

CITY OF SAN DIMAS
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
Community Meeting
Tuesday, February 19, 2013
Walker House

CALL TO ORDER

The community meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairperson Martinez at 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present:

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

John Ebiner, City Councilmember
Theresa Bruns, Parks and Recreation Director
Leon Raya, Recreation Manager
Karon De Leon, Facilities Manager

Absent:

Kevin Kenney, excused

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 15, 2013 COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES

COMMISSIONER MARGIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 15, 2013 COMMUNITY MEETING AS SUBMITTED, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PERKINS AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION BY STAFF

Director Bruns introduced herself and asked the Commissioners to introduce themselves. She stated the purpose of conducting community meetings is to gather information from participants of the department programs and as well as from those groups and individuals that utilize parks and facilities. She informed the Commission that non-profit groups and community organizations as well as neighbors within a 300 foot radius of the Walker House had received invitations to this meeting.

Director Bruns presented a power point presentation that demonstrated the scope and provided a perspective of what the City's Parks and Recreation Department offers in programming and the facilities that are operated and maintained by the department.

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION – COMMUNITY INPUT

Chair Martinez thanked the members of the community in attendance. He asked that if anyone did not feel comfortable to speak during the meeting, they could complete the survey and the Parks and Recreation Department would respond to their comments, questions or concerns. He then opened the meeting to the members of the community for their input and comments.

Ron Kranzer indicated that he has been a long time resident of the City and is always interested in what is occurring in the community. He stated that he was pleased with the programs and feels that the City's facilities are well maintained.

Piet Van Gaalen stated that he is interested in learning the workings of the local government.

Diana Bertone stated that the Parks and Recreation Department provides great programs, activities and has good facilities.

Denis Bertone inquired if an Arbor Day program was going to occur this year; Director Bruns responded that the program this year will be conducted at Gladstone Elementary School. Mr. Bertone asked if the addition of a third area at the Dog Park was still being considered. Director Bruns answered that the third area at the Dog Park was still on the Commission's project list, and is still desirable for rotational turf management, but funding at this time has not been allocated to that specific project. Mr. Bertone commented that maybe the "Quimby" fees from the Northern Foothill housing development project could be utilized for the Dog Park expansion.

Mrs. Bertone questioned if the bumps in the Via Verde walking path could be addressed. Director Bruns indicated that the resurfacing and repairs of the walking path were in the current fiscal year budget.

Mr. Van Gaalen asked if expanding the children's programs in the summer was an option, if they are currently filling. Director Bruns responded that the current day care program does fill, but expansion is limited to availability of proper facilities and the Department is utilizing all spaces available.

Mr. Kranzer relayed that he is unhappy with the entrance fees charged for utilizing Bonelli Park, a Los Angeles Regional Park.

Alline Kranzer commented that she would like the Parks and Recreation Department to look into the use of the lake at Bonelli Regional Park for sailing or other water type classes. Director Bruns commented that she may try to address the possibilities of offering classes in the Regional Park with Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department. Mrs. Kranzer also mentioned that it would be nice to have a pickle ball court and bike racks installed in areas of the City. Commissioner Neal responded that the City's Bicycle Master Plan does include identified sites for bike racks throughout the City.

Connie Brown remarked that she has participated in the walks that the Department conducts and they are wonderful, but feels that more advertisement is needed to let the community know what activities and facilities the City has to offer. She stated that she feels that the Swim and Racquet Club offers great opportunities, but the community is unaware of the facility and it is very underutilized.

Mr. Bertone remarked that he continues to encourage City Staff to apply for all available grants.

Mrs. Kranzer suggested partnering with the community organizations at their events to advertise the Department's classes such as art classes at the Festival of Arts shows.

Mrs. Brown suggested that additional equipment could be utilized in the Aerobic Classes and more advertisement of the programs at the Swim and Racquet Club. Councilmember Ebner inquired if an electronic message board at that facility would be helpful. Mrs. Brown responded that any additional marketing or advertising would be valuable. Mrs. Kranzer suggested an electronic message board in the Civic Center area advertising all activities would be a great addition.

Director Bruns informed the audience that the Commission and the staff were working through the process of both an image and operational changes at the Swim and Racquet Club. This would include better recognition as a public facility, an approachable model and renaming/branding the facility.

Mrs. Brown commented that as the Festival of Arts president, it is a pleasure to work with City Staff at all levels and that the support and cooperation provided is great. Director Bruns added that community partners are very beneficial for the residents and she appreciates all that the community groups and volunteers provide for the community.

Chair Martinez asked if the City was utilizing any type of social media. Director Bruns responded that at this time no policy has been established to allow for its use.

Mrs. Brown informed the audience of the Festival of Arts' Second Story Gallery that is hosted the second and third weekend of the each month in the Walker House.

Chair Martinez thanked everyone in attendance and encouraged them to attend any of the future community meetings.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Director of Parks and Recreation

1. Calendar of Upcoming Events

Director Bruns highlighted the upcoming Family Festival and Egg Hunts that will occur on Saturday, March 23, 2013.

B. City Council Liaison

Councilmember Ebner reminded everyone of the upcoming election March 5, 2013 and encouraged everyone to vote.

C. Members of the Commission

Commissioner Avery commented that she was looking forward to participating in the upcoming City's Students in Government Day on February 26 and 27, 2013.

Commissioner Diaz reported that he had attended the Youth Sports Committee meeting with Manager Raya. San Dimas Little League, San Dimas Youth Softball Association and the two Autism Leagues were represented at the meeting. He advised the Commission that the groups voiced a concern about the smoking

that occurs in Pioneer Park during their uses and that the Sheriff Department should help with the enforcement of the no smoking ordinance.

Commissioners Margis, Neal and Perkins thanked those in attendance for their comments and for attending the meeting.

Chair Martinez inquired about what it would take to have the City begin to utilize social media outlets. Director Bruns responded that she thought that the use of social media was an important way to market programs and activities, but a policy and the assignment of staff to monitor and update the content needed to be addressed.

Chair Martinez thanked everyone for attending the community meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 7:15 P.M.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karon Y. DeLeon".

Karon De Leon, Facilities Manager