

Minutes of Joint Meeting
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
and
COMMISSION ON AGING
Thursday, January 16, 2014

A joint meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Commission on Aging was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Pamela Melville, Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Commission, in the Sierra Room at the Reedley Community Center, 100 N. East Avenue, Reedley, CA 93654.

1. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS
 - A. Parks and Recreation Commissioners Present: Pamela Melville, Chairperson; Tom Brandt, Vice Chairperson; Kelly deJarnette; Stephen Penner; Traci Tucker.
 - B. Commission on Aging Commissioners Present: Ruben Ramirez, Chairperson; Dolores Edwards; Thomas Llewellyn; Vera Smith; Marie Medcalf, Alternate; Carl Smith, Alternate.
 - C. Commissioners Absent: None.
 - D. Parks and Recreation Commission Youth Representatives: Present – Jennifer Ito; Alexa Becerra.
 - E. Staff Present: Joel Glick, Community Services Director; Sarah Reid, Community Services Superintendent; Russ Robertson, Public Works Director; Chris Tamez, Parks Supervisor/ADA Compliance Officer; Denise Phariss, Administrative Assistant.
 - F. Others Present: None.
2. PUBLIC DISCUSSION – None.
3. JOINT COMMISSION NEW BUSINESS
 - A. **Introduction of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan** – Russ Robertson presented the City's transition plan to comply with ADA requirements. ADA requires that cities do a self evaluation of accessibility to all facilities, targeting areas that need correction, and then creating a transition plan to comply with ADA regulations. A consultant was hired to look at all our facilities, targeting each deficiency. Robertson presented both commissions with a copy of the draft transition plan for their review. The draft will go to City Council on January 28, 2014. In addition to the consultant physically visiting all city facilities, department heads were interviewed for their input. The transition plan includes findings, actions and cost estimates that will correct the deficiencies. Each deficiency was also prioritized. The top priority is to get people in the facility. Two facilities were given top priority – the Senior Center at the Community Center and Camacho Park.

Robertson reported that in mid-February several Senior Center parking lot issues will be repaired. A handicapped stall for van parking will be created, as well as widening the sidewalk and adding a handrail on the building side of the ramp. This project will redirect participants' access during the

construction process, but this should only take 2-3 weeks. Commissioner Ramirez mentioned a tripping hazard off the kitchen to the back parking lot. Robertson indicated that Public Works can grind off the lip to correct this.

Robertson asked both commissions to review the document and if they have any questions to contact him.

4. COMMISSION ON AGING WAS EXCUSED AT 5:25 P.M. AND A PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING CONTINUED.
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
It was moved by Commissioner Brandt, seconded by Commissioner Penner, that the minutes of November 21, 2013 be approved. The motion carried.
6. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A. **Community Services Mission Statement Recommendation** – There were some concerns that the statement being considered, “The mission of the City of Reedley’s Community Services Department is to provide programs, services, and classes that enrich the lives of Reedley residents” was too general and a few adjectives should be included. After further discussion, it was decided to leave it general since the Community Services Department offers such a broad range of activities and services, it would be impossible to identify each of them. In addition, divisions are moved within departments from time to time. If the statement is too specific, it might need to be revised in the future. Motion by Commissioner Penner, seconded by Commissioner Brandt to accept the statement as stated above. Motion carried.
 - B. **Lighting Policy** - Sarah Reid presented the newly created lighting policy for use of lights in public parks. She explained that this policy was necessary due to the various sports organizations that are requesting lights for after dark practices and games. Conflict and confusion have necessitated this agreement. Motion by Commissioner Brandt (and Youth Representative Jennifer Ito), seconded by Commissioner deJarnette. Motion carried.
 - C. **Grant Opportunity to Remodel Restroom Facility, Repair Rotary Pavilion and Playground Structure, and Add Meandering, Lighted Walking Path in C.F. Mueller Park** – Glick learned about a grant opportunity that can be used for upgrades and additions to Mueller Park. The grant will fund 50% of the project, but any work that the city does will be considered an in-kind match and will reduce the amount of out of pocket match. Rather than creating new parks, City Council’s focus is on improving our existing ones. The focus would be on increasing good activities in Mueller Park. A new lighted, walking path that meanders around the edges of the park would be added which would attract seniors and parents that are in the park attending their child’s game or playing on the playground. The existing restrooms would be remodeled to comply with ADA requirements as well as address some deficiencies. The existing play structure is in need of repair and replacement of features. The Rotary Pavilion has some wood rot that needs to be replaced. Total cost of the project is estimated to be \$100,000 - \$150,000. City in-kind match will be approximately 25%. Tree Fresno is being approached for tree donations.

The grant needs to be submitted by February 2, 2014, so a quick turnaround is required. Staff is working diligently to meet this deadline and to make a strong application. This is a competitive, point-based grant. This item will be taken to City Council on January 28, 2014.

The Commission agreed that this is a worthwhile project. They see how well Citizens Park is utilized until late at night due to the lighted walking path. It was suggested that the walking path be connected to the sidewalk on Springfield to allow wheelchair access and create some handicapped parking at that point.

Glick indicated that in the future, a splash pad is planned near the skate park and basketball court.

Motion by Commissioner Tucker, seconded by Commissioner Brandt to pursue this grant opportunity as presented. Motion carried.

7. YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

- A. **Alexa Becerra** – Belongs to Club Leo at Reedley High School. They are looking for a community service project to participate in. Sarah Reid invited them to help out with the Easter Egg Scramble on April 12 from 9-Noon. Alexa said she would have a minimum of 15 volunteers. Glick invited them to also help with the Airport Cleanup Day in March. The date still to be determined.
- B. **Jennifer Ito** – The Reedley High Associated Student Body is also looking for a community service project. Typically they volunteer at the school, but their advisor approved them taking on an outside project. Both Reid and Glick invited them to their previously mentioned events.

8. STAFF REPORTS

- A. **Joel Glick**
 - 1) **Airtime BMX** - The Federal Aviation Administration is pressuring the City to move the BMX track off the airport property. They don't like non-aviation use of airport property. FAA is also requesting that we charge them fair market value for the property. Airtime BMX uses 4 acres and has been there since 1996 and not able to pay fair market value. Staff is looking at a 4 acre spot at the Sports Park in part of the area where the aquatic complex was going to be developed. Now that the school district is building the aquatics complex, that frees up that space for other uses. It is a great location for the BMX track since it is close to the existing restroom and snack bar facilities. The City is asking the FAA to allow the City 6-12 months to move them. Kings Canyon Unified is giving the City 2 sports lights that were removed from Grant Middle School. They could be utilized for the BMX track. A public hearing will be scheduled to receive input from the community about this idea.
 - 2) **Cricket Hollow** – A Master Plan will be made of the 6-8 acre undeveloped area between the road into Cricket Hollow and the

housing development. Over the years a variety of ideas have been talked about for this piece of land – shopping, park/picnic area, practice fields for Immanuel Schools, etc. Community Services Department is working with Community Development Department to develop this plan.

- 3) **Master Tree Plan** – Staff met with Tree Fresno to develop a written plan for picking the right trees for various places in the city. They would help with planning and development to add trees. Commissioner Brandt suggested planting trees along the housing development by Cricket Hollow as a buffer.

B. **Sarah Reid**

- 1) **Toys for Tots** – A big thank you to Commissioner deJarnette for helping with this event. Reid was thankful for the corporate sponsors, partners, and the big turnout of volunteers that supported this event.
- 2) **Jr Cager Basketball** – Games started this week at Grant Middle School gym.
- 3) **Swim Lessons** – Sierra View Homes has agreed to allow the City to use their pool again this year to offer swim lessons to the community. With the anticipated completion of the KCUSD aquatics complex in August of this year, we anticipate utilizing it for the 2015 swim season.
- 4) **Current Registration** – Youth Baseball, Adult Basketball, Tumbling and Ballet.

9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- A. **Commissioner Penner** – Reported that the Parks and Recreation Foundation is doing better than ever – growing interest and energy for the Sports Park. Wants to light fires under key people in the community to develop more features in the Sports Park.
- B. **Commissioner deJarnette** - Enjoyed volunteering for Toys for Tots. Great to see so much participation. Sarah kept things going.
- C. **Commissioner Tucker** – Suggested staff pursue the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Grant. She will provide details to staff. It is a relatively easy grant application to complete.

10. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Phariss, Administrative Assistant

Pamela Melville, Chairperson

Joel Glick, Community Services Director