

**CITY OF BUENA PARK
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
April 18, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Wilson-Thomas called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:04 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 6650 Beach Boulevard, Buena Park, California.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Kato, Pearson, Siebert, Vaca, Weinstock, Wilson-Thomas

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Jim Box, Director of Community Services
Dale Kurata, Community Services Supervisor
Michelle Van Sickle, Senior Community Services Coordinator
Maura Toohey, Senior Community Services Coordinator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The pledge of allegiance was led by Chair Wilson-Thomas.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

March 23, 2019 – Commission Park Tour

*** *M/S/P* - Commissioners Kato/Pearson approved the minutes as amended.

March 21, 2019 - Regular Meeting

*** *M/S/P* - Commissioners Kato/Siebert approved the minutes as amended.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT/CITY UPDATE: Mr. Jim Box recapped the last council meeting where Commissioner Kato spoke and Commissioner Weinstock was also in attendance. Council decided to move forward with the decision to appoint commissioners by district. Mr. Box said he will push for our current commissioners to hold their positions. The committee reviewing applications and conducting interviews will be Mr. Box, Council Member Park, and a second Council Member. Mr. Box will keep everyone updated as he receives more information.

Mr. Box reported new park on 8th St. and Western has been approved to be named Rick Gomez Park. On Saturday, June 8 at 10:00 a.m. there will be the first of two community planning meetings. The first one will be held at the park site, 7501 8th Street. Parking will be extremely limited and a continuous shuttle will be running from City Hall starting at 9:30 a.m. Invitations are going to everyone living within 500 feet of the site, all of City Council, and members of each commission. Everyone in attendance will have the opportunity to interact in the park design process led by landscape architect, David Volz. The second community planning meeting will be held at the July meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission. David Volz will bring forth finding and design concepts from the first meeting.

Mr. Box notified commission members that there is a community meeting coming up at Whitaker School on Wednesday, April 24 at 8:30 a.m. Mr. Box and the City Manager's Office will be speaking to the parents at the school, along with a landscape architect on a park to be constructed on Whitaker School property. Mr. Box will report back to the commission.

Mr. Box mentioned that at the last meeting he had spoken about the grant received for fitness equipment at Boisseranc Park. Since then city staff have made the decision to decline the grant opportunity.

Lastly, Mr. Box announced that Love Buena Park is on Saturday, May 4. We have four projects that our department is working on: San Antonio Park Girls Softball park clean up and painting; Peak Park Pool mural; installation of smoke detectors in a senior, mobile housing complex; and Ehlers Senior Center clean up.

4. STAFF REPORT:

Mr. Dale Kurata reported on the Larwin shade structure construction that began earlier this month. The estimated completion date is May 8. Last meeting Commissioner Weinstock had asked about the Kiwanis plaque and Mr. Kurata announced that Public Works has located the plaque and will be re-installing it.

Mr. Kurata announced the Lindbergh playground is scheduled to go to bid on May 9 with the bid opening on May 23.

Mr. Kurata reported that the Silverado billboards are being restored. The former billboards were 8ft by 24ft wooden panels and had become termite infested. To restore the original look, vinyl banners of the same size are being made and will be framed in wood.

Mr. Kurata disclosed that the City Manager's Office is working on updating directional signs to parks to have the City logo and a uniform look. Mr. Box added that there will be ample signage upfront so the public will know what each park has.

Mr. Kurata said that staff is looking in to a potential capital improvement project to upgrade the Community Gardens. This might include adding a new fence, signage, and a trail along the backside of the garden area.

Lastly, Mr. Kurata recalled from the March meeting that Commissioner Weinstock asked about using youth sports scholarship donation funds for the "Get Your Mitts" program. The Finance Department has approved the use of these funds for that purpose.

Ms. Michelle Van Sickle reported that P-Nut games begin on May 4, but the program is underway now with team meetings and practices. The Deterding family is starting a non-profit program called "Get Your Mitts" inspired by former Commissioner Rick Gomez. Rick would make sure that any players in need would have the necessary supplies to play whether it was gloves, cleats, uniforms, etc. So far the program has received 6 mitts and is in contact with teams to get them to proper players. Mr. Box added that he spoke with Laurie Deterding and told her how nice the gloves in packages looked that she prepared. Currently they are focusing on first-time P-Nut Division (6-8 yrs.) players, but hope to be able to expand to program-wide in future years. Commissioner Siebert asked what each mitt costs, and if other commissions could donate.

Ms. Van Sickle said the Track and Field Meet took place on Friday, March 9. There were nearly 350 youth signed up for the meet and most of them were in attendance. Ms. Van Sickle wanted to

specifically thank Commissioner Weinstock for coming and helping out once again in the awards area and cheering everyone on. Mr. Kurata played a short video on the track meet that was posted to the City's Facebook by the Communications and Marketing Coordinator. Qualifying participants from our meet are eligible to advance to the Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation (SCMAF) Orange County meet held Sunday, May 19 at Mission Viejo High School. We have had many registrations in the last couple of days. Commissioner Weinstock asked how he could give input and direction as to where and when the next meet is since Sundays are difficult for some families. Ms. Van Sickle provided information about the committee's selection process.

Ms. Van Sickle said that Spring Eggstravaganza is this Saturday, April 20 at Boisseranc Park. The Noon Lions will start the day with the pancake breakfast and then the egg hunt will be at 12 noon.

Ms. Van Sickle notified the commission that we are staffing the Community Gardens during the week a couple of hours per day to inspect the plots. Staff will make sure that everyone is in compliance and keeping up with any work that needs to be done in their garden. The gardeners will be able to contact the staff and know who to contact.

Ms. Van Sickle disclosed that there are currently four players in the P-Nut Baseball program that have received scholarships. They were all existing recipients with a balance on their account. There have not been any new applicants.

Ms. Maura Toohey reported that at the Community Gymnasium the staff are preparing for Youth Summer Sports Camp which begins in June. Youth basketball classes just began and attendance is high with three classes full or over-enrolled.

Ms. Toohey also reported on the Aquatics program. She said that Peak Pool is currently used on weekends by Knott's Soak City's for training and the City's staff training will begin later this month. Training will continue until the pools open on Memorial Day.

5. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

- a. Peak Park Pool Mural as a Love Buena Park Project – Mr. Box said he is looking for recommendations from the Commission on the design elements of the proposed mural. If the commission likes the design then it will be given to City Council for approval. Ms. Toohey referenced the packet that has pictures. She explained the mural will be going on the interior west wall. The wall is about 8 feet tall and over 100 feet long. The volunteers will be painting the wall which will already have the design sketched out. The Commission approved the mural.
- b. 2019 Summer Program Overview for Summer Parks, Aquatics, and Gymnasium – Ms. Michelle Van Sickle reported that is only a preview and a full report on the success of the programs will be at a later date. The Summer Parks program will be offered Mon.-Fri., 12-4pm, at eight parks. A variety of games, crafts, and activities are planned daily. Three special events are hosted at Peak Park. We start with Picassos in the Park which are art projects that they might not normally get to do. Wack-O-Lympics has many games and then the most popular event is The Great Splash which is similar to Wack-O-Lympics but is all water themed. We are also looking at adding a program to two of our parks called, Kids Café coordinated with Second Harvest. This will be a free lunch and snack program offered at Bellis Park and Peak Park for any kids under 18 years of age.

P-Nut baseball begins May 4th and will continue through the end of July. The campout day is on July 19 and picnic day is July 20 with the awards ceremony.

Another new program we will be offering is Movies Under the Stars. We will be showing four movies: two at Smith-Murphy; one at San Marino; and one at Peak as part of P-Nut campout. These will be on select Fridays starting at 6:30 p.m. with fun games, face painting, and other activities for the kids and then beginning the movie at dusk. The hope is that people in the surrounding neighborhoods will be able to walk to the park to enjoy the movie and activities.

Ms. Toohey reported on the Youth Summer Sports camp and emphasized that participants would be going to Peak Park Pool twice this year instead of the traditional single trip. Ms. Toohey said that planning is underway and the program is right on track. She also added that the regular classes are running smoothly.

Ms. Toohey reported that aquatics preparations are underway and staff are getting ready for summer. The City's program will officially begin on Memorial Day and run through Labor Day. This year there are a few changes like online registration, weekend swim lessons, and evening swim at Boisseranc Park as part of the Summer Concert Series.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS:

a. News Releases, Department Flyers, Etc.

Movies Under the Stars Flyer, Youth Summer Sports Camp Flyer, Aquatics Flyers

- 7. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** At the first community meeting for Gomez Park, staff will ask the attendees if they will drive to City Hall for the second meeting. Commissioner Siebert asked if the parking lot under the Edison Right of Way between Stanton and Beach is public parking. Commissioner Weinstock asked about the status on naming of the dog park. Mr. Box said we would bring an agenda item to the next Commission meeting. Commissioner Vaca asked Mr. Box if Council is going to move quickly on the appointments by district and if he reapplies when his term ends. Commissioner Weinstock asked if the new site of the Navigation Center, at the Cabellero Yard, will affect Park and Recreation activities. Commissioner Kato said she will not be at the next meeting.

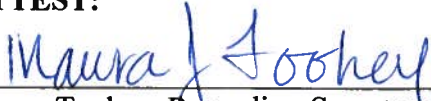
8. ATTENDANCE SHEET: As distributed.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Next City Council Meeting: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.
b. Next Regular Commission Meeting: Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Chair Wilson-Thomas adjourned the meeting at 8:16 PM.

ATTEST:



Maura Toohey, Recording Secretary



Kathleen Wilson-Thomas, Chair