

**PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 3, 2015**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chair Douglas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:**
 - a. Present: Vice Chair Douglas; Commissioner Birk; Jimenez; Gouveia; Saltzman
 - b. Absent: Chair Johnson; Commissioner Jayne
 - c. Staff Present: Brian MacDonald, Management Analyst II; Larry Fisk, Acting Public Works Superintendent; Don Scholl, Interim Public Works Director; Ed Lovell, Management Analyst II; Jayne Pramod, Transportation Coordinator; Jolene Jauregui, Recreation Services Supervisor; Justin Geibig, Recreation Leader III
 - d. Recorded By: Stephanie Garcia, Executive Assistant
3. **ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** Joe Orcutt, Planning Commissioner, said that he was approached by a head soccer league coach as to why the City of Tracy doesn't have semi-permanent goals. He said they are goals that you can roll off the field and lock up at the Tracy Sports Complex. The goals and the nets run about \$1,500 and would like the City to purchase them. Mr. Orcutt is proposing that this item be placed as a CIP.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING ON NOVEMBER 5, 2015:**
 - a. Motion: Commissioner Gouveia
 - b. Second: Commissioner Saltzman
 - c. Abstain: Vice Chair Douglas
 - d. Vote: Passed by unanimous vote
5. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. **Parks and Community Services Commission Goals**
 - i. Update from Subcommittee
 - a. **Support Efficient Policies** – None at this time
 - b. **Community Involvement** – Jolene has been working with the subcommittee on increasing the visibility and presentation as it relates to the seniors. She is also prepping a staff report for the January 19th Council meeting and will provide an update on Senior Services.
 - c. **Park, Facility, and Sports Field Safety** – None at this time
6. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - a. Presentation on Tracy Transit System/Tracer Services: Ed Lovell along with Jayne Pramod gave an overview on the Tracy Transit System/Tracer Services. During his overview, he covered Hours of Operation; Funding; Types of Services for Fixed Route Ridership and Fixed Route Paratransit (aka Dial-A-Ride); Areas of Service; Unmet Transit Needs; and Future Opportunities. He said that during Fiscal Year 14/15 there were 142,000 passenger trips on the Fixed Route System. He said that the Unmet Transit Needs requests is going on until the end of this month and that anyone can go onto the San Joaquin Council of Governments website to turn in requests for this year such as going to a destination that is not being served. Commissioner Jimenez asked if the request can be turned in as a petition and Ed said yes. She also asked if staff can reach out to the senior groups in the community and meet with them to let them know about the Unmet Transit Needs process before December 31. Ed said staff will look into it.
 - b. Receive, Discuss, and Accept the 2015-2016 Youth Advisory Commission Annual Report: Justin Geibig introduced Commissioner Garewal and Commissioner Taneja who presented the report. They gave the report on the purpose of the Commission and the Youth Advisory

Commission (YAC) Goals for 2015 which included: Integrate Opportunities for Health and Wellness; Increase Awareness for Higher Education Preparation; Participate and Create New Service Projects such as they sponsored a Don't Text & Drive Event at three local high schools: Millennium High School, April 24, 2015 (138 Pledges); West High School, April 29, 2015 (106 Pledges); Kimball High School, April 30, 2015 (121 Pledges). Park Clean Up Event, they partnered with Public Works for Arbor Day at Dronero Court and hosted a Park Clean-Up at the Dry Climate Park at Hoyt Park November 14, 2015; Integrate Opportunities for Health and Wellness such as Girl Talk!; Increase Awareness for Higher Education Preparation such as they hosted a PSAT Prep course on February 28, 2015. The Commission Goals for 2016 included: Create New Programs to Incorporate New Trends and Issues Facing Teens Today; Encourage Awareness for Healthier Opportunities; Participate with Local Organizations to Host Various Service Projects.

Commissioner Saltzman asked if they would consider a Boy Talk camp. This would give boys the opportunity to express themselves in a non-threatening manner. YAC said that this is something they could do by forming a subcommittee and adding it to the summer camp.

Commissioner Birk said that there is a non-profit organization in town called Brighter Christmas, for the last 37 years, which is in need of volunteers. He said that if the volunteers work with Brighter Christmas for two years than they can apply for a scholarship. It's called the Gene Birk scholarship and 19 scholarships were given out last year. Go to www.tracybrighterchristmas.com for more details.

Don thanked YAC for their dedication, enthusiasm and their hard work with projects throughout the City now and in years past. He said that they build pride and ownership in the community and it's great to see.

Commissioner Gouveia made a motion to Accept the 2015-2016 Youth Advisory Commission Annual Report. Commissioner Birk seconded the motion and passed by unanimous vote.

- c. Review development of the City of Tracy Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2016-2017: Brian gave an overview on the CIP process. He said that the City is hosting an aquatics conceptual design public meeting on Wednesday, December 9, 2015, 6:30pm at the Transit Station, Room 105. Brian will email a reminder to the Commission. Brian asked the Commission to think about the projects they feel is necessary even the ones that may not be on the list for the upcoming meeting in January. Once the list is established at the January meeting, staff will recommend the CIPs to Council.

Commissioner Gouveia commended the City and the Public Works department for taking all the work they've done and took the Commissions voice to the Council. Brian said that it helps when the Commission attends the workshops and that it really says a lot.

Commissioner Jimenez asked if the Facility Reservation software should show completed on the list. Brian said that it won't be completed until the reservation software is integrated into the City's financial system. She also asked about the unfunded CIP list that shows the Bicycle Motocross Track, she recalls that the BMX group gave a presentation that may have proposed placing the track around Legacy Fields. Don said that the conceptual plan doesn't include this layout in the phases, as its planned now, but the remaining properties may have changes to the long term layout. Perhaps other properties in town may be more suitable. Don said that staff will research the BMX contact information and forward to Commissioner Jimenez.

Commissioner Gouveia said that he would like some information regarding the Library Expansion. Historically, there was some type of agreement between the City and county

pertaining to the Library and he wasn't sure if they ever worked it through, per say. He asked if it's been currently discussed or shelved. Don said that staff will look into the status and report back to the Commission.

Don named a few smaller projects that are important for this coming year such as Thoming Park which the basketball court is in terrible shape, and other playgrounds in the General Fund areas include Yasui Park, Larsen Park, Alden Park, and McDonald Park. There are others in the LMD areas which come from a separate funding source that staff will look to prioritize some of the playground renovations.

Comments from the audience: Randy Brown, 2570 Tolbert Drive, asked about the project for the Skate Park second location. Don said that this was a proposed project and hasn't been funded. Essentially it would be another skate park and if it moves forward it would have to go through the design process and involve the skating community. It wasn't funded this year but remains on the list for a potential project.

7. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

- a. Recreation Division Report: Jolene gave the following highlights:
 - The Athletics division: staff has partnered with a new contract for the Youth Hoops program and it's going very well with 198 participants and 25 teams. The first kick-off game is this Saturday and the games are held at Hawkins and Williams Middle School.
 - The senior division: the senior center took a trip to Apple Hill with 49 seniors in attendance. The trip was very successful and a fourth trip was added since the seniors have asked were asking in the past community conversations. During the summer, there were two busloads that took seniors on a trip to Ride-the-Duck with approximately 72 seniors. Staff is outreaching and engaging the seniors in the surveys of what types of trips they are interested in. A holiday boutique was held November 7, 2015, with 15 vendors and it was very successful. From the community conversations, a fall boutique has been incorporated and now there are two boutiques per year, a spring and a fall boutique. Additionally, the Lunch and a Movie event was held November 17 which ended the series of senior Tuesday. There were about 83 seniors in attendance. There is a four week break and staff is working with the Arts Ed staff to gear up for next season.
 - The Holiday Spectacular event was held yesterday with 150 seniors and 30 parents in addition.
 - On December 14, the Black & White Winter Ball will take place at the Senior Center and staff anticipates 80 seniors to attend. Target employees as well as the youth will help in serving the seniors.
 - The Senior Comments quarterly update is in the packet. Staff continues to receive senior comments from seniors and from visitors as well. Staff addresses the issues immediately and if they can't resolve the issue then they will pass it onto the department or agency that can help.
 - On January 19, staff will present to Council an annual report on senior services from the past 18 months on the community conversations and the outreach to the community. Staff encouraged the Parks Commission and the subcommittee's to attend this meeting.
- b. Public Works Parks Maintenance Division Report: Larry Fisk gave updates on the following:
 - The Tracy Ballpark demolition of the bleachers and the snack shack on the North Diamond.
 - Tracy Sports Complex crews started leveling and removing the lips between the infield and outfield at the Sports complex this week.
 - The Landscape Maintenance District irrigation crews are in the process of repairing some of the irrigation controllers due to the loss of communication.
 - XL Landscape is currently working in various locations on sound walls with trimming of vines and shrubs. The mow schedule is now every other week to help with the channel way landscape by utilizing the mow crew to perform this work.

- West Coast Arborist is currently performing grid pruning in LMD Districts along with responding to emergency tree problem service request.
- The City of Tracy hosted their first Annual Arbor Day event on November 14. Dronero Ct. received 14 Chinese Pastiche trees with the help of residents, Council members, the Tracy Tree Foundation, the Parks Commission, the Tracy Youth Advisory Commission and West Coast Arborist tree crew. Also present was a Master Gardener from the UC Davis Cooperative Extension and a CalFire Forester.
- c. Community Facilities Report – Brian gave the following report:
 - Cal North Soccer Association contacted staff and is interested in hosting a state cup at Plasencia Fields and the sports complex over several weekends during the spring/summer. The association is interested in Tracy because of the central location and our fields are in really good condition. Staff worked with local soccer clubs in rearranging their practice time on the fields. The soccer clubs know how big this event is and are okay with the rearrangements. Staff said this potentially could be a long term relationship with the association and could spill into the Legacy Fields.
 - The concessionaire contract expired on November 30th and staff will be going out for Request for Proposals for a new contract and there are interests from other folks.
 - The field allocations have been going well; the allocations for this year have been split with two 6 month allocations. One down side to allocating fields this year is that staff has seen a higher demand for football fields. Don and Brian will be meeting with facilities at the school district next week to try and find some extra practice fields for a short term solution. The only field the City has for football practice fields is at the Tracy Ball Park, however, Cindy Everhart and her staff has been open to working with the City.
- d. Director Report – Don gave the following updates:
 - The storm preparation Citywide is going very well and staff continues to work in the channelways including renting a long reach excavator to pull out 10 years of mud and debris in the outline areas.
 - Leaf pickup is starting next week.
 - The Tree City USA application is close to completion and once complete it will be signed by the Mayor and sent off before the end of the year and will receive our first Tree City USA flag in the first quarter of next year.
 - The Parks Director position has not been filled and the City will continue the search.
 - The Public Works Director interviews will take place sometime in December.

8. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION:

- Commissioner Jimenez said that she approached a group of young men that she observed skate boarding in the gazebo at Lincoln Park and asked why they weren't at the skate park. They said that it's unsafe with fighting going on and people selling drugs besides it being out of their area. Commissioner Jimenez asked staff if it was possible to have law enforcement drive by throughout the day. Don said that if we proceed down the road for a second skate park then a major component would have to be the site selection and design process. PD, the Parks staff and the skater community would have to give feedback in what's safe in a design. He will also touch base with our neighborhood resource officers.
- Commissioner Jimenez thanked Jolene on behalf of the Board of Directors for attending their Parks Foundation meeting on November 23, and giving a presentation on the 2016 Aquatics programming. The Foundation has a dedicated fund for the Joe Wilson Pool fund for swim lessons for the children who are less fortunate. Also the Foundation serviced all of the refreshments at the Block Parties and was very successful in earning over \$4,000. The Foundation is asking the Parks Commission what is it that they could do to help the City and the community with the funds they have. The next Foundation meeting will be held on January 25, 2016.

9. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

- Jessie Mendez, 2430 W. Martin Road, has skated at El Pescadero Skate Park for four years and said that the skaters in the community have issues on the way the skate park was built and are starting to believe it can't change. He said that he has given up on the skate park and leaves Tracy because of the uneven feel and skates at other parks in other cities. He said that El Pescadero Skate Park has a lot of support from the community whether you are a good skater or not. There are people here that will push you and motivate you to do better. He said that the skating community tries to make the best out of this park due to it being poorly built such as the grinding bars, the uneven pavement and cracks, and such. The park has a bad reputation and is worse now due to a recent article in the paper. He said it's a danger zone and drug attics hang out there especially the homeless once they get their lunch from Interfaith, he understands that there's a high crime rate but maybe a security guard to patrol the park or install lighting to cut down on illegal activities in the evening could change the reputation. He said that he loves El Pescadero Park and the community that is attached to it and brought this forward hoping for a change.
- Conrad Levoit, 95 W. Eleventh St., he reiterated what was said at the Council meeting. If you are caught in the park after dark then it could turn into a misdemeanor and that he feels that the skate park should have lights since the tennis courts and some basketball courts have lights. He said that most kids that get out of school at 3:30 only have about an hour and a half before its dark and it could send them elsewhere. He said if a strategy was in place to keep the park lit then it would be safer.
- Joe Orcutt, 2097 DeBord Dr., said he's a professional skater and has had the opportunity to visit several skate parks in other cities that are all wood with foam pits. He said that if a second skate park was built that there would still be riffraff. The El Pescadero Skate Park is a high used facility and has heard that a community resource officer who makes his presence known is there as an authoritative figure in a helpful way to the kids.
- Robert Tanner, 1371 Rusher St., said that he wanted the Commission to know that this isn't the first time that this issue has come up. A relative of one of the Council members spoke at a Council meeting about the same issues. He said that it keeps coming up and something needs to be done about the cracks.

Commissioner Jimenez thanked the young men who showed up tonight and spoke on behalf of the skate park. She also said that perhaps the City would accept an offer from a non-profit if they would be willing to build a skate park. It might be of interest to the City to look outside to build another skate park.

Vice Chair Douglas asked staff if there was a maintenance schedule for the skate park and Don said yes there was and that staff does go out and make repairs but there are some wear and tear issues and that the park is very antiquated. Don asked staff to make this a regular maintenance check and will reemphasize with staff to keep on top of the maintenance to keep it safe.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

- a. Motion: Commissioner Birk
- b. Second: Commissioner Gouveia
- c. Vote:
- d. Time: 9:02 p.m.