

CITY OF SAN DIMAS
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
July 21, 2015
SENIOR CITIZEN/COMMUNITY CENTER MEETING ROOM

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairperson Kenney at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Kevin Kenney, Chairperson
Susan Davis
Frank Neal
Baylee Smith

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

Absent:

Tom Diaz, excused
Kathryn Perkins, excused

Prior to Agenda Item 3. Approval of Minutes, Chairperson Kenney introduced Janet Ryerson, Parks and Recreation Commissioner from the City of Rancho Cucamonga. Ms. Ryerson invited the Commissioners to an event being hosted on September 29, 2015 by Rancho Parks and Recreation Commission to network, share ideas and do community building with other commissioners from East Los Angeles County cities.

APPROVAL OF THE MAY 19, 2015 MEETING MINUTES

COMMISSIONER NEAL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 19, 2015 MEETING AS SUBMITTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DAVIS AND APPROVED BY A VOTE OF FOUR TO ZERO.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Review of Proposed Via Verde Park Design

Director Bruns directed the Commission to view the displayed plans for the Via Verde Playground equipment replacement. She reviewed the scope of the work to include the 2 new playground areas with new equipment, new landscaped areas, a new plaza seating area near the restroom building, new benches, picnic tables and barbeque braziers. Included in the design is a seventeen square foot trellis covered gazebo and new ADA compliant sidewalks.

Commissioner Neal inquired about bike rack installations, Director Bruns responded bike racks will be placed appropriately on the site.

Commissioner Kenney voiced a concern about placement of barbeque braziers near the playground equipment. Director Bruns indicated that all City parks have braziers in close proximity to equipment and there has not been a problem to date.

Councilmember Ebner questioned if a new park sign would be included in the project. Director Bruns replied the current monument sign has been refurbished and will remain in place.

Director Bruns also mentioned that 10 new trees will be planted within the project area and the hope is that there will also be funding available for an installation of an overlay on the existing walking path.

B. Review of Proposed Via Verde Avenue Median Design

Director Bruns reviewed the displayed landscape plans for the 1.2 mile median that runs from the 57 Freeway to the 10 Freeway on Via Verde Avenue. She mentioned that the irrigation to the turf areas of this median and others throughout the City has been turned off to comply with the State's water restrictions. She reviewed the proposed landscape planting pallet to include drought tolerant plants and 10-12 new trees. The goal is to maintain most of the current trees although several will be removed due to their declining condition. Director Bruns pointed out the "needles" of the median will be converted to rock cobble with minimal planting due to the difficulty to water plants, included in the plan is the use of strategically placed boulders. The current irrigation system will be modified to meet the new standards.

C. Review of Proposed Foothill Boulevard Frontage Median Design

Director Bruns identified the area to be affected by this project as the South frontage landscaped area on Foothill Boulevard between Amelia Avenue and Cataract Avenue. The plans displayed showed the planting plan to include drought tolerant low lying shrubs and several varieties of trees that were selected because they grow to be "bushy" to provide a screening for the housing development. The current oleanders and ground cover will need to be removed to accommodate the plan. She also mentioned that rock and cobble will be installed at the ends of the median to comply with line of site standards. Director Bruns reported that a new irrigation system will be installed.

D. Review of Proposed Marchant Park Design

Director Bruns reviewed the displayed plans for Marchant Park recreation building and the various park areas being rehabilitated within the park. She informed the Commission the recreation building square footage will be increased to accommodate ADA compliant restrooms, an office space and additional storage. Director Bruns described the different elements of the project to include: new accessible sidewalks throughout the park, new landscaping, new stand-alone restroom building, tree removals and new plantings, rehabilitation to the exterior and interior of the Little League buildings, an addition of a picnic area between the ball fields, installation of new picnic tables and benches, facelifts to the three existing gazebos and an overall ADA update to most park elements.

Director Bruns indicated the projects are moving through the design phase at different paces and staff will present final draft proposals to City Council for their approval. Then construction documents can be prepared, bids can be received and the projects can begin.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

A. Director of Parks and Recreation

1. Update on Walnut Creek Open Space Project

Director Bruns informed the Commission the City Council took no action on the CEQA document presented at their June 23, 2015 meeting. Instead the City Council directed staff to review options for the project site with all of the program partners. Staff has met with Los Angeles County Grant Administrators, Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Planning Division, Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Regional Facilities Operations and the Watershed Conservation Authority. Staff will also be meeting with Supervisor Antonovich's field office staff and their planning staff to further discuss options and ideas for the project site. Furthermore the WCA has postponed their decision on the CEQA document as well. The plan is for the partners to develop options and ideas to be presented at a community meeting in the upcoming months.

2. Calendar of Upcoming Events

Manager Raya distributed a calendar of events for July through September; he highlighted the upcoming events such as the City Birthday BBQ, Music in the Park and San Dimas Day at the Fair.

B. Members of the Audience

None

C. Members of the Commission

Commissioner Davis – She mentioned that the San Dimas Historical Society recently had a ~~dinner~~ event at San Dimas Canyon Golf Course and that the food and service were excellent.

Commissioner Smith – thanked the staff for the visual displays for the meeting.

Commissioner Neal – reported that he was conducting a second year of his bicycle safety class for the Parks and Recreation Department and he is very pleased with the outcomes.

Commissioner Kenney – no comment

D. City Council Liaison

Councilmember Ebner informed the Commission the City Council is interviewing applicants for the Planning Commission, at the conclusion of the process the vacancies in the Parks and Recreation and Public Safety commissions will be addressed since several individuals applied to multiple commissions. He shared the City Council conducted a study session on the downtown renovation plans and the project should be started sometime after Christmas. Councilmember Ebner announced National Night Out will be held on August 4, 2015 and encouraged everyone to participate. He indicated there is a new boring beetle infesting trees in the area and damaging many types of trees and requested new trees being considered for the City's projects should be reviewed carefully.

ADJOURNMENT

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:13 P.M.



Karon DeLeon, Facilities Manager