

CITY OF YUBA
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES

Regular Meeting
May 20, 2009 – 5:30 p.m.
Conference Room – Littlejohn-Madden House
1300 Franklin Street, Yuba City

I. CALL TO ORDER

The City of Yuba City Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Musfelt at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Littlejohn-Madden House.

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present:

Charles Anderson, Michele Blake, Gary Hurlbut, Vaughn Minnix and Clarine Musfelt

Commissioners Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Brad McIntire, Parks & Recreation Director, Verna Cook-Stoddard, Recreation Supervisor, and Barbara Gilmore, Administrative Assistant

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Musfelt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 15, 2009 Regular Meeting – Copy submitted

Vice-Chairperson Minnix moved to approve the minutes from the April 15, 2009 Regular Meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Blake, which 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 on the agenda for this meeting. No public comments were offered.

VI. BUSINESS FOR THE COMMISSION

A. Substance Abuse Steering Coalition Presentation

Tina Lavy with the Substance Abuse Steering Coalition for Yuba, Sutter and Colusa Counties introduced some of the members of the organization. She stated that previously the Coalition had approached the City and requested Gauche Aquatic Park be a tobacco free park. Ms. Lavy further stated that the Coalition would like to ask the City to make all parks in the City tobacco free. She introduced the student representatives of the Coalition who were attending the meeting and Narinder Dhaliwal with California's Clean Air Project. The students gave their presentation stating they do clean up at the various parks in the

area and have picked up numerous cigarette butts at each location (a handout was given to the Commission – see attached). Ms. Dhaliwal spoke on the enforcement issue and stated that this is not something that the Police Department would be in charge of. She stated that signage is the key to a successful campaign. She handed out a copy her department's Executive Summary from 10 local agencies that had been surveyed with the Smoke Free Parks Policies in place (a copy is attached). Ms. Dhaliwal stated there are 109 cities with smoke free parks. She stated that her organization (CCAP) has a web site with a policy database that has all the second hand smoke policies that go into effect in California. Also on this website are the ordinances for other City's in California with smoke free park policies.

Chairperson Musfelt thanked the Coalition for their time. She asked Mr. McIntire to research this and report back to the Commission at the June meeting. Mr. McIntire stated he would compile this information, along with information from staff, and put together a timeline for this process.

Commissioner Minnix asked what their goal was for this process taking place. Ms. Lavy stated she would like to see this done by next summer at the latest. Commissioner Blake asked why public hearings would be necessary and if the Commission could make a recommendation to City Council, with the City Council making the final decision. A discussion ensued regarding the positive reaction from the last public hearings, with no opposition to the issue. Mr. McIntire will look into this and report back to the Commission at its next meeting.

Commissioner Minnix asked Ms. Dhaliwal if there had been any legal issues with other cities that have banned smoking in entire parks. Ms. Dhaliwal stated there had not. It all comes back to the enforcement, which is done with signage, self-enforcement and peer pressure. It could take a couple of years for this to happen, but eventually it will. More discussion ensued.

Commissioner Hurlburt stated Roseville implemented a smoke free ban in 64 parks and had been in place for over one year. He stated Roseville places a no-smoking decal on their signs throughout the parks. He stated they also have an internal park security system where if more debris from smoking increases, this is noted in the system, the information is sent out to the Police, and different people throughout the Parks & Recreation system. The area is then patrolled more often by various individuals, and the problems seem to decrease over a short period of time. Commissioner Blake stated this could be something that could be implemented through the Adopt-a-Park program.

Commissioner Blake asked Ms. Lavy to discuss signage. Ms. Lavy stated there are funds available through Proposition 99 to pay for the signage.

Commissioner Minnix asked if there was a formal measurement of how successful this program is at Gauche Park. Ms. Lavy stated she would be more than happy to compile this information if the Commission would like.

Ms. Lavy handed out a booklet from the Surgeon General with information regarding secondhand smoke. She stated that if a presentation to the City Council is necessary, she would be more than happy to do that. The Commission thanked the Coalition for their time.

Mr. McIntire asked the Commission what direction they would like him to take on this issue. Commissioner Anderson stated that unless there was some reason not to, he would like to recommend moving forward with this issue. Commissioner Blake stated she felt they had already taken the necessary steps with the previous public hearings and would like to go ahead and make the recommendation for the City Council to move forward. Mr. McIntire

stated he would meet with the City Administrative Department to see what they require, and would report back to the Commission.

B. Lincoln East Plan

Mr. McIntire stated the deadline for public comment on the Lincoln East Plan is coming up and asked the Commission if they had any further comments on this document. He further stated that since last month's meeting, the City had met with the school district and discussed the joint use facilities in this plan. It was agreed there will be some type of joint-use agreement between the school district and the City. He stated that in this meeting, he was asked if the City would like to do joint-use agreements with all the schools in the district. Mr. McIntire stated that at this time, the City would like to do agreements one project at a time.

After further discussion, Commission Minnix motioned to accept the Lincoln East Plan as presented. The Commission would like it noted that, as it relates to this project, joint use facilities with Yuba City Unified School District are encouraged. In regards to the multi-use drainage basins, the Commission would like to make sure that the acreage for the drainage basins are not included in the 5 acre neighborhood parks and 10 acre community parks. Also, they wholeheartedly support the concept of the walking trails that are incorporated on the plan, and feel these are necessary components. The Commission agreed it is refreshing to see the City department's working together towards creating healthy, sustainable communities. This motion was accepted by all Commissioners.

B. Adopt-A-Park

Mr. McIntire stated that a final draft would be brought before the Commission at the next meeting. In order to get the information out about this program, Chairperson Musfelt and Commissioner Anderson will draft a Letter to the Editor to have put in the Appeal Democrat and invite the community to participate in this program. Chairperson Musfelt stated when the draft is completed, she would send it to the Commissioners for their comments.

VII. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

A. Parks & Recreation Report

Mr. McIntire introduced Verna Cook-Stoddard, Recreation Supervisor. Ms. Cook-Stoddard stated that she oversees the programs that are run out of the Senior Center. She gave a brief history of the facility, stating it was established in 1988. She informed that at the time Sutter County was involved with the Senior Nutrition Program. After a period of time, the City took over the whole facility and began to provide the meals through funding from Area 4 on Aging. At this time meals are being provided through a nutrition program in Butte County. Prepared meals are delivered to the site and the home delivered meals are shipped directly to individual's homes through a company from Iowa. Since Butte County has taken over the program, the number of people participating has decreased. Ms. Cook-Stoddard would like to put a personal touch back into the program to make the seniors feel welcome.

Ms. Cook-Stoddard stated the Senior Center provides various programs for the seniors. She stated that daily there are 150 to 200 seniors who participate in programs and activities. The facility opens at 8 a.m. with exercise programs being held, seniors playing cards and billiards throughout the day. Weekly classes that are offered are: yoga, fitness classes, line dancing, watercolor, oil painting, drawing, ceramics and much more. Blood pressure clinics are offered twice a month, a flu shot clinic is held once a year (300 participants this year),

dances are held monthly, different workshops are held, and special dinners are also held throughout the year. At tax time a Tax Assistance Program is held free of charge. This year approximately 1,100 seniors took advantage of this program.

Other programs held through the Center are:

- A library is available to the seniors.
- A 55 Alive – AARP Mature Drive class is offered each month.
- HiCap, an insurance advocacy program, is available to those needing help with insurance questions.
- A scholarship program is available to assist seniors in participating in programs.
- Handyman Program, which is funded through CDBG funds, allows for up to \$300 in minor repairs to their homes and seniors must meet certain income criteria.
- A volunteer program is very vital to the Senior Center. Several seniors volunteer their time to assist in the running of the facility on a daily basis.
- Staff is in the process of training three people to be hostesses at the facility. These people would welcome people and give tours of the facility.
- Friday Night Bingo
- Bocce Ball
- Walk in the Park program, in coordination with Sutter County Health Department and Sutter North
- This year the Senior Center started a Back to School drive where seniors donated school supplies. These items were given to Yuba City Unified School District to distribute to youth who could not otherwise afford these supplies. This was a very successful program
- Support Our Troops – sending letters of support to our troops.
- Caps for Cancer Patients – a senior volunteer started this program
- Travel Adventures program – various trips are offered throughout the year, some local and some throughout the United States and other countries.

Commissioner Anderson stated this seems like a very comprehensive program for the seniors. Mr. McIntire stated Ms. Cook-Stoddard does a great job meeting the needs of the seniors in this area. He informed the Commission that the Recreation Coordinator who assisted Ms. Cook-Stoddard run the facility is no longer there and that position will not be refilled. Volunteers and staff are backfilling the work from the vacancy. It was stated that approximately 4,300 volunteer hours are donated each year to help this facility run. At this time there are seven ladies who volunteer in the office.

Mr. McIntire updated the Commission on the following:

- Track & Field – 211 participants
- Summer Basketball – 240 participants, still in need of some coaches
- Summer Camp will begin June 9th
- New programs – Dinosaur Camp and CSI Camp will be offered this summer
- Hershey Track Program was moved to Yuba City High School this year
- Aquatics – Water Aerobics for adults through seniors has started
- Public Swim has had approximately 3,500 participants to date
- Approximately 75 part-time employees have been hired to work at GAP
- Summer Concert series will begin soon
- John Carter Concert had approximately 200 participants in attendance
- Adult Basketball season is ending. This year there was a Women's League and 10 teams in the Men's League.
- Spring Softball had 25 coed teams and 34 men's teams
- Summer Softball has 42 men's teams, 34 coed teams and 8 senior teams

- The Youth Commission is now a full Commission with 9 youth
- Parks & Recreation Brochure – this went out for bid and Wag the Frog aka the a-d agency from Marysville was awarded the bid. Mr. McIntire stated the bids ranged from \$46,000 to \$134,000.
- The Recreation Department will be closed every other Friday beginning July 3rd due to cuts in the budget. The Senior Center and Gauche Aquatic Park will remain open with staff alternating their time.

B. Agenda Items for the Next Commission Meeting

1. Update on Adopt-a-Park
2. Letter to the Editor – Clarine
3. Tobacco Free Discussion

X. TREE ADVISORY BOARD

Nothing to report at this time.

XI. NEXT COMMISSION DATE

Regular Meeting – July 15 at 5:30 p.m. – Littlejohn Madden House, 1300 Franklin Road, Yuba City.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Musfelt adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad McIntire
Parks & Recreation Director

BM/bg