



(708)

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION**

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

7:00 p.m.

City of Huntington Beach  
Civic Center – Council Chambers  
2000 Main Street  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Chair Kreitz called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., Roberts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Albert Gasparian; David Hubbard; Susie Jones; Jay Kreitz; Cathy McGough; Dan Moss; John Myers; Buddy Roberts; Barbara Steel

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** David Bloom (excused); Allan Pogrund (excused)

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jim B. Engle; Janeen Laudenback; Luann Brunson; Rob Frizzelle; John Valinsky; Mary Loadsman

**PRESENTATIONS** – Rob Frizzelle, Recreation Coordinator, explained that the goal of the Community Services Youth Sports Program is to provide fun in a safe, competitive league; and instruction in an environment where the youth of the community can enjoy sports. He explained the Youth Sportsman Award was being renamed the “Harry W. Montague Sportsman Award” in honor of the former city employee, Harry Montague, who ran Edison Community Center and was heavily involved in the city’s Youth Sports Program. He introduced John Valinsky, the current Edison Community Center Recreation Supervisor, to speak about his personal involvement with Harry Montague. Valinsky thanked the commission for their support of quality recreation, noting that he had grown up going to Edison Community Center under the tutelage of Harry Montague. He explained that Harry had been killed while riding his bicycle and was the inspiration for him to accept a recreation position at the city. Additional speakers included Shirley Carey, Judy Smyser and Todd Smyser, who talked about the scholarship at Edison High that had been named in honor of Harry. They also supported renaming the award because it allows the community to remember Harry Montague and the values he taught to so many youths in the community.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** – none.

**MINUTES -**

**MOTION:**

**Moved by Roberts, seconded by Moss, to approve the January 14, 2009 Community Services Commission minutes.**

**AYES: Hubbard, Kreitz, McGough, Moss, Roberts**  
**ABSTAIN: Gasparian, Jones, Myers, Steel**  
**ABSENT: Bloom, Pogrund**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**DIRECTOR'S ITEMS –**

Engle reported the judge in the senior center trial found in favor of the city regarding language used on the Measure T ballot initiative. He said that on March 12<sup>th</sup>, the judge would set the next trial date that includes the challenge to the Conditional Use Permit, the Environmental Impact Report, and the use of park funds for the senior center. He added staff has been meeting with Makar on design aspects of the new senior center.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS -**

Park Acquisition and Development Fund (PA&D) Mid-Year Update – Engle explained the original projections for the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) budget were based on revenue projections that have since changed. Staff had to re-evaluate the budget and its proposed projects. He introduced Luann Brunson, Sr. Analyst, to review the original and revised budget relative to projected revenues and projects. Brunson explained the projected revenues in the PA&D Fund had to be reduced by approximately \$2.8 million. Engle added that the state has also frozen grant monies. Due to these facts certain projects had to be put on hold, or had to be reduced in scale. These projects are presented in the attachment in the commission packet.

After discussion about the projects, the city's economic condition, second tier reserves, and the challenge of the upcoming 2009/2010 fiscal year, the commission took the following action:

**MOTION:**

**Moved by Moss, seconded by Myers, to approve revisions to the Park Acquisition and Development Fund Capital Improvement Project budget for FY 2008/2009 as presented.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**INFORMATION ITEMS –**

Wardlow Park – Engle noted that staff had met with the developer of the property at Wardlow School, and that there may be a possibility of obtaining additional land on the east side of the ball fields, for the purpose of providing additional parking for the park. He said that when the developer's proposal to the city is finalized for the residential area and the proposed parking, staff would bring back options for the park reconfiguration.

Visitor's Kiosk – Engle reported the new Visitor's Kiosk building is currently being constructed off-site by a modular building company and that installation is planned for the near future. He said the City Council will be approving an agreement with the Huntington Beach Marketing and Visitors Bureau, (formerly the Conference & Visitor's Bureau), to operate the new kiosk.

Bartlett Park – Engle explained that Bartlett Park has several site constraints including habitat and archeological issues. He said staff is moving forward with having environmental studies completed by a consultant, to determine what components could be considered for development, including a small neighborhood park, trails, and open space. Once the consultant has finished this work, a public hearing will be conducted.

Permanent Pier Buildings – Engle noted that the construction plans are being developed for the Pier Buildings. He said that Council approved the design and uses for the new pier buildings. At the direction of City Council, staff is negotiating leases with the existing concessionaires. He said staff has provided the general building design and floor plans to the concessionaire so they can plan their tenant improvements. He explained that by manufacturing the buildings off-site, the removal and installation of the new buildings would have minimal impact to the public and concessionaires. He said the current schedule is for the permanent buildings to be in place before summer.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATION** – none.

**COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS –**

HCP Equestrian Center – Moss explained the January 28, 2009 meeting was the first meeting he had attended as a commission representative. He reported that the Equestrian Center operators reviewed fee aspects with the committee, and in the process, explained the center costs that had escalated, including those related to horse waste removal. He added that the Equestrian Center and Shipley Nature Center could possibly benefit from a vermiculture and waste removal project that would generate free fertilizer. He said he hoped that he could develop the idea for staff consideration.

Youth Sports Grant Committee – Moss reported the Youth Sports Grant Committee toured facilities and reviewed the proposal requests totaling \$300K. He said that the committee had prioritized the needs and agreed to recommend allocating the full grant amount of \$150,000. The committee recommendations will be presented at the next commission meeting.

### **COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS –**

Kreitz commended staff on being able to accomplish a lot with so little. He noted that he has never seen such a small staff to population ratio for any other city, and is constantly impressed with all of the programs that are offered.

Roberts asked the status on the new skate park. Engle responded that staff had met with leaders in the industry to discuss possible sponsorship options. He said it is recommended that the city provide conceptual designs to present to potential sponsors. A Request For Proposal (RFP) for skate park design is in process and commission will be kept updated on any progress. Once the designer is onboard, the master plan process will begin, including soliciting public input.

Myers commended staff on presenting the Mid-Year report, noting it was easily understood. He also commented that he hoped that a solution for the bluff top bathrooms could be found. Myers asked if there were plans to change the downtown library and art center. Engle responded that there were public input meetings regarding the new Downtown Master Plan that included a cultural plaza, in the area of the library and art center. He said that staff has provided input for the plan.

Gasparian stated he was impressed with the good sportsman award and asked if the Pacific City development was still ongoing. Engle responded that staff had been meeting with representatives from Makar on the new senior center, which Makar is designing and will construct. He did not know the current status of Pacific City.

Jones commented that she attended the kite festival again this year, and that Dave Shenkman, from the Kite Connection verbally thanked Jim Engle and staff for their support. She also commented on having attended the “HB Reads One – Kids From No Where”, another program supported by the Community Services Department which was well attended.

**ITEMS DISTRIBUTED**

Friends of Shipley Nature Center Newsletter, March 2009.  
Project Self-Sufficiency Newsletter, February and March 2009.  
Council On Aging Newsletter, February and March 2009.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Community Services Commission regular meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

JIM B. ENGLE  
Director  
Community Services Commission

By: Mary Loadsman, Recording Secretary