

CITY OF SAN DIMAS
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
November 16, 2010
Senior Citizen/Community Center Meeting Room

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairperson Davis at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Susan Davis, Chairperson
Jose Martinez
Caryol Smith
Georgia Florentine
Frank Neal
Shannon McKee

Lawrence Stevens, Assistant City Manager for Community Development
Theresa Bruns, Parks and Recreation Director
Leon Raya, Recreation Services Manager
John Ebner, Council Member

Absent: John Margis, excused

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2010 MEETING MINUTES

COMMISSIONER NEAL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2010 MEETING AS WRITTEN SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FLORENTINE AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Report on Brasada Residential Project

Director Bruns introduced Assistant City Manager Lawrence Stevens. Manager Stevens discussed the Brasada Residential project that is proposed for the city's northern foothills. The project has a 12 year history. The developer is proposing 61 residential lots. A comprehensive Environmental Impact Report has been completed. The plan will be reviewed by the Planning Commission on November 17 and is planned for a review by City Council on December 14. Manager Stevens reviewed maps of the development site which is planned as gated community. Presently only lots are being proposed with sizes ranging from 0.5 acres to 17.5 acres. Staff is reviewing and addressing issues such as the drainage design and the number of lots. There is discussion on whether the proposed debris basins are sufficient and who will pay the potential cost for maintaining them. Access, via an extension of Cataract Avenue, is another issue. Due to the grade, high retaining walls would be required. The Equestrian Commission is identifying potential equestrian trails in the project. There currently are two equestrian trails proposed. Staff is discussing other open space options with the developer as it relates to the Quimby Act. Commissioner Davis asked how any new open space would be maintained. Director Bruns replied it would primarily be weed abatement. Director Bruns briefly discussed the role of Quimby Act funding.

B. Report on Bird and Butterfly Planting Project

Director Bruns reported that as a result of a recommendation from the Commission staff pursued a Bird and Butterfly Garden project at Horsethief Canyon Park. She introduced Municipal Arborist Deborah Day. Arborist Day briefly reviewed the planning process and the collaboration with a local Boy Scout, Jonah Phipps who offered to complete the project as his Eagle Scout requirement. Scout Phipps presented a visual presentation of the area to be planted and the types of native flora that will be planted. He explained the plants attraction to butterflies and birds. All the plants are drought tolerant. Mulch and boulders will be added as well as a handmade redwood bench. The project date is November 20 rain or shine. Director Bruns invited members of the Commission to attend. In response to a question from Commissioner Florentine, Scout Phipps replied that the project will be completed in three hours and that he has secured plenty of scouts to assist. Arborist Day noted that the project will include a demonstration garden with identification signs.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Director of Parks & Recreation

1. Update on 50th Anniversary

Director Bruns distributed invitations to the 50th Anniversary New Years Eve Dinner to be held on December 31 at the Via Verde Country Club. She invited all Commissioners to attend.

Director Bruns invited the Commission to the California Parks and Recreation Society District 13, Annual Holiday Cheer Luncheon hosted at the San Dimas Canyon Golf Course on December 1. She briefly described the purpose of the Society and the local Districts role. There is a raffle whose proceeds benefit student scholarships. Commissioners Smith and Florentine will attend.

Director Bruns asked the Commission if they had any objections to having their contact information distributed to other Commissioners. There being none, she distributed the Parks and Recreation Commission roster.

2. Calendar of Upcoming Events

Manager Raya distributed the calendar of events through January noting; the Holiday Dance for the Special Needs Community on November 19; the Bird and Butterfly Garden Project on November 20; the Holiday Cheer Luncheon on December 1; the Downtown Holiday Extravaganza on December 4; the start of Youth Basketball Practice December 6; the Teen City and Kids Fun Club holiday day camps; the Commission meeting on January 18; and the City Recognition Dinner on January 29.

B. Members of the Audience

Walter Smith was in attendance with no comment.

C. Members of the Commission

Commissioner Smith - She attended the Walnut Creek Clean-up and it went well although the volunteers wanted to clean more of the trail. Manager Raya noted that staff was cautious in the amount of the creek identified for clean-up since this was the first clean-up the staff had organized. Commissioner Smith said the vegetarian luncheon hosted by the Tzu Chi Foundation was excellent. She also applauded them for distributing 720 blankets for disaster relief that were made from recycled plastic. She distributed the Happy Tails newsletter and mentioned that the Friends of the San Dimas Dog Park will be attending the Glendora Christmas Parade. There are now close to 2,400 email addresses on file with the Friends. She also distributed a pet friendly dog park guide for Los

Angeles and the Inland Empire. The Ambassadors are reminding park attendees about dog park closures. She suggested that the Sheriffs Department be notified so they can help patrol the park when it is closed.

Commissioner Florentine - Commissioner Florentine enjoyed the Walnut Creek Clean-up and thanked staff and the Tzu Chi Foundation for their work.

Commissioner Martinez - Commissioner Martinez shared that his daughter finished the recreation dance class at Marchant Park and his son completed the AYSO soccer season. He asked who makes the call on closing fields during inclement weather. Manager Raya noted that he makes that decision and notifies the respective groups. AYSO also has his contact number. Commissioner Martinez will be going on the Disney on Ice excursion.

Commissioner Neal - Commissioner Neal noted that the link to the Dog Park is now up on the City's website. He also noted that there is a sandimascity.net website. Councilmember Ebner mentioned that he thought the site is hosted by Maurice Cuellar. Commissioner Neal suggested having that website note the address of the official City website. He had several bike safety booths recently, including one at Western Days. The Western Days booth was his most successful. He contacted a local bike organization about possibly hosting a group community bike ride next May. Commissioner Smith asked if it would require street closures. Commissioner Neal mentioned that the loop he is thinking of would start at Incycle Bicycle shop and then return to the same location. He will discuss with Director Bruns.

Commissioner McKee - Commissioner McKee shared the sports schedules for San Dimas High School winter sports. Commissioner Neal suggested also sending them by e-mail which Commissioner McKee agreed to.

D. City Council Liaison

Councilmember Ebner noted that the Amelia Street project is near completion. The City only had to contribute ten percent of the cost. Public Works Department is proposing a trail project that would link the Via Verde area to San Dimas High School via funding sought through a competitive grant process. It could possibly be 8 feet wide and accommodate bicycles. He shared that Halloween at his home was very busy. He reminded the Commission about the March City Council elections and that the submission deadline for the candidates is December 10.

ADJOURNMENT

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 8:15 P.M.

Leon Raya, Recreation Services Manager