

EQUESTRIAN COMMISSION
MINUTES
November 5, 2013
City Council Chambers Conference Room

PRESENT: Chair Marca DeMonaco
Vice Chair Sonya Sevier
Commissioner Rebecca Pike
Commissioner Claudia Cook
Commissioner Yvette Picconi

Councilman Jeff Templeman
Assistant City Manager Ken Duran

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair DeMonaco.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

Commissioner Picconi made a motion to approve the minutes of September 3, 2013 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pike and approved by unanimous vote.

WESTERN DAYS RECAP

Chair DeMonaco reported that there were five equestrian entries and everything was well organized and that next year they will focus on getting more entries. There were some suggestions on how to get more entries for next year.

“HEART” UPDATE

Mr. Duran reported that according to Captain Slawson they are still working on details such as hold harmless releases and agreements and the next step will be to train volunteers and then launch the program.

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Duran reported that the residential project on Foothill Blvd has submitted their formal application and they are working on the environmental report. He added that the City will begin the formal review process the beginning of the year. Councilman Templeman added that someone submitted a complaint to the District Attorney’s office accusing violations of the Brown Act by City officials meeting with the developer outside of the public process. He responded that the allegations are not true.

Mr. Duran reported that the Brasada project is in plan check for grading, drainage, utilities and fencing. He added that there are a few issues that still need to be resolved one of them being the width of the trail through the project. He added that the requirement was for the trail to be the City standard 8'; however they are proposing a 6' wide trail with 2' of landscape adjacent to the curb. Councilman Templeman asked for the Commissioners feedback on a 6' trail. The Commissioners comments included that 6' is too tight and does not allow for adequate room to pass, not only other horses but also walkers and dog walkers. It was also commented that irrigation adjacent to the trail creates muddy conditions and run-off.

Mr. Duran commented that there is nothing new on the potential sale of the Oak Valley Equestrian Center property. Commissioner Picconi commented that she spoke to the Center owners and they stated that the property is not for sale.

Mr. Duran reported that the City is still working with County Supervisor Antonovich's office on obtaining a grant for the phase one development of the Walnut Creek Open Space.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Templeman reported that the City just completed its fiscal year end audit and the City is in very good financial shape with a healthy reserve. He reported that the City won its battle with the State to keep the Walker House and we are accepting proposals for a new restaurant.

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE

Luigi Picconi asked about changing zoning on properties. Councilman Templeman commented that a property owner can always request a zone change.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Cook asked about the status of wooden fence on homeowners association property. Mr. Duran responded that he will report back to the Commission.

In response to a question Mr. Duran provided an update on the Foothill bridge widening project.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m. to the next regular scheduled meeting on January 7, 2014.