



MINUTES
CITY OF NORCO
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS-2820 CLARK AVENUE
JUNE 8, 2009

1. CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 PM
2. ROLL CALL

Chair Hallam, Commissioners, Boyle, Holder and Wagner.
Commissioner Adams – Absent
Staff: Director Petree, Superintendents Anglin, Wyrick, Supervisor Brandie Potter, Specialist Jessica Hochderffer
Executive Secretary Jo Ann Dickson

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. PRESENTATION/S
A. None
5. PUBLIC COMMENTS
6. **ACTION ITEMS**
A. None

Commissioner Wagner

COMMITTEE REPORTS

7. A. Neighborhood Park Arena Use Update – Director Petree informed the Commission that last week the Sub Committee met to discuss guidelines for the local neighborhood arenas. He noted that the neighborhood arenas operate differently than Moreno Arena. The Director stated that the Committee will be meeting with the horse clubs to discuss the guidelines. Commissioner Adams along with Superintendent went on a tour of the arenas and happened to come across the resident who is using the Pacer Park arena. According to both the Superintendent and Commissioner Adams, the story varies from what they had been told regarding the neighbor who complained.

Commissioner Holder reiterated that the Commissioners from the Sub Committee will be meeting with the local clubs. Commissioner Boyle asked about #17 on the list of Guidelines. The Director noted that staff has the responsibility to uphold the Norco Municipal Code if they become aware or see someone not wearing the helmet.

Commissioner Wagner also noted that if the City knew of someone not wearing a riding helmet, and ignored that factor, should the youth get injured, the City would be held liable. These guidelines are what should be posted for all to note before using an arena.

Chair Hallam stated he feels that the guidelines as listed are an important tool, and once the Committee has met with the local horse clubs, he is sure the information will be brought back for Commissions recommendation.

B. Tobacco-Free Parks Update – Superintendent Anglin informed the Commission that based on the recent request from the U.N.L.O.A.D. Committee, the Parks and Recreation Commission discussed at the regular meeting held on May 11, 2009 the concept of smoke-free environments within City parks with the exception of the George Ingalls Equestrian Event Center. The matter was referred to the Sub-Committee for further discussion and was to be brought back to Commission for recommendation.

Superintendent Anglin noted that on May 20, 2009, staff met with Sub-Committee Member Adams and Hallam regarding the issues that revolve around smoking and tobacco use in public parks. The Sub Committee agreed that most parks involve youth activities and playgrounds, and the objective of creating an ordinance for tobacco-free environments sends a clear message of social responsibility which helps promote healthier lifestyles.

An ordinance goal would be to prohibit smoking or use of any tobacco product around youth in a park setting. The Sub Committee's question arises, asking if it means within the boundaries of public parks within the City or otherwise referred to as "curb to curb"? Would it reflect activities surrounding playgrounds or playing fields only?

The Superintendent stated that the ordinance could allow for signs to be posted in the park and recreation areas notifying people of the respective section of the Norco Municipal Code which establishes this prohibition. Understanding that enforcement of a smoke-free ordinance is unrealistic due to lack of resources, it can be used as an awareness tool to promote a healthier lifestyle.

The Sub Committee reiterated that although the recognized youth sports groups who utilize Wayne Makin Sports Complex have internal policies prohibiting the use of tobacco in the play area, verbiage will be created and included in their respective Youth Sports Agreement. Each organization's permitted use will be held accountable to help educate and enforce the terms and conditions as it pertains to a tobacco-free facility. This ordinance would exclude the George Ingalls Equestrian Event Center.

At this time, the Sub-Committee and staff, is asking for feedback and direction from the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding tobacco-free parks.

Chair Hallam stated that the UNLOAD committee was formed only to help prevent underage youth from using alcohol and drugs. Chair Hallam also noted that he is a smoker, but he is in favor of an ordinance that would ban smoking in all parks within the City of Norco.

Chair Hallam informed the Commission that Commissioner Adams observed coaches smoking during a ballgame.

Commissioner Holder stated she is still wondering how this will be enforced. She noted that if an ordinance is created that it should be a strictly no smoking policy at any park.

Superintendent Anglin stated that the youth organizations at Wayne Makin do enforce a no smoking policy.

Discussion followed. Director Petree asked if smokeless tobacco also would be included in the possible ordinance. It was noted that yes, it would include all tobacco products.

Commissioner Boyle stated that he can endorse an ordinance, but feels it should be for all facilities including Ingalls Park. He noted he is looking at the public consensus about where you can smoke and feels it would not be fair not to include Ingalls Park in the smoking ban.

Commissioner Wagner stated she would endorse the "curb to curb" policy for the ordinance and that it must include all tobacco parks. Commissioner Wagner noted that Ingalls is an event center and would exclude it from the ordinance.

Director Petree informed the Commission that this item will be returning to Commission with a "draft" ordinance.

C. AYSO Youth Sports Agreement – Supervisor Potter advised the Commission that each year the Youth Sports Facility Agreement is reviewed for any necessary revisions before issuing permits for the use of fields for the youth sports organizations. Staff met with American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) Commissioner, Luis Cabral on Wednesday, May 13, 2009 to confer regarding the needed changes to this year's agreement. Sub-Committee Member Boyle has reviewed these changes from the previous agreement and is supportive of this action.

Supervisor Potter noted that the Youth Sports Facility Agreement has been prepared with modifications to reflect that any vandalism, graffiti, or repairs that are necessary during the term of the agreement are solely the responsibility of the organization, and noted that staff will meet with AYSO and obtain their President's signature on the Agreements which will bind them to the guidelines, terms and conditions in which they must fulfill and comply with in exchange for use of Wayne Makin/Shearer Sports Complex.

Superintendent Potter again noted that the details to the Agreement are specific to this organization and its purpose is that of a working tool. Staff will continue to evaluate the content and value of the Agreement each year as it pertains to AYSO and their use at the above mentioned facilities.

Supervisor Potter advised the Commission that staff will be moving toward execution of the agreement by July 27, 2009.

Commissioner Boyle asked if there is an estimate of cost for AYSO. Supervisor Potter stated at this time there is no estimated costs associated as of yet. Commissioner Holder asked why they wanted to use the facility so much more this year. Supervisor Potter stated that they want to have the select team and tournaments to host at this point.

D. Recreation and Leisure Programs Update – Superintendent Anglin informed the Commission that in an effort to provide residents with low-cost, local fun-filled family oriented activities, staff has been working on developing two new programs that the community can experience. Superintendent Anglin turned the discussion over to Specialist Hochderffer.

Ms. Hochderffer stated that staff has researched other cities on details and logistics, and found that the majority of programs are funded through the General Fund. Specialist Hochderffer noted that understanding the City of Norco General Fund cannot support new programming which is not self-supportive, new programs would only be possible if monetary donations and volunteers are secured. A few ideas for the new family oriented programs could possibly be: A concert in the park summer series (jazz, pop, etc, and geo-caching. Geo-caching, would be run as a “treasure hunt” “scavenger hunt” where they participants look within the City by GPS for places/things they didn’t know existed and learn about the City. Other ideas for programming which are being discussed are movies in the park, astronomy nights (which she has spoken with an organization in Riverside that hosts these types of events) and family fun days.

Chair Hallam asked what is geo-caching. Superintendent Anglin further explained the idea behind the idea. Discussion followed.

Specialist Hochderffer informed the Commission that staff will continue to work with Committee Members to solidify program elements and keep them informed of updates as they arise.

Commissioner Boyle noted that the Committee is also looking in to other bands and bands from Fender. Chair Hallam stated that there is an organization that came to the last UNLOAD meeting called VOICES that could possibly help provide music for events.

CONSENT CALENDAR

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 11, 2009
9. SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT – ITEMS 9.1. – 9.12

COMMISSION INFORMATION

10. CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL ITEMS
 - A. Approval of a Three Year Lease Agreement Renewal with the California Finals Rodeo – Approved
 - B. Approval of a One Year Lease Agreement between the City of Norco and the Norco Chamber of Commerce for the 2009 Norco Valley Fair - Approved

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

M/S HOLDER/WAGNER to approve the Consent Calendar

AYES: BOYLE, HALLAM, HOLDER, WAGNER

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: ADAMS

ABSTAIN: NONE

11. COMMISSION ONGOING BUSINESS
 - A. Ingalls Park – There is a report under Other Matters regarding this project. Approximately 3.2 million dollars to fund this project
 - B. Animal Shelter Expansion
 - C. Silverlakes/Belstarr - Project/Timeline Update, Director Petree noted the term agreement is with the attorneys. They are looking at a 50-year lease with a 40-year renewal. July 18, 2009 is tentative groundbreaking, which will be a small event due to the egress and ingress of the property. Then followed by a celebration at the Community Center.
 - D. Norco Ridge Ranch Park
 - E. Cultural and Fine Arts Programming
 - F. Teen Programming and Teen Center – Update, Superintendent Anglin – teen pool party, June 12. Teen Volunteer program going dark for the summer. The teens have been asked to work at the August rodeo.
 - G. U.N.L.O.A.D. Program – Chair Hallam noted only one meeting left for UNLOAD until summer when the Committee goes dark and will return holding meetings in the Fall.
 - H. Norco Hills Conservancy
12. **DISCUSSION OF REMOVED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS.**
13. **OTHER MATTERS**
 - A. Parmenter Park Restroom Update – Superintendent Anglin informed the Commission that they are still working on the restroom project. Due to the water flow, it has had to be moved to another location on the property. They are

looking at the old snack bar area to build the new restroom. The restroom will be visible from the street for security purposes.

B. Norco Mustang Trail Challenge – Director Petree discussed the Challenge with the Commission and that there has been talk that Buzz did not deserve to win due to the mustang that was given to him had been adopted by another trainer. That animal was relinquished by the owner and was turned back over to the BLM and was release back into the wild. The BLM and the Mustang Foundation has noted that the Award of Champion remains with Buzz, and noted that the animal had not been trained.

There is also controversy that the City gave Buzz special time for him to practice with his Mustang. None of these rumors are true. The Director wanted to make it perfectly clear that staff did not give preferential treatment to any trainer that was involved with the Mustang Challenge.

Commission discussion continued. Commissioner Boyle asked where the horses came from and it was noted by Commissioner Holder that the horses came from all over the U.S. There were also eight mares with foal, and dropped out of the Challenge for various reasons.

Discussion continued.

C. Update on Animal Control Expansion Project – Director Petree informed the Commission that on May 21, 2009, a meeting with Renee Power and Dominic (RKA-Civil Engineer) took place to discuss the relocation of the new bird aviary due to concern that the aviary will be too visible from Sixth Street in the current location. The new aviary location will require shifting the new parking lot toward the north.

On May 28, 2009 a conference call took place with Dominic (RKA), Trent (RKA) and Kathy Oswalt (GMID – Architect) to discuss and revise the site layout to shift Garage Building ‘F’ due to conflict with existing underground storm drain line.

On June 1, 2009 revised plans to be provided to landscape architect for landscape design drawing and to the electrical engineer for revision to the site lighting to accommodate new parking lot location. Conceptual civil engineering drawings are complete and the engineer will proceed with completion of grading and utility plans.

Coordination and completion of final construction documents is in process as well as updated construction estimates based upon the current revised site improvements.

Commissioner Wagner asked what the problem is and why the aviary needed to be moved. The Director noted that they did not want to public too close to the

aviaries, due to throwing items at the birds, and keeping a distance from the aviary, etc.

Commissioner Boyle spoke about the recent newspaper article with regards to the statement that was made by Councilmember Hall regarding the article about the shutting down of recreation facilities. He informed Commission that he emailed Councilmember Hall regarding the statement and also noted how hard the staff in our department works, including weekends, and special events, and how closing any facility could hurt the youth of the community.

Chair Hallam also noted that he spoke with Councilmember Hall after the recent Council meeting with regards to the statement made. Councilmember Hall reiterated to Chair Hallam that the statement was taken out of context.

Commissioner Holder stated that this is the time for the Council to reconsider concessioning out Ingalls Park, due to the economic times in the City. The Director noted that he is to meet with the local groups regarding this item, and noted that this item will be brought back to not only Commission, but the City Council. The Director stated that he is not sure that at this time this is something Council will deal with due to other imperative ongoing issues.

Chair Hallam said that money is the issue for all City departments at this time and feels that Silverlakes will help keep the City afloat during difficult times.

Superintendent Anglin informed the Commission that NHS Girls Softball won CIF. The boy's volleyball team did very well, but lost the state.

Seven boys will be going to the Jr. Bull Riders will be going to the National Championship event at the end of July.

Commissioner Holder announced that NHA will be holding bull riding event in July for Jr. Bull riders, and pro bull riders. The Director announced that Chris Cox will be coming to Ingalls Park to host an event.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S WAGNER/HOLDER to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. to the Commission meeting on Monday, July 13, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

AYES: BOYLE, HALLAM, HOLDER, WAGNER

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: ADAMS

ABSTAIN: NONE

Jo Ann Dickson, Executive Secretary