

CITY OF SAN DIMAS  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES OF  
Tuesday, September 18, 2012  
San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center-Meeting Room

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairperson Margis at 6:01 p.m. Commissioners welcomed new Commissioners Kenney and Diaz and briefly introduced themselves.

**ROLL CALL**

Present:

John Margis, Chairperson  
Kevin Kenney  
Thomas Diaz  
Jose Martinez  
Frank Neal  
Kathryn Perkins  
Amanda Avery

John Ebner, City Councilmember  
Theresa Bruns, Parks and Recreation Director  
Leon Raya, Recreation Services Manager  
Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator

**APPROVAL OF THE MAY 15, 2012 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

COMMISSIONER NEAL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 15, 2012 MEETING AS SUBMITTED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JULY 17, 2012 JOINT MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION/PLANNING/AND EQUESTRIAN COMMISSIONS**

COMMISSIONER NEAL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 17, 2012 MEETING AS SUBMITTED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

**A. Review of Operational Changes and Recommendations of a New Name for the Swim and Racquet Club**

Manager Raya shared his observations and the feedback received from Swim and Racquet Club participants. He illustrated the steps needed for the Swim and Racquet Club rebranding, which include:

1. Maintaining core programs.
2. Adding Recreation classes to enhance services and programs offered.
3. Standardizing and simplifying daily fees.

4. A name change to feature the purpose of the facility, the logo will be redesigned and a motto will be developed.
5. The use and layout of rooms were evaluated to maximize the use and easy facility function. In the future racquet courts can be used for other programs.
6. Terminology changed to engage community at-large and course description will be modified and a monthly class calendar will be drafted.

Commissioner Margis expressed concerned that the layout in the Frontier may be confusing for some residents and suggested the fee section be clarified and featured. Councilmember Ebner questioned the budgetary impact with the new fee structure. Manager Raya stated that the revenue has slightly increased. He stated that the new structure ensures that the fee ratio for residents and non-residents is consistent on all payment tiers.

Commissioner Diaz inquired if the facility is underutilized. Manager Raya stated that the broad plan intends to increase attendance by eliminating the perception that the Swim and Racquet Club is a private club.

Staff distributed a list of 12 names selected from the Renaming Contest. Commissioners reviewed the list and began the recommendation process by selecting two preferred names each. The votes were tabulated and after review three names were selected for further discussion. Commissioner Ebner stated that “City of San Dimas” is not required to be a part of the title. Commissioners discussed prominently featuring the City logo or “City of San Dimas” on the building to ensure that the community understands that it is a city-owned facility. After discussion:

COMMISSIONER DIAZ MOVED THAT “FAMILY FITNESS AND AQUATIC CENTER”, “COMMUNITY FITNESS AND AQUATIC CENTER”, AND “COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER” BE SELECTED FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL WITH SUGGESTION THAT THE CITY LOGO OR “CITY OF SAN DIMAS” ARE ALWAYS ANNOTATED WITH THE NAME, AND A STRONG PREFERENCE FOR THE NAME “COMMUNITY FITNESS AND AQUATIC CENTER”; SECOND BY COMMISSIONER KENNEY AND PASSED 6-1 WITH COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ OPPOSED.

#### **B. Review of Recreation Special Events**

Staff distributed a list of upcoming special events and encouraged commissioners to attend and volunteer. Commissioners Diaz, Kenney, and Margis will volunteer during the 5K /1-Mile Family Fun Run and Fitness Fair on Saturday, September 29. Commissioners Diaz and Margis will volunteer as guest judges during the Halloween Carnival costume contest on Wednesday, October 31. Commissioner Margis suggested staff invite former Commissioners Florentine and Smith to attend as guest judges as they been valued judges in the past. Commissioners were invited to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Holiday Extravaganza on Saturday, December 8 to be held at the Walker House, Downtown Bonita Avenue and First Street.

### **ORAL COMMUNICATION**

#### **A. Director of Parks and Recreation**

1. Update on Walnut Creek Open Space  
Director Bruns shared that Phase 1 of the Walnut Creek Open Space project was accepted by the City Council and staff may seek funding. Commissioner Diaz was pleased that the project may begin and that Phase 1 includes the CEQA process. Director Bruns stated the City may be applying for the Open Space Fund Grant in November and that the 1992 Los Angeles County Prop A Excess Funds should be providing a timeline and criteria soon.

2. Calendar of Upcoming Events

Manager Raya distributed the calendar of events through December. He encouraged them to attend the 5K/1-Mile Family Fun Run & Fitness Fair, and San Dimas Day at the Fair. He highlighted the upcoming Halloween Carnival and Downtown Holiday Extravaganza.

Commissioner Diaz inquired on the activities scheduled for San Dimas Day at the Fair. Manager Raya stated that Community Heroes are selected to represent the youth, adults and seniors in San Dimas, various community groups and local agencies have booths, a parade honoring the Community Heroes; and, an award presentation are key events during San Dimas Day at the Fair. Resident admission is only \$5 with discount tickets and a portion of the proceeds benefit community. Commissioner Neal stated that the Community Expo features many local agencies and school age children from the Bonita Unified School District attend the festivities.

3. Suggestion of Location for Upcoming Meetings

Director Bruns suggested traveling to other Parks and Recreation facilities to see and encourage community participation. Councilmember Ebner suggested the Walker House to continue to drive community use of the facility. Commissioner Margis agreed with rotating locations as available and suggested Ladera Serra Park to encourage participation from residents in that area.

**B. Members of Audience**

No audience communication.

**C. Members of the Commission**

Commissioner Margis stated that he enjoyed participating in the City Hike along the Poison Oak Trail which he found to be in good condition.

Commissioner Perkins inquired on the reason the Festival of Art Show was moved from the Walker House to the Community Building. Councilmember Ebner stated that the Community Building was preferred due to the layout of the show. She stated that she enjoyed the information received during the meeting.

Commissioner Martinez stated that his family enjoys the recreation classes and his son recently joined the flag football program and has attended many good programs.

Commissioner Kenney stated that he enjoyed the meeting and looks forward to serving on the Parks and Recreation Commission. He will be contacting staff for volunteer opportunities to share with Key Club students.

Commissioner Diaz confirmed that he will volunteer during the 5K/1-Mile Family Fun Run & Fitness Fair, and the Halloween Carnival.

Commissioner Avery stated that she has started school and is finding it more challenging than expected.

**D. City Council Liaison**

Councilmember Ebner stated that interest was expressed by Picasso's Restaurant to create a "Pasadena-style" restaurant at the Walker House. Councilmember Ebner stated that the owner may

not want to enter an agreement if the City may not have full ownership of the building due to changes to the Redevelopment Agency.

Councilmember Ebner stated that five buildings on Bonita Avenue will receive new facades. Three brick buildings were uncovered and are in good condition, and they will be restored to the original store fronts. All the windows will be improved. He stated that the downtown area will continue to be western for a while, but as the program continues it will embrace a 1920's style.

Councilmember Ebner encouraged commissioners to visit the San Dimas High School track which was recently upgraded and is now officially open to the public.

Councilmember Ebner stated that the City Council is reviewing the sign ordinance. Electronic and monument signs are being reviewed. Commissioner Kenney inquired on the use of sign twirlers. Councilmember Ebner stated that sign twirlers are not allowed and that Open House and Yard Sale signs must be on private property only. Commissioner Margis inquired on the permanent signs posted near construction projects on Foothill Avenue and Arrow Highway. Councilmember Ebner stated that those signs are not allowed. Commissioner Neal reported that the northwest corner of San Dimas Avenue and Arrow Highway has a sign that was been posted for a long time.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 7:20 P.M. TO NOVEMBER 20, 2012 AT THE WALKER HOUSE.

---

Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator