

CITY OF ESCONDIDO

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

February 27, 2013

The regular meeting of the Community Services Commission was called to order at 6:33 p.m., Wednesday, by Chairman Bologna in the City Council Chambers, 201 North Broadway, Escondido, California.

Members present: Chairman Bologna, Commissioner Fralish, Commissioner Pitcher, Commissioner Russell, Commissioner Garcia, Youth Representative.

Commissioners absent: Commissioner Nelson, Commissioner Burrows, Commissioner DuDeck, and Commissioner Farwell.

Staff present: Amy Shipley, Assistant Director Community Services; Karen Williams, Older Adult Services Manager; Jay Petrek, Principal Planner; and Ty Paulson, Minutes Clerk.

MINUTES:

Moved by Commissioner Russell, seconded by Commissioner Fralish, to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2012, meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION:

1. Disc Golf at Kit Carson Park (ACES Disc Golf Representative)

Alan Risley, President of Aces, provided the background history for disc golf. He noted that the Kit Carson disc golf course was donated by the Rotary and installed by volunteers and maintained by San Diego Aces. He noted that ongoing maintenance included replacing damages signage, moving basket locations, trash removal, and planting trees. He then provided some background information on the San Diego Aces. He stated that they were dedicated to promoting disc golf and building a community of disc golfers in San Diego. He also indicated that they were a non-profit 501c.7. He noted that they would be requesting to replace the rubber tee mats with concrete pads in the near future.

Chairman Bologna suggested publicizing the Kit Carson disc golf on the City's website.

Discussion ensued regarding a clarification of the location for the concrete pads. Ms. Shipley noted that the working relationship between Aces and the City had

been very good, noting potential revenue opportunities had also been discussed.

2. Escondido Youth Baseball Improvements (Mike Calhoun)

Mike Calhoun, Escondido, and Chuck Dilts, Field Director, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the background history and potential improvements for the youth baseball Pinto field in Kit Carson Park. Mr. Calhoun noted that the field was originally constructed on a temporary basis, noting that the current materials and design did not meet today's standards. Mr. Dilts noted that he wanted to make the park safer and a better place for the kids, noting that there was a lot of work needed to help bring baseball tournaments into Kit Carson Park. They then provided illustrations which included shifting some fields, providing better access, changing the fencing, adding shade structures, picnic tables, bleachers and benches. They noted that they were looking to the Commission to endorse their concept for providing park improvements through donations they would receive. They also noted that they had already received endorsements from many of the City's departments.

Chairman Bologna asked how many were in the youth league. Mr. Dilts noted that they had over 500 participants in their league.

Commissioner Fralish and Mr. Calhoun discussed the costs associated with the proposed project. Mr. Calhoun felt \$100,000 would go a long way in starting the project, noting that he felt they would be able to raise the funds.

ACTION:

Moved by Commissioner Russell, seconded by Commissioner Fralish, to send a letter of endorsement to the Escondido Youth Baseball for upgrading the baseball fields in Kit Carson Park. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Park Improvement Projects

Mr. Petrek provided the staff report and noted that staff was looking for input and endorsement regarding the theme and location for installing playground equipment in Grape Day Park. He noted that the project would be funded through an \$80,000 grant from Housing and Community Development as well as an \$8,000 donation from the History Center.

Commissioner Russell asked if water features were considered for Grape Day Park. Mr. Petrek replied in the negative.

Commissioner Russell and staff discussed additional possible funding sources.

The Commission endorsed the agricultural theme and location for the Grape Day project.

Mr. Petrek stated that the City had applied for an \$80,000 Smart Growth grant from SANDAG to create a Master Plan for Grape Day Park. He then provided an update on El Caballo Park and requested input.

Discussion ensued regarding revenue generators for El Caballo Park.

CURRENT BUSINESS:

1. COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE

Ms. Shipley introduced Nicole White and Pat Martinez and noted that they would be providing recreation updates in the near future. She provided an update on activities occurring during April and May. She stated that the City was down to one candidate for replacing Jerry Van Leeuwen's position, noting this position would be the Director of Library and Community Services. She then provided a budget update and noted that the budget cycle would be before City Council in March.

2. RECREATION UPDATE

Ms. Shipley provided the update and noted that the adult softball complex was losing players over the years due to the maintenance issues as a result of lack of funding. She noted that the Dawn Brejcha Foundation had to cancel last weekend's tournament and reschedule due to the fields not having proper drainage. She also noted that staff was getting estimates to repair the fields.

Discussion ensued regarding concession sales.

Commissioner Pitcher suggested looking for sponsorship from Pepsi or Coke to help offset the field repairs.

3. OLDER ADULT SERVICES UPDATE

Karen Williams provided the update on the services and programs at the Park Avenue Community Center and noted that Senior Service Council was busy helping senior and low-income community members with their taxes. She stated that Room 3 was now a multi-purpose room and was well received. She indicated that the volunteer luncheon would be held on Friday, April 26th. She also stated that the Park Avenue Community Center received an award from the California Parks and Recreation Society as a result of the efforts spent transitioning the name of the center.

Commissioner Russell asked if the gazebo area was being used. Ms. Williams replied in the affirmative and noted that it was being used during the dances as a

gathering area. Ms. Williams noted that current efforts were being taken broaden the population of younger seniors for the dance.

Ms. Shipley noted that the Joslyn Trust Account was dwindling rapidly. She stated that staff would be looking at methods for obtaining additional funds in this account.

UPDATE ON CITY COUNCIL ACTION – Capital Improvement Budget

Ms. Shipley noted that the CIP funds for improvements to Park Avenue Community Center had been spent. She noted that the last phase would be to redo the signage both inside and out, using CIP funds up to \$40,000.

Chairman Bologna suggested the City create a PayPal account where individuals could make donations.

Ms. Shipley provided the recreation brochure to the Commission. She made special reference to the “For Escondido Golf Tournament” on May 14, 2013.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None.

Commissioner Garcia noted he would draft the letter of endorsement for the Escondido Youth Baseball field improvements.

ITEMS FROM DEPARTMENTS:

Future Agenda Item

Ms. Shipley noted that Captain Bob Benton would provide an update on the activities of the Grape Day Task Force

Development Projects – No Discussion.

Recreation Programs

Ms. Shipley noted that the main challenge for the recreation department was for the programs to be self-sufficient. She also stated that they as requested by City Council, she has looked at the operations of the Escondido Sports Center.

Older Adults Projects/Programs - No Discussion

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Site Committee – DuDeck, Pitcher, and Fralish. Alternate – Farwell.

Revenue & Operations Review – Bologna, and Nelson. Alternate – Burrows.

Community Activities – Garcia, Russell, and Farwell. Alternate – Pitcher.

Facility Use – Bologna, and Fralish,

The Commission and staff provided their updates to each other.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for April 25, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Amy Shipley, Assistant Director of
Community Services

Ty Paulson, Minutes Clerk