

City of Woodland

REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: December 16, 2008

SUBJECT: Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2008

Report in Brief

The Parks & Recreation Commission regular meeting minutes of October 27, 2008 are attached for the Council's review. No action necessary, this is informational only.

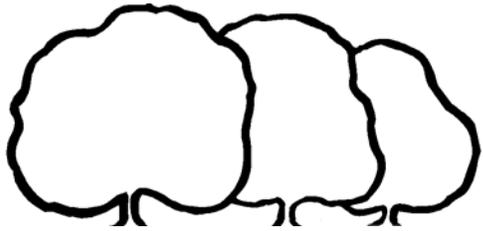
Recommendation for Action

No action required, informational report only.

Prepared by: Daniel W. Gentry
Director

Mark G. Deven
City Manager

Attachment



City of Woodland

Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2008

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 6:35 p.m. at the Woodland Community & Senior Center, 2001 East Street, Woodland, California by Chairperson Murphy.

Commissioners

Present: Crawford, Dennie, McKay, Murphy, Barajas, Tapia

Absent: None (one vacancy)

Staff: Gentry, Puccetti, Rice, Sanders

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. MINUTES

Commission Minutes of September 22, 2008 (Item 1)

Commissioner Dennie moved to approve the September 22, 2008 meeting minutes; Commissioner Barajas seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Tapia was recently appointed by Council to the Parks & Recreation Commission; she was welcomed at the meeting. Commissioner McKay submitted her resignation from the Parks & Recreation Commission with the effective date of December 31, 2008. In January, the Commission's officers and committee assignments will be reviewed and appointments made.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Art Williams, President of the Woodland Tennis Club, asked if he could receive statistical information on tennis program participation. John Bledsoe, parent of two disabled sons, expressed dissatisfaction that the Stepping Out Program has not been held in quite a while. Bledsoe said that although the disabled is a small segment of the population, it's unfair their programs are the first ones cut. There has been no communication from the Department about why the program wasn't being held. Recreation Rice responded that when the Department started experiencing staff reductions last Spring, the Stepping Out Program was put on hold and is now being transitioned to more of a social program (versus excursions) that will be held at the Community & Senior Center. Rice anticipates the program will be held on a monthly or bimonthly basis. Director Gentry said that the Commission's Budget Subcommittee met last month to review the Department's budget and staffing issues. Currently, there are 8 vacant positions plus 2 people out on extended leave which is impacting the Department. The City Council's upcoming Budget Study Session will discuss the anticipated \$2.5 million dollars in budget reductions to Fiscal Year 09/10 which may further impact the Department and the level of service it will be able to provide. Gentry said that we want to do everything possible but funding issues are a reality and programs will have to be

reviewed to determine which ones may have to be cut. We are short staffed with double duties are assigned, and we can no longer operate this way. The Commission reached consensus to discuss how the Department is going to handle the budget issues and recreational program demands.

VI. PRESENTATIONS (none)

VII. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

Recreation Report (Item 4)
Street Tree Report (Item 5)

Discussion ensued about the Yolo Housing Recreation Center's security and unsatisfactory facility conditions where the Boxing and the Folklorico de Latina programs are held. Director Gentry said that the possibility of moving those programs to another location is being discussed. Meanwhile as a short term solution, the Police Department has been asked to drive through the area more often. Commissioner McKay moved to approve the Consent Calendar; Commissioner Barajas seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS-Action Items (none)

IX. NEW BUSINESS – INFORMATION ITEMS (none)

X. OLD BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

Tony Diaz Field Naming (Item 6)

Director Gentry reviewed the history of this issue. John Gerald, of the Woodland Soccer Club, requested a soccer field at the new Woodland Sports Park be named after Tony Diaz at the July 28, 2008 Commission meeting. Since the Woodland Recreation Foundation (WRF) handles the naming rights for the new facility, Gerald was asked to submit his request to them for consideration. On October 13, 2008 the WRF Board of Directors reached consensus to remain within the guidelines for the naming rights of the Community & Senior Center and Sports Park Complex that was approved by the City Council which specifies sponsorship fees for the naming of facilities. Gentry had suggested that Tony Diaz's name could be placed on the list of proposed names for the Springlake N2 Park; however Gerald was not receptive to that idea. WRF Board suggested Gerald explore options for a community fundraising effort and report back.

Public Comment: John Gerald, Woodland Soccer Club, expressed dissatisfaction about being asked to fundraise for the \$25,000 fee in order for a field to be named after Tony Diaz. He added that if he were able to raise \$25,000 those funds would go to Diaz's children and not the City. Carlo Ramirez, a student, supports the naming of a field after Diaz. Nancy Miller, Team Manager, supported the naming of a field after Diaz due to his contributions to the community and asked for the issue to be reconsidered. Robert Marin, Woodland Soccer Club, asked for consideration or subsidized pricing or a fee waiver since \$25,000 is out of reach for the Club.

Discussion ensued about how the naming right donations pay for Community & Senior Center amenities which are purchased as the donations have been received. Also, WRF receives 10% of those donations which fund the monetary grants distributed within the community. The Commission reached consensus to request that the Woodland Recreation Foundation review the naming rights guidelines to see if a revision for this type of community endorsed naming may be

added and/or to see if a compromise on naming a soccer field after Diaz can be reached. Gentry said a Woodland Recreation Foundation would be scheduled and the Commission would receive an update at the January meeting.

Commissioner Barajas moved to approve to send the issue back to the Woodland Recreation Foundation for further review of the naming guidelines and policies for the this facility. Commissioner Crawford seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

2008/09 Commission Work Plan (Item 7)

Director Gentry reviewed the draft Work Plan. Commissioner Crawford noted that the draft Work Plan consists primarily of capital projects and asked if recreational programs and facility maintenance items that are handled during the year could be added to the Work Plan. Director Gentry said the Work Plan's goals must be measurable. He noted that this type of information is included in the Department's Annual Report. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Dennie said it would be helpful to have information in the Recreation Division staff report that includes program changes (i.e. enrollment decreases/increases, program cancellation, changes or issues.) Director Gentry said that staff has a report it provides for the City Manager each year which details program costs, revenue and participation statistics. He would provide that report to the Commission for review during the budget issues review.

Commissioner Dennie moved to approve the 2008/09 Work Plan with the amendment of adding the status of Recreation Programs and the Park Maintenance Annual Report. Commissioner Crawford seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

XI. OLD BUSINESS – INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

ADA Accessibility Option for Community & Senior Center Update (Item 8)

Director Gentry reported that the City Council approved the ADA Accessibility Project. However due to the \$3.5 million dollar shortfall the Capital Budget's project list is being reviewed, and some projects may be delayed or reduced in scope. At the Commission on Aging meeting today, they discussed also upgrading the south side of the building ADA receive upgrades similar to the North side project. Some projects may be delayed or stripped. There is no guarantee of when this project will actually happen. We have begun construction on the Camarena/Christiansen Parks projects however the Harris/City Park projects may be delayed even though we've already received the bids.

XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Facilities Committee Springlake Park N2 Naming (Item 9)

Director Gentry reported the Facilities Committee created a process for the naming of the Springlake N2 Park; the draft application form was reviewed and edited. The community will be asked to submit applications which will be reviewed by the Committee who will then make their recommendation to the Commission. Nominees will be invited to make a short presentation to the Commission. Commissioner Barajas moved to approve the Facilities Committee recommendation for the process of naming the N2 Park; Commissioner Dennie seconded motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Sports Park Grand Opening (Item 10)

Director Gentry gave an update on the upcoming Sports Park Grand Opening event; the fireworks have been cancelled and Commissioners were invited to be hosts and greet attendees.

Commissioner Dennie asked why the Fitness Center opening has been delayed. Director Gentry said the issue is under discussion with the City Council and Mayor Davies is adamant that it should not open under a fee basis. Commissioner Crawford asked for a Fitness Center update to be added to the meeting agenda. Discussion ensued on the issue of the City competing with the existing fitness centers in town who have expressed concern.

Director Gentry said there is a proposal on the table to eliminate the Phase III of Sports Park which would reduce the Springlake Park obligation for park land. The original requirement was for 10 acres per 1,000 people; in the Master Plan it's 6 acres per 1,000 people; and the Sports Park Phase III Development it's 5 acres per 1,000 people. The developers are pushing to have that requirement reduced. Commissioner Murphy asked for a presentation on the issue at a future meeting. Director Gentry said he had just received a report from the Committee working on the issue, and the item is scheduled for discussion at the December 16, 2008 City Council meeting. Discussion ensued.

Budget Committee (Item 11)

Commissioner Crawford presented a draft letter created by the Budget Committee which will be forwarded to Council. The letter addresses the Department's budget and staffing problems.

There is a definite trend of the Department losing both full time and part time employees, and that isn't fair to the community who has voted on sales tax measure to build quality facilities and then either from park, recreation or senior programs perspective we have seen the effects. The Department is being asked to shoulder a misappropriate level of staff cuts and responsibilities. Consensus was reached to also copy the employee associations on the letter to Council. Discussion ensued on the staff positions that are frozen, and the level of service the Department is being able to provide. Commissioner McKay moved to approve the letter to Council; Commissioner Dennie seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Commissioner Crawford will present the letter to Council at their Budget Study Session on October 27, 2008.

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Robert Marin, Woodland Soccer Club, asked what resolution was found for the Douglass Park soccer usage issues. Director Gentry said the opening of the soccer fields here at the Sports Park should resolve the overuse issues, and the Police Department stepped up their patrols however reported they were not seeing any violations. Marin said he thought action was taken to limit Douglass to only two fields at Douglass and the conflict with the softball leagues is from April to September. We start soccer in June but don't get the fields until October. Director Gentry said there was no definitive action taken to limit Douglass to two fields, it may have been a neighborhood's request but it was not Commission action. At this point with the opening of the new fields during soccer time of year with the greatest number of teams playing, we don't think it's going to be an issue. We don't want to over react, if it becomes an issue and the soccer programs grow that much more and the off season gets impacted then we can reopen this issue.

XIV. BUSINESS ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

Tony Diaz Field Naming, Budget Report; Developer Fee budget, Fitness Center Update; Hosting a Meet & Greet Event for newly elected legislators; Stepping Out Program Report.

XV. NEXT MEETING DATE: November 24, 2008

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

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Puccetti, Administrative Secretary
Parks & Recreation Department