

MINUTES
PLACENTIA RECREATION AND
PARKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 8, 2015

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

ROLL CALL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Staff Nicks

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – Nate Fortner, Boy Scout. Shari Fortner, Parent. 5915 Via Del Tecolote, Yorba Linda. Adam England, Director of Operations, Zoot Velasco, Muckenthaler Center.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS -

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** –

February 9, 2015 Minutes

Commissioner Granger noted a correction on page 3, under Inspection Reports, fifth paragraph... The sand in the playground also needs to be turned over, instead of the sand on the baseball field needs to be turned over.

MOTION by Commissioner Newman to approve the Minutes of February 9, 2015 as corrected; **SECOND** by Commissioner Hunt and **CARRIED** by a 4-0-2-1 **VOICE VOTE** (Emrick, Jackson Abstained; Dougherty, Absent).

April 13, 2015 Minutes

MOTION by Commissioner Newman to approve the Minutes of April 13, 2015 as presented; **SECOND** by Commissioner Hunt and **CARRIED** by a 4-0-2-1 **VOICE VOTE** (Emrick, Jackson Abstained; Dougherty, Absent).

2. **PLACENTIA ROTARY CLUB/KRAEMER MEMORIAL PARK REQUEST** –

Adam England, Director of Operations for the Muckenthaler Arts Center, indicated that they are seeking permission to install a small stage at Kraemer Park. This would be a 12' x 16' cement slab that will be used to bring more festivals to the area. The goal is to have it completed prior to November 1, 2015 so that the first festival "Day of the Dead" could be presented on this stage. The Muckenthaler Center is working with the Placentia Rotary Club and other sponsors to pay for the stage. The City is asked to provide the electricity to the stage. Commissioner Hunt noted that there is an application process that must be completed, but unfortunately, the City does not have the money to spend on bringing the

electricity. Zoot Velasco asked if they were able to secure sponsors to pay for the electricity to the stage, would the Commission be supportive of this request. Commissioners agreed that this project would be beneficial to the community and had no objections to add this feature to the park.

3. MONTHLY REPORT -

Staff Nicks reported that there was a low turnout at the special summer registration day held on Saturday, May 16; about 89 transactions in total. Staff Maurer reported that since the opening of summer registration, a total of \$54,493 has been collected for excursions, learn to swim program, other recreation class registration and facilities and field reservations. In addition, a total of \$286,575 has been received from fiscal year July 1, 2014 to date.

Staff Nicks indicated that the Placentia Community Foundation hosted a Community Summit at the Placentia Library on June 1, 2015 with 40 people in attendance. The Summit provided information to other non-profits and it will be a kick-off to the 2015 grant cycle. The City and the Veterans Advisory Committee hosted the first Burial Flag Program at the Civic Center on May 26, 2015. In honor and remembrance of his service in the Army, Mr. Victor Crawford's burial flag is currently being flown adjacent to the Veterans Monument.

The 7th annual Cowabunga event will be held at Kraemer Park on Saturday, June 13 from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. An all you can eat barbeque, music, and a no-host bar will be part of the festivities. Proceeds benefit H.I.S. House, the Placentia Library and local college scholarships granted through the Placentia Rotary Club. A special Flag Day Ceremony is scheduled on Saturday, June 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Civic Center. The Veterans Advisory Committee, American Legion Post 277, Boy Scout Troop 780 and Cub Scout Pack 780 will be coordinating the event.

Staff Nicks added that the Families Community Grant (FaCT) received approval by the Board of Supervisors on June 2. Thanks to this grant, the Neighborhood Services office hours will be expanded to M-F from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; after school hours at the Whitten Center will expand to 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.; and a bilingual full time Neighborhood Services Coordinator will be hired. The approved grant is for \$300,000/yr. for five years. The City's allocation to offset these costs is \$76,000. The Friendly Center, partner agency, will offer family support services, emergency assistance, tutoring, community outreach and expanded food programs as well as maintaining the administration/paperwork for the remaining balance of the grant.

4. PARKS AND FACILITY PROJECT UPDATES -

Staff Nicks provided an update on the following projects: the Samp Park cell tower is still under construction, but the Wagner Park cell tower agreement has not been returned with signatures. Bimbo Bakeries will be invited to a P.A.R.K.'s Sports Day at the park in August to see the improvements made to the Tynes Gym with the \$6,000 donation they provided.

5. BUDGET & FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE UPDATE –

Commissioner Hunt reported that the Task Force made a presentation, with different scenarios, to the City Council on May 19, 2015, after eight weeks of

analyzing the City's financial situation. Staff did an outstanding job putting the information together and it was unfortunate that some Council members did not appreciate all the work that went into gathering all the information and the efforts to consider the various options/recommendations by the Task Force.

In summary, the most feasible alternative to add revenue is to increase taxes (the transaction tax, as the best option since it captures the growing number of online transactions and anybody making a purchase in the City would be paying 1% of the purchase), and this is a hard decision to increase taxes. The City does not qualify to file for bankruptcy as per State requirements. The process to sustainability has to start now even though the City was able to balance the budget this year with a one-time transfer from the CNG fund balance of \$400,000. The City has a lack of credibility with the general public and will have to overcome this perception to promote any tax increase. Commissioner Hunt added that if the City does not make any efforts to generate more revenue, the projected \$6M deficit in 2017 will be detrimental.

6. PARK IN-LIEU FEES UPDATE -

Staff Nicks reported that after the Olsen development and a few other projects were completed, there is a fund balance of \$330,000 in the park development fund. An additional \$280,000 in park in-lieu fees are estimated to be collected once the Shaner Development and a few other projects are completed. Some of the projects include replacing all the broken windows at Tynes Gym and combining park development with CBGD funds to do much needed renovation to the Backs Community Building (both of these facilities generate consistent revenue to the City).

Commissioners Bartelt and Granger agreed that all City buildings should be put on a schedule to be power wash. Staff Nicks added that the Mariposa contract will be renegotiated to account for the elimination of mowing of all the medians in the City due to water restrictions. It is mandated by Golden State and Yorba Linda Water District that a 25% water reduction, based on 2013 water use, be followed. Golden State Water will be making a presentation to City Council on June 22, 2015.

PARK INSPECTION REPORTS -

Commissioner Granger reported that the Gomez Center's windows are heavily etched and there is a horseshoe pit near the parking lot, on the west side, next to the fence that was not there before. Staff Nicks indicated that fortunately, the windows have a protective film that can be removed and replaced, thus protecting the glass.

STAFF COMMENTS -

Staff Nicks mentioned that in order to attract new business, the City has a new marketing motto "Rich Heritage, Bright Future". There are current negotiations with Starbucks to open a drive-through in Placentia; on Crowther and Placentia Avenue across from Sam's Club.

AGENDA BUILDING AND MEETING SCHEDULE - Agenda items for next meeting to include Election of Officers, and Approved Budget Update.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, **MOTION** by Commissioner Hunt to adjourn to Monday, July 13, 2015 regular meeting; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by a **6-0-1-0 VOICE VOTE** (Dougherty, Absent). Meeting adjourned on June 8, 2015 at 8:38 p.m.

Maria Elena Maurer, Recording Secretary
Recreation and Parks Commission