

MINUTES
PLACENTIA RECREATION AND
PARKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2016

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

ROLL CALL

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

Staff Present: Sandra González, Director of Community Services
Stacia Mancini, Interim Community Services Director
Maria Elena Maurer, Community Services Coordinator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Bartelt.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None in attendance.

Staff Mancini introduced the new Director of Community Services, Sandra González, who comes to Placentia with over 26 years of experience in the fields of Public Works Project Management, Planning and Development with a degree as Landscape Architect. Staff González indicated she likes the idea of how accessible the smaller communities are and the quick response as opposed to a large organization, and she is very happy to be here.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS -

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

Commissioner Granger noted that she had requested at the last meeting to add to the agenda Inspection Reports. Staff Maurer will be adding this item to all future agendas, as requested.

January 11, 2015 Minutes

MOTION by Commissioner Bartelt to approve the Minutes of January 11, 2016 as Submitted; **SECOND** by Commissioner Granger and **CARRIED** by a 5-0-0-2 **VOICE VOTE** (Emrick, Dougherty, Abstained).

2. MONTHLY REPORT -

Staff Mancini reported that St. Jude Hospital will be presenting the check to the City for \$86,500 at the City Council meeting of February 16, 2016. \$50,000 will be used to install Outdoor Exercise Equipment at Parque De Los Niños by the Gomez Center. The remaining will be combined with the money left from the original St. Jude grant to use for replastering and new pool equipment for the Gomez and Whitten Centers' pools. Staff is in the process of getting bids for these renovations. The only stipulation from St. Jude was that we offer free swim; which we already offer. Staff Mancini stated that St. Jude Hospital has been a fantastic partner and they are encouraging the City to find other grants that

promote/enhance healthy living. General fund money will not be used for these projects.

3. PARKS AND FACILITY PROJECT UPDATES -

Updates were discussed under item 2 - Monthly Report and item 4 – Laser Leveling of Sports Fields.

4. LASER LEVELING OF SPORTS FIELDS -

Staff Mancini noted that the company used in the City of Orange to laser level the fields had originally estimated the cost to laser level the fields at Placentia Champions Sports Complex would be \$800 per field. After evaluating the current condition of the three fields, the final estimate came in at \$30,000. The initial estimate did not anticipate how bad the condition of the fields is since they have not been maintained in over 15 years. The estimate includes ripping the fields, rototill, laser grade, roll and compact and reshaping of the mounds, as well as adding 100 tons of infield dust.

Staff Mancini indicated that a meeting was held with the Interim City Administrator, Damien Arrula to bring the fields condition to his attention. He agreed that this is a safety issue that should not continue to be ignored or deferred. There are two sources to fund this project, Park Development and Landscape Maintenance District funds. Other items discussed was the fact that since Koch Park or Wagner Park do not fit into the low-income areas of the City to qualify for grant opportunities, Wagner Park's metal slide will be removed and new pieces of equipment will be added to these parks to address the safety issues in the playground.

Staff González added that in her first two weeks on the job, she noticed that facilities are tired and nothing has been done to them since the 70's. The City can no longer continue to defer maintenance. She will be counting on the Commission to help prioritize the facilities' needs. There are a lot of private partnerships available that can help towards these renovations. The City also needs to recuperate their costs and evaluate fee rental structures.

Staff Mancini commented that even though this has not been done in the past, a separate fund should be created to appropriate a percentage of fees collected to use for ongoing maintenance of these facilities.

5. PARK ASSIGNMENTS -

Commissioners reviewed their park inspection assignments for 2016.

STAFF COMMENTS –

Staff Mancini expressed that she had enjoyed the time working in Placentia since September. Placentia is blessed to have so many volunteers that a lot of communities do not have. The staff is passionate and with Staff González direction, things will continue to improve. Commissioners thanked Staff Mancini for her contributions during her short stay.

Staff González asked if there was any objection to changing the start time for Commission meetings to 6:30 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA BUILDING AND MEETING SCHEDULE – Agenda items for next meeting to include St. Jude Hospital Grant Update; Laser Leveling of Sports Fields Update; Budget update.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, **MOTION** by Commissioner Dougherty to adjourn to Monday, March 14, 2016 regular meeting; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by a **7-0-0-0 VOICE VOTE**. Meeting adjourned on February 8, 2016 at 7:50 p.m.

Maria Elena Maurer, Recording Secretary
Recreation and Parks Commission