

**PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 5, 2012**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Jimenez called the meeting to order 7:00 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:**
 - a. Present: Commissioner Jimenez; Commissioner Birk; Commissioner Gouveia; Commissioner Saltzman; Commissioner Foley; Commissioner Holguin, Commissioner Jayne
 - b. Absent:
 - c. Staff Present: Rod Buchanan, Director of Parks & Community Services; Don Scholl, Public Works Parks and Sports Fields Superintendent
 - d. Recorded By: Stephanie Garcia, Executive Assistant
3. **ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** None
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING ON MARCH 1, 2012**
 - a. Motion: Commissioner Gouveia
 - b. Second: Commissioner Holguin
 - c. Abstain: Commissioner Jayne
 - d. Vote: Passed
5. **Correspondence** None
6. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Update Commission Goals for Fiscal Year 10/11 & 11/12**
Agenda Item 6.a. 3.1.D.2 has been set to return in June. A date will be set for Jim Raymond Park in June.
7. **New Business:**
 - a. **Receive presentation, review and approve support of staff recommendation to City Council regarding a policy for the placement of temporary security cameras in City Parks**
Yvette Campos, Q-Star Technology, gave the presentation on the use of the FlashCAM security camera. Rod said that a policy will be forthcoming after further discussion with the Police department. *The item is scheduled to be co-presented with Captain John Espinoza at a future meeting.* The existing policy for Gretchen Talley Park may be able to be amended, which will allow for consistency.

Highlights of the FlashCAM:
 - Deterrent for graffiti, vandalism, loitering, gang activity and illegal dumping
 - Has voice and flash snapshot capability
 - Solar powered system – no need for electricity
 - High resolution camera – 100’ motion sensor, flash will light up to 250’

Input from Discussion:

- The camera can only be disarmed by remote.
- The weight of the camera is 20 lbs.
- City staff will report graffiti and have the pictures downloaded. The pictures could be downloaded on a routine monthly basis.
- Under normal conditions, the camera will operate through the night with about two hours of sun per day; the flash is what uses up the battery. An AC wall adapter battery charger is included with the system as a backup.
- The battery will take up to 450 pictures per night.
- The camera will record in any language up to 14 seconds long.
- The pilot program will run for a six month period for the placement of the camera.
- A series of beeps indicates that pictures have been taken and will provide status of the battery.
- Sensor mode can be set from dusk to dawn.
- Camera use has a 90% - 100% crime reduction rate.
- Have a public process as a Commission to talk to the community members to address a solution of concerns from neighbors.

Question from the audience:

- Debbie Schoonmaker, 1218 Muir, Tracy, asked if the camera will pick up movement of people or animals? The camera can be set for a 20 – 60 second delay in order for it not to have false takes.

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

a. Parks and Community Services Director Report:

- i. Upcoming Events & Programs
 - A jumpie fee has been established but not the policy for jumpies allowing them in parks.
 - Holly Sugar Youth Sports Field Ground Breaking, April 30, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.
 - Handouts included the Downtown 2012 Event Guide, The Activity Guide; Tracy Downtown Plaza, Grand Opening, May 1, 2012; Cinco de Mayo Celebration, May 4, 2012; Girls Night Out, May 11, 2012.
 - Fly fishing class is going on this Saturday.
 - Tracy's Best Yard Sale, \$25 per booth, Saturday, June 16, 2012.

Commissioner Holguin said that his neighbor is appreciative of the Senior Center programs.

ii. Projects Update

- City Council Special Meeting, CIP, Monday, April 30th. Council will discuss CIP's that are being funded and Commissioners are invited to attend. Items being discussed include Animal Shelter, Joe Wilson Pool, Tracy Ball Park, etc. This will give the Commission a good idea of how the CIP process works.

- Senior Center project is going out to bid for the outdoor area. It is a \$150,000 project; two pieces of outdoor exercise equipment, an outdoor barbeque area, small and large flower beds, horseshoe pit, a shade structure, and picnic tables. Staff will show plans to the Commission at next month's meeting as a small presentation.
 - Parks Commission CIP priorities have been graded internally with other City CIPs; City Council will consider the item on April 30. Staff will email staff reports and the link.
- b. Recreation Division Update: Report available in packet.
- c. Facilities Report: Report available in packet.
- d. Public Works Parks Maintenance Division Report:
- City staff completed a final walk through at Lincoln Park this week and the contractor is resolving last remaining items. The fences are scheduled to come down on Monday and there will be a soft opening. Don thanked the past and present Commissioners for the push to get Lincoln Park completed.
 - There is a possibility of a ribbon cutting ceremony closer to July 4th or the first concert in the park.
 - Don is dealing with a number of different field rentals and facility issues and wanted to make sure he publicly thanked Suzie and Laura from Parks and Community Services department for helping with the transition into taking care of the user groups by following-up and communicating with Don; they deserve appreciation for being the face of the department and the City when it comes to handling difficult situations and they've done a great job.
 - Don encouraged the Commissioners to go out and see some of the projects at the different parks such as Zanussi Park, the Sports Complex, and Dr. Powers Park being used for different sports league practices.
 - The playground renovation project is a bit behind schedule but most have had the play equipment installed and will be completed soon.
 - Next Thursday the NorCal Softball Tournament hosted by Tracy High will be taking place Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, there will be over 70 high school softball teams participating. There is a sophomore division this year playing at Kimball High and the varsity games will be played at the Sports Complex, Clyde Bland, and Veterans Park. It's a prestigious tournament and it's grown every year. We take a lot of pride in showing off the facilities and encourage the Commission to be a part of that, as well.
 - The Dog Park has muddy areas, there are a couple of broken sprinklers and a leaky valve; city staff is addressing these issues.

9. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION:

Commissioner Holguin, the camera presentation showed that the camera will be a deterrent to illegal activities. The Parks Commission Goals FY 2010/2011 states that a site should be selected for a Dog Park; what is the status? Commissioner Jimenez said that this issue has been looked at by the Foundation.

Commissioner Birk said last week they had 10 kids from Sister City in Japan visit Tracy. They enjoy going out to the Sister City Park and they love having their picture taken. We are sending kids over in 2 months. He is delighted that the City, the Mayor, and City Council have always been very helpful to them.

Commissioner Saltzman, staff should consider offering the various public service courses through the City at parks.

Commissioner Gouveia met with Angel Hernandez, professional hand ball player who finished his mosaic course. They discussed at the Southside Community Organization meeting in McDonald Park that he would like to come forth to the Commission pertaining to building a mosaic at the hand ball court. Commissioner Gouveia said since Angel is a professional hand ball player, had he thought about teaching hand ball to the community to bring more people into the sport and more exposure to the park. Commissioner Gouveia will have Angel contact Rod. *Rod will put Angel in touch with city staff regarding requirements and insurance for contractors.*

Commissioner Jimenez commended the staff for the beautiful brochure mentioning the summer activities. She attended the Girls Night Out and it was wonderful. She is excited to see all the thought put into the celebrations implemented in the opening of the plaza such as Cinco de Mayo Celebration. She is pleased to see staff looking at these events tied into our community with the high Latino population in Tracy, this is wonderful to have the outreach to this community.

10. **ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** None

11. **ADJOURNMENT:**

- a. Motion: Commissioner Gouveia
- b. Second: Commissioner Birk
- c. Vote: Unanimous
- d. Time: 8:25 p.m.