

MINUTES
PLACENTIA RECREATION AND
PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Bartelt, Emrick, Granger, Hunt, Newman
Absent: Dougherty, McDermott
Staff Present: Steve Pischel, Director of Community Services
Jon Nicks, Deputy Director of Community Services
Maria Elena Maurer, Administrative Assistant, Community Services

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Newman.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS –

Yolanda Aguerrebere, retired Placentia resident, stated she was attending to find out how she could become more involved in the community.

Jeff Buchanan, Placentia resident. Mr. Buchanan noted that his attendance to this meeting relates to the maintenance of parkway trees and sidewalks that is now the responsibility of the homeowner that the Recreation and Parks Commission oversees this area. He asked for the Commission's support as this shifting of responsibility will create more liability to the City. Vice Chair Newman informed Mr. Buchanan that in order to discuss this topic, it will have to be placed on a future Commission's agenda.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS - Commissioner Bartelt shared that she had attended the Las Posadas and Tamale Festival event and commented that it was well organized despite the large crowds. The fact that the Tree Lighting was moved from City Hall to be part of the Tamale Festival did not seem to work as well. Commissioner Bartelt commented that the Tree Lighting should remain at the Civic Center and be more of a community event. Staff Pischel noted that staff will be working with the Cultural Arts Commission and come up with partnerships to continue to host the event.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** –November 14, 2011

MOTION by Commissioner Granger to approve the minutes of November 14, 2011 as submitted; **SECOND** by Commissioner Hunt and **CARRIED** by a **4-0-2-1 VOICE VOTE** (Dougherty, McDermott Absent; Emrick Abstained).

2. **MONTHLY REPORT -**

Staff Nicks reported on the Holiday events that included the Las Posadas and Tamale Festival, Christmas Basket Program, Adopt a Family Program, the successful Santa Visits and the Community Centers' Holiday celebrations. In

addition, Staff Nicks informed the Commission that the City had recently gone out to bid for senior transportation services and Western Transit System is now the provider for this service. The enhancements Western Transit provides include a bigger capacity bus that can accommodate 18 people at a time, use of the bus for excursions and a dedicated phone line that seniors can call directly to arrange for transportation.

3. PARKS AND FACILITY PROJECT UPDATES -

Staff Nicks reported that the Kraemer Park Restroom Renovation and exterior lighting of the Backs Bldg. have been completed. He distributed photos of both projects. There will be a grand re-opening ceremony before the City Council meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at Kraemer Park. Gomez Community Center Project is also still progressing and will be complete by the end of February.

4. DOG ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTATION -

Staff Pischel distributed a photo of the current signage used at the Placentia Champions Sports Complex that relates to the regulation that "All dogs must be leashed (6' maximum) and you must clean up after your dog" and suggested that the same sign be used adding "No dogs allowed on Athletic Fields or Playgrounds." Smaller signs will be made to be posted at the entrance to each field and all the City parks; the signs will be green with white reflective letters. Commissioner Bartelt suggested that an article be sent to the News Times about this added regulation to educate people and bring awareness. In addition, a flyer will be created for the sports organizations to distribute at the sports fields.

5. GOALS & OBJECTIVES -

Commissioners reviewed and approved the Commission's Goals & Objectives for 2011-2012.

MOTION by Commissioner Hunt to approve the Goals and Objectives for the Recreation and Parks Commission for 2012; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by **5-0-2-0 VOICE VOTE** (Dougherty, McDermott Absent).

Staff Pischel noted that this action will be forwarded to the City Council as an attachment

6. SPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE -

Commissioner Newman reported that the Sports Advisory Committee had met in November with the user groups to discuss the proposed changes to the Allocation Policy. In particular, discussion about the 3-strikes rule and the punitive actions that will result to those that violate this rule. Commissioner Hunt reported on one of the groups that committed a violation in November and scheduled and used the fields after the City had closed them because of wet conditions after the rain. It was agreed that the consequences to this violation will have to be determined before the next field allocation takes place.

7. BOYS & GIRLS CLUB STATUS

Staff Pischel provided an update on the Boys & Girls Club indicating that they currently are not providing any programs in Placentia other than after-school

programs. They do intend to hold a summer program at the Teen Center. Signage for the Torii Hunter field to indicate age requirement to use the field will also be updated and should be ready for the next allocation.

PARK INSPECTION REPORTS – Commissioner Granger commented that the block wall color looked bad at Parque Del Arroyo Verde and asked if the color could match the fence. This could possibly be a Serve Day project. Another project could also include painting the Backs Building balcony to match the color on the fences by the softball field to unify the space.

STAFF COMMENTS – Staff Nicks reported that he received a phone call from one of the teens that was part of the Skate Park Subcommittee asking why the City was not moving forward. He will be calling him back to remind him that their representative did not come back with a proposal as discussed at the last subcommittee meeting. It was suggested that a Skate Park Subcommittee meeting be schedule prior to the next Commission meeting.

Staff Pischel announced that a live Ethics Training was scheduled for Wednesday, January 25 in the Council Chambers and invited Commissioners to attend either the 3:30-5:30 p.m. or 6:30-8:30 p.m. available sessions. Staff Pischel indicated that the Kraemer Park parking lot will be closed on January 10, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. for the Police Department and Special Forces investigating the recent murders of homeless people. Lastly, a City Council study session is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, January 24, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the trees and sidewalks item brought up by Mr. Buchanan.

AGENDA BUILDING AND MEETING SCHEDULE – The following items will be placed on the next agenda: Sports Advisory Report, Tri-City Park/County of Orange Property transfer consideration, Skate Spot Update, Serve Day Projects, Cell Sites Update, Tree & Sidewalk Discussion and Park Assignments Review.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, **MOTION** by Commissioner Bartelt to adjourn to Monday, February 13, 2012; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by a **5-0-2-0 VOICE VOTE** (Dougherty, McDermott Absent). Meeting adjourned on January 9, 2012 at 8:27 p.m.

Maria Elena Maurer, Recording Secretary
Recreation and Parks Commission