

**PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
September 6, 2012**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Jimenez called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
(Jim Raymond Park)

2. **ROLL CALL:**

a. Present: Commissioner Jimenez, Commissioner Birk, Commissioner Jayne, Commissioner Foley, Commissioner Holguin, Commissioner Gouveia

b. Absent: Commissioner Saltzman

c. Staff Present: Rod Buchanan, Director of Parks & Community Services; Kevin Tobeck, Director of Public Works; Mike Contreras, LMD Parks Maintenance Supervisor; Jeremy Watney, TPD Captain

d. Recorded by: Stephanie Garcia, Executive Assistant

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

4. **INTRODUCTION & WELCOME:** Commissioner Jimenez introduced city staff and thanked the neighbors for attending the meeting and is excited that Commissioner Holguin has joined the Commission; he has been a great inspiration to the Commission and active in representing the Jim Raymond Park area.

Rod Buchanan introduced Mike Contreras, LMD Parks Maintenance Supervisor and Captain Jeremy Watney of the Tracy Police department.

5. **JIM RAYMOND PARK – STAFF ANALYSIS:** Rod gave an overview on the Staff Report 6.a. He shared the analysis of what was approved by the Commission and what is recommended to move forward.

6. **Commissioner and Staff Discussion:** Commissioner Jimenez said the Commissioners reviewed and approved the pilot program to move forward; however, the placement of the camera will be under the direction of the Public Works Director. Due to the Jim Raymond Park neighbors being an organized group that this would be a good starting point.

Commissioner Jimenez introduced Commissioner Gouveia who represents Tracy Unified School District; Commissioner Birk a long time Commissioner and active in the community; Commissioner Jayne a long time Commissioner as well; Commissioner Foley is formerly a member of the Parks and Community Services and has history.

A question from the audience was asked if the only time the camera would be checked is when a community member calls it in.

Staff said that if the maintenance crew is at the park and they see something strange or see graffiti then they would take a look at it. The camera will not be

checked on a regular basis. Also, Government Outreach is available to the community on the City website.

Captain Watney said to call 9-1-1 at the time they see something actively happening in the park and do not to wait until the next day to call.

It was asked from the audience if a dummy camera could be put in place? Staff said someone could be relying on the fact that something is being recorded when in fact it is not and it would not be a good idea.

7. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

Kevin Tobeck announced the City Wide Garage Sale coming up next weekend. The following week is the Electronic Waste Event at Boyd Service Center and the weekend after that is the Drug Drop-off Event being held in the parking lot across from the Police Department.

Mike Contreras said if there is a problem in the community he makes himself available in helping out. He knows the community is taking care of the park and he has additional eyes throughout the neighbors at Jim Raymond Park.

Rod Buchanan was glad the Foundation was brought up since staff has worked for about a year to transition the Foundation to a working group.

8. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION:

Commissioner Gouveia invited the audience to attend the Bean Festival this weekend. St. Bernard's is having a festival with an old fashion carnival next weekend. Mexican Independence will be celebrated in Lincoln Park and McDonald Park and it is one of the oldest parks in the community; he belongs to the Southside Community Organization in addition to other organizations. It will start with a parade and Tracy High School band will lead them to the park. There will be food and music to be enjoyed with the community.

Commissioner Birk has been to a number of community meetings in different neighborhoods and this community should be very proud of themselves to have a group like this. The audience is interested in their community; pat yourself on the back for doing something for your neighbors. Commissioner Birk is very proud of the staff in the Parks department by doing an outstanding job.

Commissioner Jayne asked that the community stay involved and the key is to continue to stay involved.

Commissioner Holguin gave kudos to Commissioner Jayne in staying involved with his community park (Lincoln Park). Commissioner Jayne is an inspiration to him once he heard his story. He thanked the audience for taking the time to come out tonight and show their support.

Commissioner Foley was recently appointed as a representative to the Foundation board which is a citizen group and they are raising money for parks, programs; such things as the new Animal Shelter. At this time, they are looking for board members. If you are interested or know anyone who would like to serve as a volunteer on the Tracy Friends Foundation board please let the staff know and they will give you the information on the meetings once a month. They are doing things like raising money for the animal shelter. It is nice to see neighbors get together.

Commissioner Jimenez thanked the community and said this is what helps the commission when we see a group of active citizens involved in a community and it

certainly helps us maintain the parks the way they should be maintained. She visits several parks with her grandchildren throughout the summer. If the community sees her she would like them to come up to her and say hello and let her know how the parks are doing. She welcomes comments and suggestions and that is what the Commission is here for to serve the community and the citizens and ensure that the parks are safe and enjoyable for the citizens.

9. ADJOURNMENT: Next Regular Meeting on October 4, 2012

- a. Motion: Commissioner Birk
- b. Second: Commissioner Gouveia
- c. Vote: Unanimous
- d. Time: 7:48 p.m.