

PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 2, 2010

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Jimenez called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:**
 - a. Present: Linda Jimenez; James Atkins; Gene Birk; Tim Jayne; Walter Gouveia; Gloria Saltzman; Steve Winchell
 - b. Absent: None
 - c. Staff Present: Rod Buchanan, Director of Parks and Community Services; Mark Honberger, Recreation Services Supervisor; Kim Scarlata, Recreation Services Supervisor; Jolene Jauregui, Recreation Coordinator; Don Scholl, Superintendent of Parks, Sports Fields & Trees
 - d. Recorded By: Tish Foley, Executive Assistant
3. **ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** None.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING ON AUGUST 5, 2010:**
 - a. **Motion:** Commissioner Gouveia
 - b. **Second:** Commissioner Birk
 - c. **Abstain:** Commissioners Atkins, Jayne, and Winchell
 - d. **Vote:** Passed by majority vote.
5. **PRESENTATION – CITY OF TRACY BUDGET AND SERVICES UPDATE:** Juan Espinoza, Tracy Police Captain, made the presentation to the Commission. The report provided an overview of the City's current fiscal situation and what general services may need to be cut unless additional revenues are generated. A "Fact Sheet" was distributed to the Commission after a short question and answer period. More information can be found on the City's website.
6. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None.
7. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. **Update Commission Goals for Fiscal Year 2010/2011:**
 - i. **Dog Park:** Rod Buchanan suggested to develop questions that would be asked of the dog owners then assign a subcommittee to visit the dog park to solicit answers. The meeting should be advertised to the community in early October as a Special Meeting. Form a subcommittee to identify the questions, visit the park, and report back to the Commission at a future meeting. Ask the dog owners what they would like to see added or changes about the dog park. Commissioners Jayne and Birk will work together to meet with the dog owners. Commissioner Atkins offered his assistance also. Commissioners Winchell, Jayne, and Atkins will formulate questions. Don Scholl offered to develop a flyer and place a holder at the dog park and people can mail back their responses. Staff will identify the date for a special meeting in October.
 - ii. **Marketing:** Commissioner Gouveia met with staff and distributed copies of the Department's marketing plan, purpose, vision, mission, values. He found that

other community's plans are similar. He would like information about the Department's budget focused on marketing efforts and how is it now used. Commissioner Winchell asked if the data could be broken down to the 12 different activities. Commissioner Gouveia liked the Turlock multi-lingual approach on the website. Rod Buchanan stated staff would develop a list of their recommendations and costs, then bring the budget report to the subcommittee. Rod Buchanan also offered to provide the Commission with a future presentation on the City's branding efforts to assist them with their future marketing strategy.

- iii. Park Safety: Commissioner Jayne would like to address the effects on the parks if the Tax Measure does not pass. Commissioner Gouveia would like to revisit the Galli Park area because that area has the highest number of juvenile crimes. Commissioner Jimenez said to target the Galli Park area for the Parks Watch Program. Commissioner Atkins suggested they gather the facts to learn what the problems are, rather than guessing why the crimes are occurring.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Receive, discuss and accept the Youth Advisory Commission Annual Report: Commissioners Laqshya Taneja and Cadres Shelton provided an overview of the Commission's goals and objectives. The Commissioners had questions regarding the support from the community and some of the events. The youth were commended for their efforts in leadership. Commissioner Gouveia suggested they work with Tracy Unified to provide tutorial support. Rod Buchanan thanked Jolene Jauregui and Kim Scarlata for their excellent leadership and encouraged the Youth Commissioners to continue achieving their goals.

9. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

- a. Parks and Community Services Director Report: The Swim Center final design will come before the Commission at their October meeting. The aquatic community will be invited to attend. Community meetings have already been held including stakeholders. The Commission may be approving the plan to go forward to Council if significant changes have been made. Executive Assistant Tish Foley will be leaving the City of Tracy for a job as the Executive Assistant for the City Manager of Modesto.
 - i. Upcoming Events and Programs: Tracy's Dry Bean Festival will be September 11-12. The City booth will be located inside the Grand Theatre. The Bean Run starts and ends at the Civic Center Plaza. September 24 is the last Taste of Tracy event. October 25 is Teen Legislative Day presented by YAC. Downtown Fall Wine Stroll is October 29. A haunted house will be held at the Grand Theatre from October 27-31.
 - ii. Youth Sports Leagues MOU Update: An offer letter was mailed to the league presidents asking for their response by September 9. Staff has met with all ten leagues that are being invited to participate. The next step will be final negotiations of a ground lease which may come to the Commission or go directly to City Council.
- b. Recreation Division Update: Mark Honberger provided highlights of recent activities. The Commission accepted the report.
- c. Facilities Report: A comparison report was provided which indicated hours of use and revenues have increased. The Community Center lobby and conference rooms are undergoing cosmetic renovation of the walls and doors inside the facility. Lincoln Park renovation is underway and will necessitate relocating several rentals. The

restrooms and gazebo are scheduled to be replaced prior to July 4th, then the irrigation will go in. The Commission accepted the report.

- d. **Public Works Parks Maintenance Division Report:** Don Scholl provided an update on department changes. Mike Contreras will be taking on concrete, street signage and street maintenance. Don Scholl will be taking on General Fund trees and the spray program for the entire city due to retirement of Don Mason and continued downsizing efforts. Several CIPs are in various stages of design and bid for the near future, including Kenner Park restroom replacement, playground renovation Phase 2, and hard court resurfacing including the tennis courts at Dr. Powers Park. Medians on 11th Street and on Cypress are near completion. Recent water problems have been identified at Dr. Powers Park which will require replacing a pump. The Utilities Division staff are working on alternative solutions to flooding problems at Plasencia Fields channel way.

10. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION:

- a. **Commissioner Atkins:** Asked about kids jogging from Kimball High through Redbridge without any sidewalks. He is concerned about their safety. Staff suggested he contact the school district with his concern.
- b. **Commissioner Jimenez:** Reported playground repairs needed at Veterans Park.
- c. **Commissioner Gouveia:** Will be involved with the Global Village at the Bean Festival representing two cultures. Invited the Commission to attend the Mexican Independence Day celebration at McDonald Park sponsored by the Southside Community on September 18th.
- d. **Commissioner Winchell:** Would like the Commission to consider combining Arts and Parks activity guides as a cost-saving measure. Rod Buchanan suggested discussing this as part of the Marketing Subcommittee.

11. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE: None.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

- a. Motion: Commissioner Atkins
- b. Second: Commissioner Jayne
- c. Vote: Unanimous
- d. Time: 9:13 p.m.