

MINUTES
PLACENTIA RECREATION AND
PARKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
July 10, 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Binnings

Staff Present: Sandra Gonzalez, Community Services Director
Veronica Ortiz, Community Services Supervisor
Maria Elena Maurer, Community Services Coordinator
Matt Brand, Community Services Coordinator
Madelinne Cuevas, Community Services Coordinator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Emrick.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None in attendance.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS -

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 12, 2017**

Commissioner Granger noted that under Park Inspection Reports, last paragraph, she did not report on the Tuffree Park playground sand being gone. The report came from Commissioner Hunt.

MOTION by Commissioner Dougherty to approve the Minutes of June 12, 2017, as corrected; **SECOND** by Commissioner Granger and **CARRIED** by a **6-0-1-2 VOICE VOTE** (Binnings, Absent; Emrick, Narahara, Abstained).

2. **MONTHLY REPORT -**

Staff Ortiz reported that the Whitten and Gomez pools opened on June 26. The new extended hours are Monday/Wednesday from 11:00 am to 4:30 pm and from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. These new hours have allowed participants to cool off during the heat wave. In addition, the first of the Movies in the Park, Secret Life of Pets, was shown last Friday, July 7. Those in attendance will cast their vote for the People's Choice that will be shown at the last of the movie series on August 18. The first of the Concerts in the Park concert starts on Thursday, July 13. A country group called Kelly Rae will be performing.

Staff Ortiz introduced the new Community Services Coordinator, Maddie Cuevas. Maddie filled the vacancy left by Veronica Rodarte at the Neighborhood Services Division.

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

Director Gonzalez reported that the Wagner Park two old slides have been removed by Public Works and two new slides have been ordered using grant monies. Total cost for the new slides is \$9,000; playground manufacturer offered a 40% discount.

Commissioners were invited to attend the ribbon cutting on Wednesday, July 19 at 10:00 a.m. of the recently installed outdoor exercise equipment at Santa Fe Park. The equipment will get a lot of traffic due to the area having high density apartments and residential.

The last of the Community Walks, the Bark Walk, is scheduled on Saturday, July 22, 2017 starting at 10:00 a.m. Director Gonzalez asked if any of the Commissioners were available to be a judge. Commissioner Jackson offered to be one of the judges. Five booth spaces have been filled by local businesses and staff is looking for a bakery that caters to dogs and a pet adoption group. Due to the Dog Walk's popularity last year, it is expected to have 40-50 entries.

Commissioner Dougherty stated that he had attended the Walk with a Doc event and the attendance climbed quickly to about 60 participants. Learned about CPR from the Heart Association and many of the participants registered for the Soda Free campaign. Staff did a great job by offering fruit flavored options like "cucumber-jalapeno" and "strawberry-watermelon" natural waters.

Director Gonzalez reported that the staff report to replace the playground equipment at Champions Sports Complex will be on the City Council's agenda at the July 18 meeting for approval. Project will total \$144,000 using Community Facilities District Fund Balance budgeted in the CIP for fiscal year 2017-2018 and part of left over CDBG funds. Community input was considered when selecting the pieces of equipment to be replaced, i.e., provide shade to the structures, updating the tire swing with a safer unit, etc. The project is scheduled to start in late August when kids go back to school.

4. **DOG PARK SURVEY REVIEW -**

Director Gonzalez distributed a preliminary survey draft to find out if there is interest from the community to have a Dog Park. As per Councilmember Shader's request, Samp Park was included as one of the possible sites to have a Dog Park. Input will be received from those residents and non-residents that attend the Concerts and Movies at the Park. As an incentive, people that complete the survey will receive a Community Services giveaway – sun glasses, water bottles, produce bags, etc.

Commissioner Granger commented that the City of Irvine spends \$50,000/year to maintain their dog park (made up of grass and composite around the benches), and approximately \$80,000 to maintain a soccer field. Her nephew works for the City of Irvine and he made an interesting comment: "a soccer field is used by a

select group and the Dog Park is used by another group that is just as important in the community.”

Commissioner Dougherty added that Sgt. Busse had made an interesting point that a Dog Park should have a separate area for large and small dogs as the two together do not mix well. The new Dog Park in Yorba Linda provides just one area for both. Commissioner Hunt commented that the Commission may be asked “where is the money coming from to build a Dog Park”. Director Gonzalez responded that there are grants available and a lot of sponsorships. Depending on the public’s response to the survey, and City Council’s direction, it would take a couple of years to be built. Commissioner Narahara added that a brick sponsorship can be included to raise funds. Director Gonzalez noted that the Placentia Foundation is already working on a brick legacy project fundraiser.

Results from the survey will be gathered by the end of summer that can be shared at the Commission’s September meeting. It was suggested that a map of possible locations be available at the Community Services booth where the surveys will be located.

5. **PYLUUSD JOINT USE AGREEMENT REVIEW –**

The original 2001 PYLUUSD Joint Use Agreement and the latest amendment in 2007 were distributed. Coordinator Brand provided an overview of the agreement.

- Original agreement dated 2001 or amendment in 2007 do not have an expiration date
- District and the City have to mutually agree to any modifications of the original agreement and subsequent amendment
- In the amendment, there are no completion dates stated for the construction of the concession, storage and restrooms. These amenities were added in the amendment in compensation of the loss of the field at McFadden when the middle school was built
- The agreement stipulates the City receives the revenue from the light use of the fields
- Other than the plan copies attached to the agreement/amendment, the original plans are not available
- The agreement stipulates that the School District is to bill us for half of the electricity use of Oberle Gym, but they have not done so
- The School District is entitled to 15 gym uses a year during the hours that the City is allocated (after 4:00 pm, weekends and during summer). Melrose Elementary is conducting summer school which is not part of the agreement and against the joint use agreement
- So far this year, the School District has had 33 uses – 10 uses to give away food to the community, 2 days for registration for bus passes and food distribution, etc. In addition, the City receives requests from some of the schools to use parks for free for their year-end activities.

Commissioners Dougherty and Granger indicated that all these items should be on a list when a meeting is arranged with the School District. Point out that the agreement has not been fully executed, concession, storage and restrooms have

not been built as agreed, School District has surpassed the use of facilities at no additional fees, and they are now charging the City for pool use.

Director Gonzalez added that last year at a meeting with the School District, they indicated they did not have the money although soon after they received a bond.

MOTION by Commissioner Hunt to direct City Staff to gather a list of the items that have not been addressed in the Joint Use Agreement and request a meeting between the City Manager and School District Superintendent; **SECOND** by Commissioner Dougherty and **CARRIED** by a **8-0-1-0 VOICE VOTE** (Binnings, Absent).

6. **BUDGET UPDATE** –

Staff Ortiz distributed the 2017-2018 approved budget and provided a summary of each of the Community Services accounts. Some of the budget increases are: Design costs for the Placentia Palm Quarterly (previously done in-house); Meetings and Conferences to include for all full time staff to attend CPRS conference and local meetings and to allow part time staff to attend more local and regional trainings; there has been an increase of 30% of licensing fees per movie for Movies in the Park plus additional movie night at the pool has been added; and a considerable increase in School District pool user fees for the Learn to Swim program.

7. **PLAYGROUND SURFACING MATERIALS DISCUSSION** –

Director Gonzalez commented that St. Jude Medical Center is providing a grant for \$12,000 to use for playground surfacing replacement. As per the request made last month, information on the most popular playground surfacing materials was provided.

A low priced engineered wood fiber material that requires ongoing maintenance and adequate drainage (it is not great for accessibility, kids get a lot of splinters, and it requires higher maintenance). Commissioner Hunt stated that this product is a fire hazard, it spontaneously ignites; two mid-priced recycled loose fill (comes in different colors, but the color comes off and it is hard to keep it sterile), a poured in place rubber surfacing material (offers elaborate designs, it is easy to patch), and a mid-high priced recycled rubber tiles that is easy to repair by replacing the damaged tile (the preparation prior to installation of the tiles is more intense as proper drainage is critical), and it runs \$6-10 a square foot.

Director Gonzalez added that the \$100,000 budgeted to spend on Parque Del Arroyo Verde would not be enough to do new equipment and rubberized surfacing material. Miracle Playground would match up to \$50,000 in grant money and an application will be submitted. Commissioner Hunt suggested that an evaluation be made of all the parks and begin replacing the worst playground. Director Gonzalez indicated there is \$150,000 initial budget in the CIP available and a Master Plan on just the parks will be prepared. An overview of what exists and is needed i.e., trees, benches, picnic tables, playground will be used for this process as meeting safety standards is the main objective. Once this document is finalized, a study session with City Council can be arranged to bring them up to speed on the condition, needs, and future of the City's parks.

Commissioner Granger commented that it was great to see Councilmember Smith attend a recent Commission meeting. It would be nice to see each Councilmember taking turns to attend this meeting.

8. **PARK INSPECTION REPORTS –**

Commissioner Narahara mentioned that in the last six months 3 trees in Parque De Los Vaqueros have fallen and many others have broken branches. Director Gonzalez indicated the City uses West Coast Arborists and recently Koch Park had 12 trees taken out that will be replanted. Public Works will be notified about Parque De Los Vaqueros.

Director Gonzalez added that staff had taken pictures of the Tuffree backstops chain link that are in need of repair/replacement; a cost estimate will be forthcoming.

9. **STAFF COMMENTS**

Director Gonzalez received a request from Public Works to add to the next scheduled Commission meeting a presentation and update on the O.C. Loop. This will be added to the September agenda.

10. **AGENDA BUILDING AND MEETING SCHEDULE –**

Agenda items to include: Election of Officers, Dog Park Survey Results, Meeting with City Administrator and School District Superintendent Update, Monthly Report and Parks and Facilities Project Updates.

ADJOURNMENT –

There being no further business, **MOTION** by Commissioner Hunt to adjourn to Monday, September 11, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. regular meeting to be held at City Hall; **SECOND** by Commissioner Granger and **CARRIED** by a **8-0-1-0 VOICE VOTE** (Binnings, Absent). Meeting adjourned on July 10, 2017 at 8:24 p.m.

Maria Elena Maurer
Community Services Coordinator