

CITY OF YUBA
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES

Regular Meeting
May 21, 2008 – 5:30 p.m.
Conference Room – Littlejohn/Madden House
1300 Franklin Road, Yuba City

I. CALL TO ORDER

The City of Yuba City Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Blake at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Recreation Department.

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present:

Michele Blake, Richard Garmire, Clarine Musfelt and Vaughn Minnix

Commissioners Absent:

Lynne Koll,

Staff Present:

Gary Marler, Public Works Superintendent and Barbara Gilmore, Administrative Assistant

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 16, 2008 Regular Meeting – Copy submitted

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

V. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

Public comment was invited regarding items of interest within the City's jurisdiction whether or not agendized for this meeting.

Tony Blackwell and Sam Uriarte with Yuba/Sutter Civic Community Group were present, stating they are a bridge between the citizens of the community and the local government. Mr. Blackwell stated they are interested in the Youth Commission and wondered if his group could help to recruit youth for the Commission. He further stated he is interested in getting a Boys & Girls Club going in the area. Mr. Blackwell has an investor who is interested in funding a club locally and is at this meeting to see what the plans and interest of the Parks & Recreation Department is in this endeavor. Commissioner Garmire asked if this should be referred to Brad McIntire, and Mr. Marler said he would do this. Commissioner Garmire stated he feels there is a need to get youth involved in as many things as possible to keep them busy.

Mr. Blackwell stated he is trying to introduce a pilot program in the school system for cost and consequences of crime in the community. Chairperson Blake thanked Mr. Blackwell and Mr. Uriarte, and stated she had a contact that runs a Boys & Girls Club in Sacramento. Mr. Blackwell stated he knows of this contact and had visited that facility. Mr. Blackwell gave his contact information.

A discussion ensued regarding the number of members of the Youth Commission and ages. Ms. Gilmore informed those present that one of the criteria is the youth have to be a City of Yuba City resident in order to serve on the Commission. The recruitment process was also discussed.

VI. BUSINESS FOR THE COMMISSION

A. Park Master Plan

Matt Mathes with Jacobs Carter Burgess went over information for the June 18th, 2008 Community Workshop. The goal of this workshop is to get comments from the community as to what they would like to see in the city parks system now and in the future.

Mr. Mathes stated the Commission would meet for their regular meeting on June 18th, and then adjourn to the Community Workshop. He is estimating the meeting to be 1 ½ hours long, breaking into 15 minute increments. The first 15 minutes would be an overview presentation by staff. This would inform those in attendance what caused the planning process, what planning has already taken place, how many plans the City already has in place and presenting a new document that will be a guidance document for City Parks and Recreation programs.

After the overview, three tables will be set up for three different topics: Programs and Indoor Facilities; Outdoor and Active Recreation; and Specialty Parks and Open Space. Each table will have a facilitator and a Commissioner. Mr. Mathes stated there would be City staff at two of the tables – Indoor Facilities and Outdoor Facilities. Every fifteen minutes these groups will rotate to another table. The last fifteen minutes of the meeting will be a wrap-up, with the facilitator sharing the comments from each table. There will be a 15 minute conclusion to the meeting, with the meeting ending by approximately 8 p.m.

A handout was given to the Commissioners with questions that could be asked at each table. These questions should get a discussion going between the participants. One to three questions per table should be all that will be needed.

Commissioner Minnix asked if a member of the City Council would be in attendance, as he feels this would show the City Council's interest in the process. The answer to this question was unknown at this time, but Mr. Mathes said he felt that was a good idea.

Mr. Mathes asked the Commissioners which table they would like to be at:

Vaughn Minnix -	Where needed
Richard Garmire -	Specialty Parks & Open Space
Clarine Musfelt -	Outdoor and Active Recreation or Specialty Parks & Open Space
Michelle Blake -	Where needed

Mr. Mathes said the advertising should go out 10 – 14 days prior to the meeting.

B. Gauche Aquatic Park Fees

Commissioner Garmire stated he asked Mr. McIntire to put this on the agenda after he had read a "Letter to the Editor" regarding a \$25 swim party to be held at GAP, the entrance fee of \$4, and the location of the facility. Commissioner Garmire talked to Mr. McIntire regarding the \$4 charge, and was told that the first weekend the facility was open, it had hundreds of participants at that price. Commissioner Garmire stated he had done an informal survey regarding the fee, and found that the individuals he talked with stated they did not feel the fee was too much. Mr. McIntire stated that staff is looking at some different options

throughout the month for those who are low income to have the opportunity to participate at the facility, i.e. \$1 Tuesdays, once a month have a free swim session, etc. Also, in regards to the location of the facility, this location is in the City's redevelopment area, and grant money was available to help defer the cost to build the facility, and the property was already owned by the City, so there was not additional cost to purchase the land. Commissioner Garmire stated he felt the City was fiscally responsible in putting the facility at that location.

Tony Blackwell stated at first he thought \$4 was a lot for entrance, until he took his children to the facility. He stated, for all that is available at the site, it is well worth the price. Sam Uriarte stated he didn't disagree with Mr. Blackwell, but he felt the department should take another look at this in 2 – 3 months to see who is attending and if there is an ethnic and economical mix of participants. More discussion ensued regarding the affordability of the facility, and Mr. Blackwell stated that he knew of an organization was distributing free admission passes. Chairperson Blake stated that Sutter County had started buying passes and will continue to do so to use as incentives for their Employee Wellness Program.

Mr. Marler stated that Mr. McIntire wanted him to share that he has more information on this subject, and will be meeting with the Foundation to ask for some funding for low income individuals. This information will be shared at the next Commission meeting.

Chairperson Blake handed out cards for Gauche Aquatic Park stating the facility is Tobacco Free. She asked that the Commissioners hand these out to people they know, and stated that the Sutter County Substance Abuse program has also been handing them out to the public. Mr. Marler stated that the signs have been placed at the facility.

VII. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

A. Parks & Recreation Report

- Playground equipment for Holly Tree Park arrived yesterday, with excavation to begin tomorrow. Concrete work will begin once the excavation is complete.
- Parks has applied fertilizer to all the turf areas in the parks.
- No Smoking signs have been placed at all playgrounds and at GAP. Chairperson Blake asked how many signs had been put up, because she stated one of the employees had said people are still smoking there. Mr. Marler stated the signs had only been up one week, and to give it some time.
- The tree crew has been replacing street trees, and are starting to prune the mature trees at Kingwood Park.
- Parks staff has begun performing maintenance functions at some of the parks seven days a week – Blackburn-Talley and Gap. Now that the shade structures are rentable for two sessions, a staff member is on hand to clean between the reservations. A Groundskeeper is assigned to the facility on a permanent basis.
- Staff is continuing to apply post-emergent herbicides as weather permits. They have also begun to plant summer annuals and shrubs at various park sites.
- Irrigation maintenance is being performed.
- The City hired a safety consulting firm to address any safety issues that the City may not be aware of with the new changes.

Ms. Gilmore information the Commission of the following:

- Gauche Aquatic Pool was opened for it's full weekend sessions, with the maximum number of participants for each session.
- Softball deadline was May 15th, with more teams signing up than in the Spring.
- Youth Summer Basketball deadline was May 1st, with a few openings left. This program will begin the week of June 9th.

- Registration is picking up for the Summer Camp program. This program will again be held at Gray Avenue School, and the children will be bused to Gauche Aquatic Park for swimming. Parents will pick them up at that facility.
- All facilities are busy with registration for their programs – Senior Center, GAP and LJM House.

Commissioner Musfelt informed the Commission of the Girls on the Run program. This is a summer program for girls 8 – 11, which will include games and activities geared for this age group. The goal of this program is to train girls to complete a 5K walk/run. Three topics will be introduced during this camp – Values, Teamwork and Community. Each girl will have an adult “running buddy” who will be there for them when they participate in the 5K walk/run. This program will be held July 14 – 18, with a 5K Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, July 19th. The fee for the program is \$70, however scholarships are available.

C. Agenda Items for the Next Commission Meeting

1. June 18th Community Workshop

VIII. TREE ADVISORY BOARD

Mr. Marler informed the Commission that a resident voiced a concern about the two remaining Valley Oak trees at Gauche Aquatic Park and how much water they are receiving. The City Arborist has inspected the trees and has made the appropriate changes to the surrounding area in order to try and prolong the life of the trees. The Arborist also did some research and provided documentation regarding a 10-year study that had been done on the watering of Valley Oak trees. Even though these trees are supposed to be drought resistant, the study showed that oak trees that received water did better than those that didn't receive water.

IX. NEXT COMMISSION DATE

Regular Meeting – May 21, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. – Littlejohn Madden House, 1300 Franklin Road, Yuba City.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Blake adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Marler
Public Works Superintendent

GM/bg