

MINUTES  
PLACENTIA RECREATION AND  
PARKS COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING  
July 9, 2012

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Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by Commissioner Bartelt.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** – Mayor Yamaguchi was in attendance and thanked the Commission for their contributions.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND REPORTS** - Commissioner Bartelt commented that she had attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Placentia Foundation Summit. The focus was an introduction to grant writing and to review the process for other organizations to apply for a grant from the Foundation. The Friendly Center was one of the organizations that attended and is currently providing services in the City. Commissioner Bartelt was interested to know if there are any other organizations that provide services to the community. In addition, she attended the first Concert in the Park at Tri-City Park, and indicated that the addition of the food truck was well received.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – May 14, 2012

Commissioner Granger noted an error on page 3, under Adjournment, should be “adjourn to Monday, June 11, 2012 instead of May 14, 2012, and “Meeting adjourned on May 14, 2012 at 8:22 p.m. instead of April 9, 2012”.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Granger to approve the minutes of May 14, 2012 as corrected; **SECOND** by Commissioner Newman and **CARRIED** by a **4-0-1-1 VOICE VOTE** (Hunt Absent; Emrick Abstained).

**2. MONTHLY REPORT -**

Staff Nicks reported on the following events: Summer Registration Day at City Hall for Placentia residents only. He noted a 24% increase in registration with a total of close to \$30,000 was collected for all classes, an increase from 2011 of 26%. The Walk to End Alzheimer’s took place on Saturday, June 2 at Tri-City Park and had over 500 participants. The Rotary Club’s Cowabanga event at Kraemer Park had about 300 participants. Photo Contest participants, sponsored

by the Cultural Arts Commission, were invited to the June 5 City Council meeting to be recognized for their participation. The Adult Sports leagues have a total of 6 basketball teams and 9 Futsal teams this season and the Teen Hoops season ended on June 9.

Staff Nicks added that the PARK's program is off to a good start with Whitten Center, Gomez Center, Koch Park and Cathy Torrez Learning Center opening their summer activities on June 25. Staff Pischel commented that in an effort to be more effective with the budget, Tynes Gym was not able to open for the summer as previously anticipated. Community Services staff did a great job preparing for the summer programs and training the part-time staff.

Staff Nicks added that the Gas Co. had contacted him to offer grant opportunities to help with the summer programs. The grant for \$2,000 was already received and the second grant in the amount of \$20,000 has not been awarded.

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

Staff Nicks reported that the Gomez Center grand re-opening is scheduled for Saturday, July 14, 2012. A neighborhood Clean-up Day is taking place the same day starting at 8:00-11:30 a.m., followed by family activities and a barbecue from 11:00-1:00 p.m. Commissioners Bartelt and Granger will be available to attend the Grand-Opening. Staff Nicks added that the park lighting project to complete Phase I had been awarded to VT Electric after the low bidder was disqualified based on previous work done for the City. A notice to proceed will be going out at the end of the month. Neighborhood Park Project will go out to bid before the end of the month.

**4. TRI-CITY PARK/COUNTY OF ORANGE PROPERTY TRANSFER CONSIDERATION UPDATE -**

Staff Pischel indicated that the process continues to finalize the agreement between the County and the Tri-City Park Authority for the property transfer. The concern regarding parking has been partially addressed; the County has agreed to not do enforcement for three years. The next step will be a closed session meeting between the County and the Tri-City Park Authority, followed by an open meeting for the Authority's approval. It will then go back to the three cities City Councils for ratification.

**5. BUDGET UPDATE -**

Staff Pischel reported that the budget process continues to be challenge. Staff laid out the options so that City Council could make informative decisions. Unfortunately, the city does not have any reserves and it took a cooperative effort to get through this process and balance the budget. Some newspaper articles mentioned that various centers and programs were closed, but in the end the only location that was not able to open for the summer was Tynes Gym. Due to the close proximity of Koch Center and the low attendance at Tynes, it did not warrant that it stayed open for the summer.

Commissioner Granger stated that in order to have equal distribution of programs throughout the city, she would like to see a mobile recreational program. Staff Pischel commented that it is tough to get the number of participants when you

split up the locations, but depending on the current fiscal year projections, this could be a consideration. Koch Park will be able to open two days a week in the fall.

**6. SERVE DAY PROJECTS –**

Staff Nicks reported that Yorba Linda Friends Church had completed painting the wrought iron fence at the Powell Bldg., and painted the handball courts at Tynes and the picnic shelter at Tuffree Park as part of a Serve Day project. The Latter Day Saints Church is also interested in doing a serve day project at Kraemer Park.

**PARK INSPECTION REPORTS** – Commissioner Granger submitted a work order to check the wrought iron fence enclosure at Samp Park that has separated and needs to be fixed; kids can get through into the enclosure.

**STAFF COMMENTS** – Staff Pischel asked what the Commission would suggest the City do regarding departing Commissioners. After some discussion, Commissioners agreed that a letter should come from the City Council thanking the departing Commissioner for their service. Staff Pischel added that as part of the department's re-organization, Maria Elena Maurer has been reclassified to Community Services Coordinator to be more in line with her acquired duties; coordinating classes, instructors and the Placentia Quarterly.

**AGENDA BUILDING AND MEETING SCHEDULE** – The following items may be placed on the next agenda: Sports Advisory Report, Tri-City Park/County of Orange Property transfer update, Heritage Festival Commission Participation, Partnerships with the City, Program Cost and Attendance Updates.

**ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further business, **MOTION** by Commissioner Bartelt to adjourn to Monday, September 10, 2012 regular meeting; **SECOND** by Commissioner Emrick and **CARRIED** by a **5-0-0-1 VOICE VOTE** (Hunt Absent). Meeting adjourned on July 9, 2012 at 8:08 p.m.

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Maria Elena Maurer, Recording Secretary  
Recreation and Parks Commission