

PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 6, 2016

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chair Levoit called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

- a. Present: Vice Chair Levoit; Commissioners Birk, Johnson, Jimenez, Saltzman
- b. Absent: Chair Douglas, Commissioner Gouveia
- c. Staff Present: Don Scholl, Public Works Director; Larry Fisk, Interim Parks Superintendent; Christine Mabry, Management Analyst;
- d. Recorded By: Sandra Edwards, Executive Assistant

3. **ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

Erik Andersen, 295 Belmont Lane, proposed a future agenda item to discuss a new state-of-the-art skate park in Tracy. Mr. Anderson indicated he had met with Don Scholl and André Pichly regarding the proposal.

4. **APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2016**

- a. Motion: Commissioner Birk made a motion to approve the Minutes of September 1, 2016, as modified
- b. Second: Commissioner Johnson
- c. Abstain: None
- d. Vote: Approved by unanimous vote

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Parks and Community Services Commission Goals
 - i. Support Efficient Policies – No update provided
 - ii. Community Involvement – No update provided
 - iii. Park, Facility, and Sports Field Safety – The Legacy Fields ribbon cutting ceremony was mentioned.

6. **ITEMS FROM STAFF:**

- a. Receive Comments and Provide Input Regarding the El Pescadero Tracy Dog Park – Don Scholl, Public Works Director provided the staff report.

Linda Steffens, 388 Cose Lane, provided a handout to the Commission, and outlined various needs at the park including: replacing sprinklers, replacing grass, spraying for foxtails, tree service, and additional work on the fence. Ms. Steffens provided a sample of artificial (dog friendly) turf, a sample of mulch that was recently added to the park, and gave a donation of \$205 toward the purchase of additional trees. Ms. Steffens requested additional items such as moving the signs listing dog park rules, an obstacle course for the small dog side, a canopy to protect dog owners from inclement weather, handicap access, no smoking in park, and a water feature for hot days.

Linda Jimenez joined the Commission at 7:18 p.m.

The Commissioners discussed artificial turf, bids, and Capital Improvement Projects.

Mr. Scholl outlined infrastructure challenges, the process for Capital Improvement Projects, and funding.

The Commission also discussed foxtails, partnering with non-profits, a second dog park, a shade structure, and painting the benches.

Mr. Scholl added that staff has been doing their best to address some of the concerns, and will continue those efforts.

- b. Review and Recommend Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) Funding Priorities through Fiscal Year 2021-2022 for Adoption by City Council - Josh Ewen, Management Analyst, provided the staff report.

The Commission discussed the number of homeless people, added police personnel to address the needs of homeless by providing information on where housing is and where resources are.

Ana Contreras, Code Enforcement Manager, discussed Operation Helping Hands which provides homeless individuals with information on how to make a life style change.

The Commission discussed the pros and cons of ranking various groups and upon consensus, made a recommendation to Council that the CDBG and HOME funding priorities are adopted as follows in priority rank order through FY 2021-2022:

CDBG Public Services Category:

- (1) Food Distribution Services
- (2) Homelessness Prevention, Intervention and Transitional Housing Services
- (3) Senior and Special Needs Services
- (4) Domestic Violence Services
- (5) Youth Education and Enrichment Services

CDBG Public Facilities/Improvements Category:

- (1) Public Parks and Facilities
- (2) Removal of Architectural Barriers (ADA)

HOME:

- (1) Address issues of public safety, health and welfare;
- (2) Rehabilitate residential properties occupied by low income persons; and,
- (3) Partner to construct income restricted family and senior housing facilities.

Motion: Commissioner Johnson

Second: Commissioner Saltzman

Opposed: None

Vote: Approved by unanimous decision

- c. Review and Provide Input on Revised City of Tracy Sports Field Rental Handbook - Christine Mabry, Management Analyst, provided the staff report along with a copy of the revised Handbook.

The Commission discussed fees compared to surrounding cities and sunflower seed nuisances.

Robert Tanner, 1371 Rusher Street, referred the Commission to page nine of the handbook stating tournament fees were the same for the premier and regular fields.

The Commission accepted the report.

7. ITEMS FROM STAFF

- a. Parks & Recreation Director Report – Don Scholl, Public Works Director, reported that the CPRS Conference is coming up and the early bird registration deadline is October 14. Regarding the skate park, Mr. Scholl asked if the Commission wants to see it on a future agenda. Commissioner Levoit stated he would like to see it on an agenda.
- b. Recreation Division Report – Report was included as part of the agenda packet.
- c. Community Facilities Division Report – No report given.
- d. Public Works Parks Maintenance Division Report
 1. Parks Division Update – Don Scholl, Public Works Director, stated they will be planting trees at the dog park; celebrating Arbor Day at Lincoln Park at 9:00 a.m., on October 22, which will include a short presentation, representatives from Cal Fire, the Youth Advisory Commission, and an arborist who will be planting 15 trees at Lincoln Park and many more throughout Tracy.

Larry Fisk gave the following update:

- Pre-emergent spraying in General Fund Parks has begun.
- Tracy Sports complex crew has been busy with aerating, mowing, and field preps for adult league softball and tournaments. They have also been working on the General Fund Parks with batter box repacking, pitchers mounds and leveling when time allows.
- As of October, City crews took over maintenance of the four Babe Ruth Fields at Legacy Fields, along with parking lot medians, and non-landscaped areas.
- Parks crew has been busy with general maintenance in all parks. There have been a few repairs done at the dog park at El Pescadero; mainly at the bottom of the fence by putting in boards. There are plans to relocate the benches in the dog park, as well as plant 10 trees throughout the big dog section of the park and a couple in the smaller dog park.
- Landscape Maintenance irrigation crew is continually working on irrigation.
- XL Landscape continues to move forward in getting all the parks and street scapes mowed, edged, trash picked up, and shrubs trimmed.
- West Coast Arborist has been grid trimming in the older part of downtown residential area at Tenth Street and Central Avenue, the Downtown Plaza and will be working on the Civic Center in the next couple of weeks.

8. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION:

- Commissioner Johnson asked if any work was underway to plant trees at Legacy Fields to block the wind. Mr. Scholl stated currently there was no funding, and will be looking for grant applications for next year.
- Commissioner Jimenez stated she was impressed with the dog owners' packet of information and the community outreach that is taking place.
- Commissioner Saltzman stated she was glad that the Commission has an opportunity to provide input regarding non-profit distribution of funds.
- Commissioner Birk stated he was proud of the City of Tracy cemetery that was named number one in California.
- Commissioner Johnson announced that the West Side Pioneers Museum was having a free event on Saturday, October 15, including civil war re-enactments and crafts for kids between 10 a.m., and 2:00 p.m., at 1141 Adam Street.
- Vice Chair Levoit shared the South Side Community Organization's event held on September 11, 2016. Vice Chair Levoit voiced his frustration regarding those who paid to be a part of the event and those who did not pay to be part of the event, referring to mobile vendors (carts). Vice Chair Levoit asked if smoking at parks could be reported. Don Scholl stated in all practicality it would not be enforced based on police priorities. Mr. Scholl stated he would follow up with an email back to the Commission.

9. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

10. ADJOURNMENT:

- a. Motion: Saltzman
- b. Second: Johnson
- c. Vote: Unanimous
- d. Time: 9:25 p.m.

Staff Liaison