



MINUTES
CITY OF NORCO
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS-2820 CLARK AVENUE
JANUARY 12, 2009

1. CALL TO ORDER: 6:31 PM
2. ROLL CALL: Chair Bash, Vice Chair Hallam, Commissioners Boyle, Holder, and Wagner.
Staff: Director Petree, Superintendent Wyrick, Superintendent Anglin, Supervisor Potter, Executive Secretary Dickson, Deputy City Clerk Germain
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Bash
4. PRESENTATION/S
 - A. Kevin Bash – For his years of service to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Director Petree presented Chair Bash a plaque on behalf of the Commission and staff for his nine years of service to the City of Norco on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS: **None**
6. ACTION ITEMS:
 - A. Selection of Parks and Recreation Commission Chair and Vice Chair

Director Petree reviewed the process of selecting a Chair and Vice Chair as it is done annually in July but due to the resignation of Chair Bash a new Chair and Vice Chair must be selected at this time to fill the vacancy until July of 2009.

In response to Commissioner Boyle, Director Petree explained that the Chair and Vice Chair are more ceremonial type of positions; additional time availability by the chosen Chair is not necessarily needed any more than any other Commissioner but is beneficial as issues may come up prior to a regular meeting.

M/S BASH / HOLDER to nominate Vice Chair Hallam for Chair and Commissioner Wagner as Vice Chair

AYES: HALLAM, WAGNER, BOYLE, HOLDER, BASH
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE

B. Approval of Youth Sports Agreement for Norco Little League – Recreation Supervisor Potter

Supervisor Potter reviewed the Youth Sports Agreement for the Norco Little League for its upcoming 2009 season, set to begin on February 1, 2009. This agreement was prepared to certain specifics to this organization.

In response to Commissioner Boyle's concern regarding the new Board of Directors of the Norco Little League understanding the standards within this agreement, Supervisor Potter assured him that staff had met with the Norco Little League and the Norco Girls Softball League to review the details of this agreement to make sure each organization understood and felt comfortable with all the information.

Vice Chair Wagner is very pleased with this new agreement and commended the staff on a great job in improving this document which covers all areas of concern.

In response to Commissioner Bash, Director Petree stated that any damages to the fields which would incur costs to the City would be billed back to the Association (NLL). The costs of cleaning the restrooms are also shared with the Association (NLL).

Discussion ensued regarding the posting of the Association's bylaws and the availability of its financial reports to the public at large.

Commissioner Holder recommended that the Norco Little League, and other Associations using the City's facilities, post its bylaws on the bulletin board outside the snack bar.

M/S BASH / WAGNER to approve the Youth Sports Facility Agreement for Norco Little League

AYES: HALLAM, WAGNER, BOYLE, HOLDER, BASH

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

7. A. Equestrian Safety Seminar Update – Commissioner Holder

Commissioner Holder stated that due to high winds the event scheduled on January 11, 2009 was cancelled. She suggested that a new date be scheduled, possibly after April.

CONSENT CALENDAR

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 8, 2008 – **Approved the minutes of the meeting as written; Vice Chair Wagner abstained from approving the minutes as she was absent on December 8, 2008.**

9. SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT – ITEMS 9.1. – 9.19: **Received and Filed.**

10. CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL ITEMS

A. **None**

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

M/S HALLAM/ BASH to approve the consent calendar

AYES: HALLAM, BOYLE, HOLDER, BASH

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: WAGNER

11. COMMISSION ONGOING BUSINESS

A. Ingalls Park:

Director Petree updated the Commission regarding Phase I of the construction; the contract is to be awarded on February 1, 2009. He reviewed all areas and buildings which will be affected. He stated if all goes as planned this first phase should be done at the beginning of May, 2009.

Director Petree shared with the Commission that a staff report will be presented to the Council at its next meeting regarding the surplus of any valuable items such as the box stalls, etc.; staff will recommend that these items be auctioned off or disposed of. Director Petree also noted that staff will be working closely with all the groups who have events scheduled during the construction period to help ease this inconvenience.

B. Animal Shelter Expansion:

Staff is meeting Wednesday, January 14, 2009 with the architect; the first round plan check will be turned in shortly and the Director expects to have this first phase out to bid by the end of next month.

C. 122 Acre Development:

This item is going to the Planning Commission at its meeting of January 14, 2009 to certify and finalize conditions to the EIR before it is forwarded to the City Council. Director Petree explained that once the City Council has certified the EIR the construction documents can begin on the project.
Discussion continued.

D. Walking Horse Estates / SunCal / Norco Ridge Ranch-Park Improvements:

Director Petree informed the Commission that the City Council has approved the Walking Horse Estates – Lot H, named Ridge Ranch Park. This should be out to bid by February or March of this year.

In response to Commissioner Bash, Director Petree reviewed the process in having a park or part of to be dedicated to an individual. The remainder of the Commission had no questions or comments.

E. Cultural and Fine Arts Programming: NONE

F. Teen Programming and Teen Center: NONE

G. U.N.L.O.A.D. Program:

Chair Hallam gave an update to the Commission.

H. Norco Hills Conservancy:

Commissioner Bash corrected the above listed name to be "Norco Regional Conservancy".

He updated the Commission on the current status of the Lake Norconian Hotel property. The Conservancy is very concerned with the lack of upkeep of the hotel building by the State; adding that if it should fall into more disrepair it could be taken off the National Register of Historical Landmarks.

As to the Navy portion of the property, a historic survey/study is being done to see if there is any historic significance to this area of the property; as well as determine if they should lease portion of the 130 acres or surplus it. This could present a great opportunity for the City to save the historic pavilion and surrounding buildings, as well as bring in revenue.

Further information was discussed.

I. Veterans Memorial:

Director Petree advised that this item was added at the request of Commissioner Bash; stating that this commission has supported in the past a recognition program to the City of Norco's Veterans by possibly dedicating public facilities. Ingalls Park is a location being looked at to have a kiosk placed there to recognize our veterans. Another location being suggested is in front of the Norco Library, a patriotic memorial could be done. The Director did suggest that these memorials be done in a high traffic area for all to enjoy.

12. DISCUSSION OF REMOVED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS: **NONE**

13. OTHER MATTERS:

A. Grant Program Santa Ana River Trail and Parkway Update:

Director Petree reviewed a letter received from the State Department of Parks and Recreation which provided notice that the State Pooled Money Investment Board voted to freeze all bond-related payment for grants, including those funded out of Prop 12 - 40; as well as Prop 84 which has bond money set aside for the development of the Santa Ana River Trail. Director Petree reviewed additional stats on the mentioned freeze and how it could affect this project.

Director Petree shared with the Commission that even though this is occurring the EIR process has begun; this is a joint venture between the City of Norco, the County of Riverside and the City of Corona. As a group, they hired the EIR consultant, an architecture firm and an engineering firm to begin the process.

Staff will keep the Commission posted when updates are available.

Chair Hallam requested if the Commission has any further items to bring up for staff before adjourning the meeting.

In response to Commissioner Boyle, Director Petree stated that the current state of economy has affected a few areas of revenue/programs which in turn affect staffing. There have been decrease activity in some program areas but there also has been new activity in new programs which should make up for the negative.

Further discussion ensued.

Director Petree shared that Elizabeth Price of Rivertrails Riding Stables has given notice to terminate her agreement at the stables; staff will prepare an RFP/Q requesting for any interested parties wishing to operate the riding stables.

Director Petree also gave an update on the 2009 Western Art Show. Staff has evaluated the number of sponsorships as well as entrees and has determined this year's show be cancelled. Staff will be looking at options for the future of the Western Art Show.

Director Petree proudly shared that the Pikes Peak Park received the 2008 Award of Excellence from the California Parks and Recreation Society. This is the top honor given to a community for its programs, services and facilities. Pikes Peak Park is also being considered for the "Creating Community Award" to be announced later this month.

Commissioner Holder asked for an update on the future of the Norco Valley Fair. Director Petree shared with the Commission that a meeting has been scheduled between the Norco Chamber and Mayor Azevedo regarding the future of the Norco Valley Fair. The director reminded the Commission that the City is not involved in running the fair; it only leases the property at Ingalls Park to the Chamber. Discussion continued.

Director Petree stated he would forward the Commission's comments to the City Manager's office regarding the Parks and Recreation Commission's concerns about the Norco Chamber running the Norco Valley Fair, stating the Chamber is besmirching the City of Norco name.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

M/S BASH / HALLAM to adjourn at 8:01 pm

AYES: HALLAM, WAGNER, BOYLE, HOLDER, BASH

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Diane Germain, Deputy City Clerk

/di-71354