



City of Woodland

**REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR  
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: October 2, 2007

SUBJECT: Parks & Recreation Commission  
Meeting Minutes July 25, 2007

**Report in Brief**

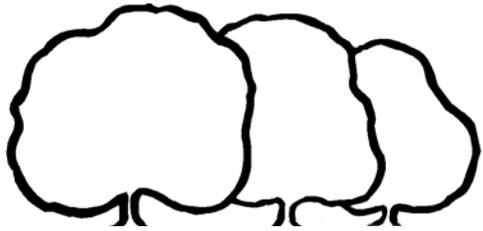
The Parks & Recreation Commission meeting minutes of July 25, 2007 are attached for the Council's review. No action is necessary on this item; the minutes are provided for the City Council's information.

Prepared by: Daniel W. Gentry  
Director

---

Mark G. Deven  
City Manager

Attachment



# City of Woodland

---

Parks & Recreation Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2007

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. at the Woodland Community & Senior Center, 2001 East Street, Woodland by Chairperson Peterson.

### Commissioners

Present: Peterson, Peterson, Slaven, Van Muyden, Barajas,  
Murphy & Dennie (arrived at 7:01), McKay (arrived at 7:07)

Absent: None

Staff: Gentry, Ahlgren, Perkes, Puccetti, Rice, Sanders

## II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## III. MINUTES

### Commission Minutes of (Item 1)

Commissioner Van Muyden moved to approve the June 23, 2007 meeting minutes; Commissioner Slaven seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0 (Murphy, Dennie, McKay had not yet arrived).

## IV. CORRESPONDENCE

Christine Shewmaker's email of July 11, 2007 referencing suggestions for an urban forest donation program was included in the packet; she briefly discussed her proposal (copy attached to these minutes). New Parks & Recreation Commissioner Angel Barajas was welcomed.

## V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Colleen Brock expressed her objection to the recent blocking of the MySpace.Com and other websites on the Youth Center computers. Her son, Brendon Brock, added that it wasn't fair to block games on these computers, and suggested that the rules be different for ages under 16. Chairperson Peterson reported the issue was raised by the City Council who requested that the Commission provide input. Director Gentry noted that the issue is much broader than just the My Space.Com website. Staff will be proposing a policy for all computer usage at the Community & Senior Center which will come before the Commission for their recommendation to the City Council. Gentry added that an Administrative action was taken to block several websites in the Youth Center as a precaution at this time. Commissioner McKay expressed her support for the action taken by the department. McKay noted that a period of examination needs to happen and that there could be liability issues due to the public operation of the facility.

Karen Langford expressed her concern over the maintenance of Schneider and Cline Parks. She provided a report to the Commission the issues. George Ahlgren, Park Superintendent, responded that these parks, like many others, require funding for updating/upgrading their irrigation systems. The Department recently applied for grand funding and was awarded approximately \$1 million to upgrade many of the outdated park irrigation systems.

VI. PRESENTATIONS (none)

VII. CONSENT CALENDAR

Administration Report (Item 2)  
Parks Report (Item 3)  
Recreation Report (Item 4)

Street Tree Report (Item 5)  
Park Planner Report (Item 6)

Commissioner Slaven moved to approve the Consent Calendar; Commissioner Van Muyden seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS-Action Items

August 27, 2007 Commission Meeting Cancellation (Item 7)

Discussion ensued on whether the Commission should cancel their August meeting as is historically done since Commissioners typically work the City's Fair Booth. Commissioner McKay moved and Commissioner Barajas seconded a motion to cancel the August meeting. McKay later retracted the motion however a vote was taken resulting in the motion failing 0-7. Consensus was reached for the Commission's Community & Senior Center Subcommittee (McKay, Dennie, Van Muyden) to review the proposed Community & Senior Center Internet Policy so it can be presented to the Commission at their August 27, 2007 meeting.

Cemetery American Legion's Veteran Monument Wall Upgrade (Item 8)

Corbin Smith and Gil Garcia, of the American Legion, presented their proposal to renovate the Veterans Memorial Wall at the Woodland Cemetery. Preliminary sketches were included in the packet and discussion ensued on whether or not to remove religious references such as the cross or open bible and the Veterans were thanked for their service to the community. Commissioner Murphy moved to recommend approval of the plan (as proposed) to renovate the Veterans Memorial Monument. Commissioner Slaven seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Ferns Park Play Equipment Presentation by RJM Design (Item 9)

As a result of the playground equipment at Ferns Park being destroyed by fire on July 16, 2007, the Commission reviewed replacement options presented by RJM Design, landscape architect, who has been hired by the City.

Park Superintendent Ahlgren reviewed the history of the community effort that went into the design and installation of the original play equipment. He noted that the City has filed an insurance claim for replacement of the structure, although the adjusters have not yet completed their report. Ahlgren reported a community meeting held on July 23, 2007 with quite a few of the original Project Play members in attendance.

John Courtney, with RJM Design Group, presented several options which resulted from the input from the meeting held on July 23, 2007. 1) Leathers & Associates, similar to appearance of old equipment; 2) Add new options and features; 3) New Design based on input from the new residents and children in the area. Courtney added that additionally the replacement of the surfacing material with the poured-in-place materials in order to meet current ADA requirements.

Brad Gollober, Project Play Co-Chair, expressing concern over a duplication of efforts (and cost) if Leathers & Associates (original play equipment designer) and RJM Design Group are both employed to perform landscape architect services; he noted that they want Leathers & Associates to design the project. Gollober added that the revitalized Project Play Committee has volunteers ready to perform the labor necessary for the rebuild.

Pauly Van Muyden (prior Chairperson of Project Play) introduced Victoria Lambert as the new Chairperson of Project Play. Van Muyden reported that Leathers Associates has already agreed to get involved with work with the City on the project.

Commissioner Van Muyden moved to hire Leathers & Associates as the sole architect of the project; no second was made to the motion. Discussion ensued regarding the bid process, requirements for a landscape architect to design the equipment, possible replacement costs estimate being around the \$100,000 range.

Commissioner Van Muyden moved to direct staff to work with the Project Play Committee to come up with design options for the replacement of the Ferns Park playground equipment. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

#### IX. NEW BUSINESS – INFORMATION ITEMS

##### Garden Plots Proposal (Item 10)

Commissioner Murphy reported this issue came up a year ago, and the idea was to find a location in the City, preferable within the perimeter of a park, where a community group could create a community garden program. This would not be a city run project, and we're looking to see if other groups have any interest in developing such a project. Director Gentry responded that this could happen in any location deemed appropriate.

#### X. OLD BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS (none)

#### XI. OLD BUSINESS – INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

##### Sports Park Update (Item 11)

Kent Perkes, Park Planner, introduced John Courtney, the landscape architect with RJM Design Group, who provided the update on the new Sports Park shade structures being proposed to make spectators more comfortable. Courtney presented examples that could be installed and listed as bid alternates in the Sports Park bid package. Discussion ensued on misters, and different types of shade structures that could be considered given the heat that Woodland experiences in the summer season.

#### XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS (none)

#### XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Director Gentry requested a discussion be held at the next Commission meeting about the fencing around Ferns Park and whether it should be removed for aesthetic reasons. Consensus was reached to add it to the next agenda.

XIV. BUSINESS ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: Community & Senior Center Internet Policy; Schneider/Cline Park update; Ferns Park Rebuild Update; Ferns Park Fence Removal; Urban Forestry Subcommittee Report.

XV. NEXT MEETING DATE: August 27, 2007

XVI. ADJOURN: meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Puccetti, Administrative Secretary  
Parks & Recreation Department

Attachment

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Christine Shewmaker](#)  
**To:** [Dan Gentry](#) ; [natepete1@hotmail.com](mailto:natepete1@hotmail.com) ; [Angie Dennie](#)  
**Cc:** [Greg Meyer](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 11, 2007 10:55 AM  
**Subject:** Urban Forest - Named Tree

Last night when Nate Peterson was talking before the city council, he mentioned the urban forest and that they were looking to make more progress on that in the next year.

As many of you know, combating climate change and promoting renewable energy is something I feel strongly about. In June, when the public works department wrote a short overview on their energy efforts, I e-mailed them about an idea I had for an urban forest. At that time, Greg Meyer expressed some interest in my approach. When I heard it come up again last night in the venue of parks and rec, I thought I would bring it back up. That idea follows below.

This importance of trees in removing or sequestering CO<sub>2</sub> is often overlooked, although I think the City of Woodland is well aware of it. There are organizations that allow one to plant a tree in one's name. So I was thinking, is there some place Woodland could set aside for an "Urban Forest". If so, one could then perhaps "sell" named trees for a fee - \$50 dollars - \$100. I do not know what it costs to plant and maintain a tree. One would want to make a profit. The goal would be to use the profit to fund alternative energy approaches. So for example, if the cost of planting and maintaining a tree was \$25, then for each \$50 tree, \$25 would be put in an alternate energy fund. This fund would be used to say fund solar on the community center or retrofit other city buildings for solar or for solar heat for a city pool, etc. And one could have a number of different donation levels. Folks would know that the money would plant a tree and also that the money would go towards 2 or 3 selected alternate energy projects. I did see somewhere that a small utility company in Washington was offering its customers a "share" in the small solar facility they were building for \$250/ person. It was successful. And if one knew how much CO<sub>2</sub> would be saved via each portion of a solar panel that was funded - it might make people interested in funding. A double benefit - the tree removes CO<sub>2</sub> and the panels make their own energy. And of course, several decades from now - one's kids or grandkids could see the effect and the named tree. Maybe a bit more of a wild idea. But I would consider paying \$50 to \$100 for a Christine Kimball Shewmaker tree.

I don't know if Greg Meyer and PW is still interested in this. If Parks and Rec was also interested, perhaps there is a forum where we could discuss further. I realize there are questions about cost of maintenance of the trees, etc. and the numbers I used above may be way off. But I think it would be good to look at this approach further.

*Christine*

Christine Shewmaker. Ph.D.  
Plant Biologist and Woodland Resident  
[blugoose@sbcglobal.net](mailto:blugoose@sbcglobal.net)  
530-668-0953