

CITY OF BUENA PARK
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
September 18, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Gomez called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 6650 Beach Boulevard, Buena Park, California.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Gomez, Kato, Vaca, Weinstock, Wilson-Thomas
Excused: Pearson, Seibert
Also Present: Margaret Riley, Director of Community Services
Dale Kurata, Parks & Recreation Manager
Michelle Van Sickle, Community Services Coordinator
Veronica Ramirez, Community Services Coordinator
John Mediran, Senior Lifeguard

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Kato.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Meeting of June 19, 2014.
*** *M/S/P* – Commissioners Kato/Weinstock – Motion to approve minutes as presented.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.
3. **DIRECTOR'S/STAFF REPORT:** Margaret Riley, Director of Community Services, reported on the success of the various Summer programs. The Grand Opening of Ehlers Plaza was also a success. Special commendation was given to staff for helping to make the summer programs and the grand opening of Ehlers Plaza possible.

In addition, Ms. Riley announced City Council's approval to extend facility rental hours until midnight. Previously, events had to end no later than 11:00 p.m. Ms. Riley also announced the Silverado Days kick-off event on Thursday, October 18 at 5:00 p.m. All were encouraged to attend.

Dale Kurata, Parks and Recreation Manager, introduced John Mediran, Senior Lifeguard from our Aquatics staff. Mr. Kurata also reminded the commission about the water drought and the mailer that was sent out to all residents notifying them of the water restrictions. Staff is trying their best to adhere to those restrictions but finding it extremely challenging maintaining the aesthetics of the parks and medians considering the drought.

Michelle Van Sickle, Community Services Coordinator, announced the start of Youth Soccer season. Games will begin on Saturday, September 20, 2014 at Boisseranc Park. Currently, staff is getting ready for Silverado Days and Parents Night Out on Halloween night.

4. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

- a. Youth Sports Scholarship Update – Ms. Van Sickle reported that to date, there have been a total of twenty-four (24) scholarships awarded; sixteen (16) of them were swim

scholarships. Currently, there are two (2) pending applications for Youth Soccer. The current available scholarship fund balance is \$3,113.00.

b. Summer Program Evaluation:

1. Summer Aquatics – Mr. Kurata reported on the success of the summer aquatics program. This program is one of a few programs that are coordinated predominately with part-time staff. Staff do a fantastic job every summer. This year, the total revenue was \$100,197.
2. Summer Parks Program – Ms. Van Sickle reported on the success of the Summer Parks and Sports programs. This is a free drop-in program that was offered from June 16 – August 8, 2014, Monday through Friday from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. Although this is a popular program, attendance was slightly down due to the Ehlers Plaza construction.
3. P-nut Baseball – Ms. Van Sickle reported on the success of P-nut and Clinic baseball. This year, there were twenty-seven (27) teams. Each team played 17-18 games throughout the season. Clinic baseball started on June 16, 2014 for six (6) weeks that ended with an awards ceremony. Pnut Campout and Picnic Day concluded both programs on July 25 – 26, 2014 with an awards ceremony and a participation trophy for each player.
4. Gymnasium Programs – Veronica Ramirez, Community Services Coordinator, reported on the success of the various gym programs. Adult softball and adult basketball continue to be busy and successful programs as well as the drop-in sports program. The gym classes offered for ages 2 – 14 years old are offered year round and continue to be consistent numbers year after year. The Youth Summer Sports camp attendance total exceeded the goal of 400. A total of 481 children attended and the numbers continue to grow each year.

Additionally, Ms. Ramirez reported on the V.O.L.T. program. To date, there are eighty-seven (87) active members with 3,299 hours volunteered. Volunteers must be within the ages of 13 – 17 years old and attend monthly meetings to remain active. These volunteers assist with many of the city's programs, classes, camps and various city events.

- c. Grant for Outdoor Exercise Equipment – Mr. Kurata presented the proposed outdoor fitness equipment that will be installed at Bellis Park. The grant that is being offered is through St. Jude Hospital. There are two components to obtain this grant: the first is to contract a grant writer for \$15,000 to pursue grants on walking trails; the second component will involve \$100,000 to install outdoor fitness equipment at two designated low-income locations. Staff is seeking recommendations from the commission as to which parks they would like to see the fitness equipment installed. The goal of the grant is to lower obesity rates in low-income areas. After discussion, the commission agreed that San

Marino and Peak Parks are the two locations that should have the outdoor fitness equipment installed.

- d. Budgeted Capital Improvement Project (CIP) List – Mr. Kurata distributed a handout listing a summary of Capital Improvement Projects for the next two years. Staff will bring the prioritized list as was discussed with the City Manager to the next commission meeting for the commission's review.
- e. Park Projects Update - Mr. Kurata announced that the basketball court at Peak Park has been resurfaced and re-stripped. Staff is preparing the park for Silverado Days.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS:

- a. News Releases, Department Flyers, Etc. – Ms. Ramirez distributed the report on graffiti removal.

6. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Next City Council Meeting: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 5:00 p.m.
- b. Next Regular Commission Meeting: October 16, 2014 7:00 p.m.

- 8. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, Chair Gomez called the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to the next commission meeting on October 16, 2014.

ATTEST:



Mary Coles-Guzman, Recording Secretary



Rick Gomez, Chair