



City of Woodland

REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: April 7, 2009

SUBJECT: Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of
February 23, 2009

Report in Brief

The Parks & Recreation Commission regular meeting minutes of February 23, 2009 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 February 23, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 6:30 p.m. at the Woodland Community & Senior Center, 2001 East Street, Woodland, California by Chairperson Murphy.

Commissioners

Present: Dennie, Crawford, Murphy, Tapia, Barajas

Absent: None

Staff: Gentry, Haynie, Rice, Stewart, Schroeder, Tringali

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. MINUTES

Commission Minutes of January 26, 2009 (Item 1)

Commissioner Dennie moved to approve the January 26, 2009 meeting minutes with a change to the committees, Murphy and Crawford assigned to Woodland Sports Council, instead of Tapia and Crawford; Commissioner Barajas seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

Letter dated February 23, 2009 from Joan Taylor Warren stating her concerns with the portable restrooms at Dave Douglass Park. Letter to be included with these minutes.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Art Williams spoke on the Woodland Tennis club and the need for more tennis courts in Woodland.

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 on items included in the Parks and Recreation Reports in regard to: Last year's Revenue Report and the current Revenue Reports. The Woodland Community & Senior Center revenue is projected to be down approximately \$20,000 this fiscal year. Director Gentry informed the Commission that the Parks & Recreation Department had a budget savings in excess of \$400,000 this fiscal year. Commissioner Dennie moved to approve the Consent Calendar; Commissioner Crawford seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS-Action Items

Review of Spring Lake N2 Park Master Plan (Item 6)

The Architect for the Spring Lake N2 Park Master Plan explained all the amenities. Answered questions and informed Commission the cost to the City would be approximately \$75,000 to change the parks design at the time. Bruce Dennie, John Wu, Auy Cook, Hong Yang, Dr. Susan Hsu, Arthur Beauchamp, Ray Groom, Philip Matern, Deyi Zhey, Julie Dechant, Ping Chen, Art Williams, Claudette Landry, Ellen Tanf, John D. McClure, Reva Barzo, Amanda Mahler, Dr. Baoping, Arthur Beauchamp and Sarah Swent all voiced their concerns either for or against the dog park in the Spring Lake N2 Park Master Plan. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Dennie made the motion to not make any changes to the Spring Lake N2 Master plan and not to send a recommendation to Council; Commissioner Barajas seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Murphy voting no.

Set a joint Meeting with the Commission on Aging (Item 7)

Director Gentry informed Commission that the date of April 27, 2009 was set aside for a Joint Commission meeting with the Commission on Aging. Director Gentry requested direction on the Agenda for the joint Commission meeting. Discussions ensued. Commissioner Murphy made a motion to have Commissioner Crawford contact COA Chair Karen Whright and set an agenda for a Joint Commission Meeting on April 27, 2009, time to be determined by agenda items. With the normal scheduled Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting to follow Joint Commission meeting. Commissioner Barajas seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

IX. OLD BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

Meet & Greet Program (Item 8)

Commissioner Dennie made a motion to approve the Parks & Recreation Commissioner to develop a Meet & Greet Program with Commissioner Crawford taking the lead on this project; Commissioner Barajas seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

Tony Diaz Field Naming Update (Item 9)

Director Gentry reported that the Mayor suggested to staff that we designate one of the unnamed multi-use fields as a "Memorial Field". At this field a "monument" of some sort where the names of heroes like Tony could be inscribed and added to as necessary. John Gerald stated that he liked the idea of a Memorial Field and asked what the timeline would be for the monument. Director Gentry said that three months was usually what it took to get approval and designs approved. Commissioner Crawford made the motion to recommend to City Council to designate one of the unnamed Sports Park multi-use fields as a "Memorial Field" and that staff will work towards meeting the anniversary of Tony Diaz death date; Commissioner Dennie seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Dave Douglass Park Issues (Item 10)

Teresa Pena, Charles Gray, John Gerald, Tino Medina, Brandon Marin, Andrew LaMar, Shelly Rice, Shawn Seyk, Robert Grahn, Peter Holmes, Leah Montez, Jose Jordan, Mark Ochoa, Nikki Ochoa, Denise McGill, Robert Marin all voiced their concerns, with Soccer group stating the need for more fields and homeowners requesting less traffic, trash and an unobstructed view of the park. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Barajas made the motion to nullify limiting Dave Douglass Park and send the issue back to the Facility Committee. Commissioner Crawford Seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

X. OLD BUSINESS – INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (None)

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS (None)

XII. OTHER BUSINESS

XIII. BUSINESS ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

Naming of N2 Park Presentation
City Manager, Mark Deven-Budget
Joint Commission Agenda

XIV. NEXT MEETING DATE: March 23, 2009.

XV. ADJOURN: meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Haynie, Acting Administrative Secretary
Parks & Recreation Department

February 23, 2009

Woodland Parks and Recreation
2001 East Street
Woodland, CA 95776

RE: Portable Restrooms in Dave Douglass Holding Pond Park

Dear Woodland Parks and Recreation Commission,

I am writing this letter in hopes of preventing further frustration and more neighborhood involvement and petitions.

My name is Joan Warren and I have lived at 830 W. El Dorado Drive for the last 25 years. I am the original owner of the home. My house was a custom built home capitalizing on the view of the holding pond park and my home borders the park on the back property line. Due to the fact that West El Dorado Drive is a very busy street, my two story home was designed to capitalize on the view from the back of the house. My family room, my kitchen, my dining room, my guest bathroom, my master bedroom and master bath all have windows looking out onto the park. I even framed the view with a trellis out onto a terraced area in my backyard. This is the unobstructed view I have enjoyed for 25 years as well as the view my neighbors enjoy. All of the homes on the south side of the park are built up on the top edge of the holding pond, so we look down on the park. Our fences sit low to allow a better view of the park. I knew Dave Douglass and worked with him and the Cub Scouts to better both the holding pond park and the community.

For years events have been held in the holding pond from baseball to soccer to adult football. For the past 25 years the portable restrooms have been located in the center of fields. They were away from the houses and mid field for the ease of use. The use of the portable restrooms can be very noisy with the slamming of the doors (especially in the middle of the night) and the noise and smell of the truck which comes to clean the restrooms. Not only are they noisy, they present a very hazardous situation when they have been set on fire many times in the past years. Imagine waking up to a the sight of a bon fire in the field behind your homes, fire engines, lights, P.G. & E crew men checking poles, transformers and lines for damage. There have been many sleepless nights due to the location of the portable restrooms.

You can only imagine the insult Parks and Recreation presented to my existence this past summer when they placed not one but two very large portable toilets directly behind our houses at the 'Y' of the walking path. They infringed upon and ruined the view for which I and the neighbors have enjoyed for the last 25 years. If you can picture this, looking at two very big and very ugly, bright green and bright turquoise green portable toilets from every view, every window of your home and backyard. My backyard trellis now framed the big WASTE MANAGEMENT logo on the back of the portable toilets. My friends and family encouraged me to bring suit against the Parks Recreation Department for spoiling my view and bringing the value of my property down. It was sincerely a burden to me as a homeowner. It was an obstructed view that each and everyone on the Parks and Recreation Commission would not have put up with if it was seen from every rear window and backyard of their homes. I believe there was absolutely no thought or consideration given to the

blight the placement of the portable restrooms placed on the good neighbors of the holding pond park. We are the neighbors who watch out for vandalism in the park, we are the neighbors who live near and enjoy the park, pay taxes to maintain the park and spend quality time in and around the park with our families and friends.

There are solutions to the problem. The portable toilets could easily be placed at the end of the park near County Road 98 on a pad. They would be easy to service there and could be tucked next to the fence where they would not impede anyone's view of the park. People would actually have to get up and walk to the bathrooms, but at least they wouldn't have to sit at the games and smell them. Every male dog that walks past the portable toilets pees on them. At least the neighbors wouldn't be so upset at the Parks and Recreation Commission for using poor judgment in placing the portable restrooms. They could be secured on a pad so that we, the neighbors wouldn't have to be woken up in the middle of the night to the sound of people slamming the doors of the restrooms, tipping them over on their sides, throwing items up against them, trying to lock people in them, exploding firecrackers in them and all the malicious damage that occurs in and around the restrooms in the middle of the night.

Over the years, I have not complained over the use of the park. But, the parking is horrendous on the weekends especially with the increased use of the park over the past year. The soccer group arrives at 7:30 a.m. so there is no sleeping in on the weekends. If you do not want cars in front of your house all day, you have to get up by 7:00 a.m. to park your own car in front of your house. The people double park, block driveways, dart out from in between cars, and leave litter on the lawns and in the neighborhood. The balls are kicked up against our fence (very noisy, very annoying) and kicked over the fences. Now play is even allowed in the bottle neck of the park, so you have screaming coaches and onlookers directly behind my fence. It sounds as if they are playing soccer in my backyard.

I will not sit quiet this year. I will join with the other neighbors who have started petitions, held meetings and took a stand against the overuse of the Dave Douglass Holding Pond Park. I will also encourage the neighbors to petition the installation of sound walls at the rear of our homes. The existing wood and chain link fences are in need of repair and the wood fences must be maintained by the homeowners themselves although the damage is mostly done from the park side of the fences. There has been ivy planted on the chain link fence which is slowly taken over the fences and creeping into the yards. Sooner or later it will break up the chain link fence and the wood slants.

Further, I will seek counsel if the portable restrooms are placed at the Y of the walking path in the park as it is an infringement of my rights to an unobstructed 25 year old view from my home.

Please feel free to contact me at the following address:

Joan Taylor Warren
830 W. El Dorado Drive
Woodland, CA 95695
530-661-1754

Thank you for your kind and prompt attention to this matter. I will be glad to address the Parks and Recreation Commission personally if deemed necessary.

Your neighbor,

Joan Taylor Warren