

CITY OF YUBA
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES

Regular Meeting
February 20, 2008 – 5:30 p.m.
Conference Room – Littlejohn/Madden House
1300 Franklin Road, Yuba City

I. CALL TO ORDER

II.

The City of Yuba City Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Blake at 5:32 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Recreation Department.

III. ROLL CALL

IV.

Commissioners Present:

Michele Blake, Richard Garmire, Lynne Koll, Clarine Musfelt and Vaughn Minnix

Commissioners Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Gary Marler, Parks Manager, Tim Duvall, Parks Supervisor, Barbara Gilmore - Administrative Assistant and Vicky Stoller with General Services

V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A. Chairperson

Chairperson Blake opened nominations. Commissioner Koll nominated Chairperson Blake for another term as Chairperson, with Commissioner Garmire seconding the motion. Chairperson Blake accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed. Chairperson Blake was unanimously voted Chairperson.

B. Vice-Chairperson

Commissioner Koll nominated Commissioner Musfelt for Vice-Chairperson, with Commissioner Minnix seconding the motion. Commissioner Musfelt accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed. Commissioner Musfelt was unanimously voted Vice-Chairperson.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. January 16, 2008 Regular Meeting – Copy submitted

Commissioner Minnix moved to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2008 Regular Meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Musfelt, and passed unanimously.

VI APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

Public comment was invited regarding items of interest within the City's jurisdiction whether or not agendaized for this meeting. No public comments were offered.

VII. BUSINESS FOR THE COMMISSION

A. Playground Equipment Presentations for Holly Tree Park

Tim Duvall, Parks Supervisor, introduced himself to the Parks and Recreation Commission, thanking them for participating in this process.

Vicky Stoller with General Services introduced herself to the Commission. She stated that her department put together the binders and scoring packets for the Playground Equipment Presentations. She further stated that there are six vendors who will be giving a 15 minute presentation, which includes questions and answer time. Ms. Stoller asked the Commissioners to leave their scoring sheets with Ms. Gilmore at the end of the meeting. Once the results are tallied, she stated she would send the Commissioners the results.

Vendors making presentations were: All About Play featuring Little Tikes; NSP³ featuring Playworld Systems; Playgrounds by Design featuring Play & Park Structures; Playsolutions featuring Progressive Design Playgrounds and Playland; Ross Recreation featuring Landscape Structures; and Miracle Recreation Equipment Company. Each vendor featured two distinct pieces of playground equipment for the different ages – 2 to 5 year olds and 5 to 12 year olds. Some of the presentations did not separate the two areas from each other, which is preferred by the City for safety reasons; however, Mr. Marler stated it would not be a problem to separate any of the equipment to obtain these areas.

Mr. Duvall stated that staff will be pouring the concrete containment curbs for the playground equipment after the design is selected, then the play equipment will be placed in those boundaries. The play areas will be located in the southwest corner of the park so a large grassy area is left for open play use. All of the playground equipment presented held a climbing structure of some type and platform type structures. Ross Recreation had a very unique play structure called Evos, which had a more futuristic look to it with more of a cable climbing structure versus platform structures.

After the presentations, Ms. Stoller asked the Commission to complete their scoring of the equipment and leave their binders with Ms. Gilmore. She stated they would be picked up tomorrow and, after the scores were tallied, she would e-mail the results to the Commissioners.

B. Staff Report – Tim Duvall, Parks Supervisor

Mr. Duvall gave the Commissioners information on his experiences with each of the vendors:

All About Play – The City has several playground structures purchased through them and works with them often. This company is the least responsive of four of the companies making presentations, with Mr. Duvall stating they don't return phones called promptly, which can add 2-3 weeks on to repairs. He stated there can be a six-week turn around time if a part for the slide is needed, as they get these parts from back east. He feels six weeks is a long time to have a playground closed down for the public.

Park Associates (NPS³) – The City has one structure (Regency Park) and he has not had to order replacement parts from them, so he does not know how it would be to work with them should a replacement/repair be needed. He stated they are in the area and check in quite often.

Playgrounds by Design – The City has no experience with them, but this vendor kept reassuring the Commission about their customer service and how important it is to them.

Playsolutions – This was Mr. Duvall’s first experience with this company/representative, and he was unprofessional throughout the whole process.

Ross Recreation Equipment (Landscape Structures) – Chris Tait is very professional and there is always someone there to answer the phone at his office when you call. Should there be a problem, he will come out to the site and assist in solving the problem. Gary stated he is very good about warranty items – if its close he never questions it.

Miracle Recreation Equipment – Lloyd Park was the City’s first playground with them and they have been very responsive with problems that have arisen. Gary stated that Gauche Park had Miracle Recreation Equipment prior to the renovation and when all of the ADA rules came into effect, the representative at that time was of no help. The people running the business now appear to be very helpful.

Commissioner Minnix asked that, given the experience with the type of equipment the City has at this time, what would be best for Yuba City, as far as purchasing, etc. Mr. Marler stated that Landscape Structures has been very good. The City is just beginning to get back in with Miracle, and they have been very good to work with, also. Miracle is huge in the business, as is Landscape Structures. The City has approximately seven parks with Landscape Structures play equipment. Mr. Marler stated that something the City would like to do is minimize the number of manufacturers they deal with, as inventory can be expensive, and trying to deal with too many vendors can become cumbersome. It would be nice to keep it to 2-3 vendors they have to work with.

Discussion ensued regarding the different types of equipment and Commissioner Garmire stated he would like to see the City do something a little bit different in one of the parks someday, like the Evos structure Ross Recreation Equipment presented. Mr. Marler stated staff is trying to make each park a little unique and not be the “traditional” playground equipment. Commissioner Minnix stated he has a concern regarding center posts and holding up in the winds. Mr. Duvall stated the City has not had any problem with them in the past.

X. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

A. Parks & Recreation Reports – Brad McIntire

Mr. Marler gave the report for Brad McIntire. He stated at this time staff is working on the CIP projects:

- Parks Master Plan – The City is approximately 40% into the plan at this time. Staff is getting their standards and other information gathered to give to Carter & Burgess to incorporate into the plan.
- Holly Tree Park - Pending the presentation tonight
- Kingwood Park - Adding a perimeter sidewalk around the facility and bocce ball courts. This project will be completed this Spring.
- West Detention Pond – Working on safety issues so irrigation and turf can be installed at that location.

Ms. Gilmore gave the Recreation Report

- Deadlines for Mighty Mite Soccer and Track & Field were held recently, with approximately 200 registering in each program. The Might Mite Soccer program is brand new this year and staff is very please with this outcome.
- Adult Softball deadline is tomorrow. More information will be available at the next meeting.

Commissioner Minnix asked if there has been any feedback on Gauche Aquatic Park and the new playground area. Mr. Duvall stated there are a lot of people who frequent the park.

Ms. Gilmore informed the Commission that the facility was opened on February 11th for programs – Water Walking, Lap Swim, FRAC, Yuba City High School swimming, and Masters Swim. There are daily users of the facility for these programs. The temperature of the water at this time is 81 degrees. Everyone seems very happy with the facility. The classroom has been rented for two occasions in the near future, and staff is anticipating more rentals for the facility. The department is in the process of hiring part-time staff (approximately 30 staff), and the Customer Service staff is being trained on the new system.

Now that people are actually seeing the facility being used, more people are coming out to take a look at the facility. Mr. Marler stated there hasn't been a lot of vandalism yet, and there are neighbors surrounding the park who are keeping an eye out for the City.

Commissioner Koll stated she had been at Sam Brannan Park and complimented staff on the tennis courts. She said she had seen bicycles in the Skate Park and the skateboarders and bicyclists were sharing the facility. She asked if the park is separated for those two uses, and Mr. Marler informed her that bicyclists are not supposed to be in the facility, but this is not enforced. There is signage to this effect.

The Commission was informed that the Tobacco Ordinance will be presented to the City Council on March 4th. The Commission will be kept informed on this issue.

Commissioner Koll asked about the demolition of the Sam Brannan pool, and Mr. Marler stated all the paperwork is being put into place and once all this is completed, the demolition would begin.

B. Agenda Items for the Next Commission Meeting

Chairperson asked if the Park Master Plan would be on the next agenda, and Ms. Gilmore stated she would check with Mr. McIntire.

XI. TREE ADVISORY BOARD

During the recent storms, the City lost a 150 year old oak tree in the island at Hastings Way and Bogue Road. This tree had been losing branches for some time now, and it became a hazard to leave standing. At this time Mr. Duvall is working with a hardwood company who would like to purchase the trunk of the tree. An older Chinese Elm tree was also lost at Lloyd Park.

XII. NEXT COMMISSION DATE

Regular Meeting – March 19, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. – Littlejohn Madden House, 1300 Franklin Road, Yuba City.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Blake adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Marler
Parks Manager

GM/bg