 2008). The proposed changes were discussed and comments were noted.

MOTION by Commissioner Granger to accept the changes to the Facility Permits Policy as presented; **SECOND** by Commissioner Hunt and **CARRIED** by a **5-0-2-0 VOICE VOTE** (Bartelt, Dougherty, Absent).

7. **HERITAGE FESTIVAL & PARADE DISCUSSION** –

Commissioners Bartelt, Granger and Jackson will be available to participate in the Heritage Festival Parade. The application will be submitted to the Committee.

PARK INSPECTION REPORTS –

Commissioner Granger noticed some kind of a hoist at the Gomez pool and wondered what it was for. Staff Nicks indicated that there is a new State regulation mandating public pools to have a self-operated/non-assisted ADA lift. A grant through PARSAC Insurance was available to pay for the two lifts. One person did use it this summer.

STAFF COMMENTS –

AGENDA BUILDING AND MEETING SCHEDULE –

Agenda items for next meeting to include Summer Review, Update on the General Plan, Mackenthaler Center Programs Update, Heritage Festival Update, Bicycle Meeting Update.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, **MOTION** by Commissioner Hunt to adjourn to Monday, October 13, 2014 regular meeting; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by a **5-0-2-0 VOICE VOTE** (Bartelt, Dougherty, Absent). Meeting adjourned on September 8, 2014 at 8:47 p.m.

Maria Elena Maurer, Recording Secretary
Recreation and Parks Commission