

**PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
December 6, 2012**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Jimenez called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

- a. Present: Commissioner Jimenez; Commissioner Birk; Commissioner Foley; Commissioner Gouveia; Commissioner Saltzman
- b. Absent: Commissioner Holguin; Commissioner Jayne
- c. Staff Present: Rod Buchanan, Director of Parks and Community Services; Vanessa Carrera, Management Analyst II; Don Scholl, Parks and Sports Field Superintendent; Kim Scarlata, Recreation Manager
- d. Recorded By: Laura Serrano, Administrative Assistant II

3. **ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** Hamid Carob, Captain of Tracy United Cricket Club, stated his concern regarding the allocation of Plasencia Fields to Tracy Cricket Club. Commissioner Foley asked if an official appeal had been filed. Rod stated that it had not. Commissioner Foley suggested Mr. Carob file an official appeal to the Community Facilities Division. Commissioner Jimenez stated the item will be looked into and addressed at a later date. Planning Commissioner, Jas Singh requested on behalf of her community that the City look into the matter.

Hector Hernandez, life-long Tracyite, shared his concern regarding the naming nominations for the future sports park on North Tracy Boulevard. Rod stated that naming nominations will be accepted until the date of the Council Meeting and will continue to work with Mr. Hernandez regarding his request. Commissioner Jimenez requested Mr. Hernandez submit his naming nomination to the Community Facilities Division.

4. **APPROVAL OF AMENDED MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING ON OCTOBER 4, 2012:**

- a. Motion: Commissioner Saltzman
- b. Second: Commissioner Birk
- c. Abstain: None
- d. Vote: Passed

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL MEETING ON NOVEMBER 26, 2012:**

- a. Motion: Commissioner Jimenez
- b. Second: Commissioner Saltzman
- c. Abstain: None
- d. Vote: Passed

5. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**6. OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Review and discuss 2012/2013 to 2013/2014 Commission Goals and Work Plan** Vanessa reviewed the Parks Commission goals for 2012/2013 to 2013/2014.
- 1.1.A. *Approve park and sports field rental policies* – Staff indicated the revision of the rental policies is scheduled to be completed in February and the existing policies will be used until new policies are adopted.
- 2.1.B. *Increase access to park information* – A suggestion of partnering with YAC for item 2.1.A. was brought to staff's attention. Kim stated she would bring the next park clean-up event information to Commission.
- 3.1.B. *Implement an Adopt-a-Park program* Clarification of the Commission's role in presenting the project. Rod indicated that the status (assignment) will be updated to complete.

3.1.E, *Implement the Park Watch Program* - Vanessa reported that there are no timelines associated with this item. Rod added that the completion dates for this item will be added by the next meeting. Commissioner Foley requested to add an item to the task list; review of the final guidelines by Commission. Commissioner Foley asked about the availability of crime stats and if it could be incorporated into the Park Watch program. Rod affirmed. Commissioner Foley asked to promote Tobacco-Free Park Policy in the future.

**7. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Approve Support of the CDBG Subcommittee's Recommendation to City Council Regarding the Mid-Year Allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds for Fiscal Year 2012-2013** – Staff gave an overview of the CDBG Block Grant and the Subcommittee's recommendation for mid-year allocation of CDBG funds to the McHenry House and the Boys and Girls Club of Tracy. Approval of the CDBG Subcommittee's recommendation was requested. Commissioner Foley sought clarification regarding amount requested and amount allocated to the Boys and Girls Club and what it means for the project. Vanessa confirmed it was due to the amount of funding available and that it will be up to the applicant to budget the project. Commissioner Jimenez asked for further clarification of the project (outdoor classroom). Commissioner Saltzman explained that it was like an arbor.

Commissioner Foley made a motion to accept the CDBG Subcommittee's funding allocation recommendation for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gouveia and passed by unanimous vote.

- b. **Review Development of the City of Tracy Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2013-2014** – Staff gave an overview of the City's annual CIP process and indicated that the Parks Commission has an opportunity to provide input on the proposed projects and requested that the Commission discuss and prioritize the proposed projects for the next fiscal year's budget. The items are: 78PP-108 Park Revitalization City Areas, 78PP-123 Neighborhood Park, Z7LMD Park Renovation and Z17LMD Park Renovation. Don Scholl noted that CIP 78PP-138, Wooden Play Structures – Hoyt Park, was moved to this fiscal year due to severe deterioration of

the play structure. Commissioner Foley asked if CIP 78PP-079, Dr. Powers Park Renovation, included pool reconstruction. Rod stated that it does not, nor does not include removal of the pool. Commissioner Foley asked if CIP 78PP-018 and 78PP-0126 were two separate projects and CIP 78PP-018 does not include a restroom. Rod stated that the Commission previously requested a restroom at El Pescadero Park and staff was trying to get the project funded separately. Commissioner Foley asked what staff's recommendation was regarding the priority of one project over another. Don stated that funding availability may play a factor into making a choice. Commissioner Foley asked if a dog park at El Pescadero Park was included in the renovation. Rod said it was not. Commissioner Saltzman asked how much of the project expense the Jefferson School District was willing to incur for CIP 78PP-118 New Gymnasium/Multipurpose Facility. Rod indicated that the \$10.7 million represents the City's portion of the project cost. Commissioner Jimenez asked if CIP 78124, Future Dog Park Site, was at Gretchen Talley Park. Rod indicated that planning is complete at Gretchen Talley Park and the future dog park site is yet to be determined. Commissioner Jimenez asked for clarification regarding the project description for CIP78P-018 Park Development – El Pescadero Park Phase 2. Rod stated he will research and come back with his findings. Commissioner Gouveia asked for clarification about the CIP process. Rod clarified the process further. Commissioner Gouveia asked if the CIP budget amount they were using for this exercise is \$1 million. Rod stated it was in the range of \$1 million to \$2 million.

Comment from the Audience: Robert Tanner, 1371 Rusher Street, asked for clarification regarding the projects that will be voted on. He requested that the Tracy Ball Park become a high priority for the Commission and that a shade structure at Dr. Powers Park near the playground be added to the list. Rod stated that the item which was added last year for Tracy Ball Park for \$3.9 million consists of only half of the parks synthetic turf upgrade. CIP 78PP-146 Tracy Ball Park Phase II is not included on the proposed list, and is roughly \$3.3 million, bringing the total Tracy Ball Park renovation to more than \$7 million.

Commissioner Foley requested to add Dr. Powers Pool Renovation to the project list as a new item.

Don added four items; fence repairs at Tracy Sports Complex, resurface basketball court at Glover Park, add booster pump at Civic Center, upgrade GT Motorola irrigation system. Rod added a small dog area at El Pescadero Dog Park funded in part by donations. Staff announced the top five in order of priority, starting with the highest priority are: Tracy Ball Park Repairs, Dr. Powers Pool Renovation, Restroom at El Pescadero Park, McDonald Park Restroom Replacement, and Handball Court Refinish at McDonald Park.

## **8. ITEMS FROM STAFF:**

### **a. Projects Update:**

- i. Youth Sports Fields and Naming – The ribbon cutting is scheduled for January 2013 and the dedication is scheduled for February 2013. The name nominations will be presented at the next City Council meeting.
- ii. 2013 Sports Field Allocations – Baseball, softball, football and cricket field requests are complete. Soccer requests are 90% complete.

- iii. Jim Raymond Park Camera installation – The meeting with the residents of Yosemite Vista is next week.

Commissioner Jimenez asked if Tracy Babe Ruth had resolution to their request. Vanessa indicated they were allocated fields. Commissioner Jimenez congratulated staff on accomplishing the task.

- b. Recreation Division Update: Report is in packet. Upcoming events and programs – Girls Night Out, Divas and Diamonds event is expected to sell out as the Witches and Broomsticks did. Due to the overwhelming success of the previous event, the Dinner and a Movie for Teens has been scheduled. Winter/ Spring Activity Guide was recently released. Commissioner Jimenez complimented Recreation staff on the success of programs.
- c. Facilities Report: Report is in packet
- d. Public Works Parks Maintenance Division Report: Don Scholl mentioned a few projects; Dr. Powers restroom removal, sports light replacements, Hoyt playground project, roof replacement at Zanussi and Thoming Park restroom. A second timer was added to accommodate the Christmas tree at the Downtown Plaza. Field closures are required due to weather for safety and maintenance reasons; senior center outdoor area is under construction. Facility Attendants need to be acknowledged for the work they do. Mentioned that Ralph Martinez was awarded Employee of the Month for January.

**9. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION:**

- Commissioner Gouveia wished everyone happy holidays.
- Commissioner Saltzman wished everyone happy holidays and stated this has been a good year for the Commission.
- Commissioner Birk commented on the chairs at the Community Center. Seven chairs were broken during two events. Vanessa stated the chairs are going to be taken out of commission and new chairs will be ordered to replace the outgoing chairs. Commissioner Birk thanked city staff that has helped Brighter Christmas in helping 1,800 families. Received an inquiry from a company for a deserving family in need of a vehicle.
- Commissioner Foley asked to place the Tobacco-Free Park policy on a future agenda.
- Commissioner Jimenez thanked the staff on the handling of the field allocation process and all the hard work in all the programs offered through the city. Encouraged staff to attend the upcoming California Parks Conference at the San Jose Convention Center.

**PARKS FOUNDATION UPDATE:** Meeting on a monthly basis. Liability Insurance has been acquired. Added one board member, seeking 2 or 3 additional board members. The Foundation has approximately \$6,000 in the bank. An application has been submitted to the Petco Foundation for \$12,000 to be used towards the Dog Park Project. Commissioner Holguin will be transitioning in the January meeting

**10. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

**11. ADJOURNMENT:**

- a. Motion: Commissioner Foley
- b. Second: Commissioner Birk
- c. Vote: Unanimous
- d. Time: 9:17 p.m.