



(710)

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION**

Wednesday, June 10, 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 7:10 p.m., Steel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Bloom, David Hubbard; Susie Jones; Jay Kreitz;
Cathy McGough; Dan Moss; Allan Pogrund; Buddy
Roberts, Barbara Steel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Albert Gasparian (excused); John Myers (excused)

STAFF PRESENT: Jim B. Engle; Dave Dominguez; Luann Brunson; Mary
Loadsman

PRESENTATIONS –

Chair Kreitz presented outgoing commissioners Bloom, Roberts and Steel with a Certificate of Appreciation from the commission and staff for their eight years of public service.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – none.

MINUTES -

MOTION:

Moved by Roberts, seconded by Steel, to approve the April 8, 2009 Community Services Commission minutes.

AYES: Hubbard; Jones; Kreitz; Roberts; Steel

ABSTAIN: Bloom; McGough; Moss; Pogrund

ABSENT: Gasparian; Myers

Motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S ITEMS –

Engle said he echoed the Chair's remarks regarding the outgoing commissioners, stating he felt the commissioners did a fine job of looking at all sides of the issues prior to making recommendations.

Engle noted the applications for the commission vacancies are being reviewed by the Council Liaisons, Hansen, Green and Carchio. He said the goal is to have the liaisons present their recommendations to the City Council in July.

Engle reported the Planning Commission approved the Conditional Use Permit and Mitigated Negative Declaration as part of the Edison Park Reconfiguration project at their meeting on June 9th. He also reported that the new senior center is returning to Planning Commission for review of the landscape design and elevations. It is also scheduled to go before the Design Review Board, then to the Planning Commission on June 23, 2009 for final approval.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS -

Park Acquisition and Development Fund (PA&D) Capital Improvement Project Budget for FY 2009/2010 – Engle noted there were no changes to the information commission received and filed at the April 8, 2009 meeting and asked Brunson to provide an overview of the budget. Brunson reported the budget included funds from reserves and that funds for FY 09/10 are less than commission has experienced in the recent past. She noted that there were no Quimby Fee's included in the budget and that \$120,000 includes the 230 Park-In-Lieu Fees and the interest earned from park fund reserves. She continued to explain the various carry-over projects, operating costs and budget constraints. Brunson explained that some of the grant funded projects would be put on hold until the funds are unfrozen by the state, and added that the Youth Sports Grants and Worthy Park Restroom are still planned.

Roberts asked if the Blufftop Park Restroom project was still moving forward. Engle confirmed that the project was moving forward and that Restroom #1 located at 9th Street and PCH is planned for completion in July. He explained that commission and council approved the project with the potential that the restroom installation may include a vault system and that Restroom #1 did in fact include a vault system. He explained that any facility usage would be transparent, with running water and flush toilets. He noted the vault includes a warning device that signals when it has reached 50% capacity and that solar panels would provide power for lighting. Dominguez added staff had to forego showers for this restroom due to going with a vault system. He explained that showers would be considered when the remaining phases of the project are completed and would be similar in design to the showers at South Beach.

MOTION:

Moved by Roberts, seconded by Bloom, to approve Park Acquisition and Development Fund Capital Improvement Project budget for FY 2009/2010 as presented for recommendation to City Council.

Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS –

Worthy Skate Park – Dominguez reported that the City received 12 proposals from Skate park design firms and that staff would be scheduling interviews with the top firms. He added that after the firm has been selected and approved, the public input process would begin. He said the goal is to bring the final conceptual plans to commission in the fall, in order to pursue sponsorship options. Engle added that staff has continued to meet with potential sponsors who have an interest in a new skate park in the city. He commented once a conceptual plan is in place, staff can elevate the recruiting effort for sponsors.

Edison Park Reconfiguration – Dominguez reiterated the Conditional Use Permit, Mitigated Negative Declaration, and Plans and Specifications, have approval from the Planning Commission. He commented that he hoped the state would release some of the bond funding, so that the project can move forward. He explained that some funding would be available, as design work billing has been submitted for reimbursement and that those grant funds would be forthcoming. Dominguez noted that the potential removal of 206 trees as part of the project was a concern by residents. He added that each tree removed would be replaced on a 2:1 ratio and that removing 206 trees was a “worse-case” scenario. Dominguez concluded the actual number of trees to be removed would not be known until construction was in progress, and that the project would also happen in phases, therefore tree removal and replacement would take place over a period of time.

Bartlett Park – Dominguez reported that staff is working with a Landscape Architect and environmental firm to update the Opportunities and Constraints completed in 1999. He explained that the evaluation would include looking at the level of environmental constraints, with the goal of developing a conceptual plan that may include a trail system and neighborhood park component.

Visitor’s Kiosk – Dominguez reported the Huntington Beach Marketing & Visitor’s Bureau are pleased with the new building and noted that a photograph of the completed building was included as an attachment. Engle added that the same agency that completed the kiosk is the same firm that is working on the Blufftop Park Restroom Project and Pier Buildings.

Pier Buildings - Dominguez reported that the installation of the permanent buildings would be delayed until after the summer season, wherein all three buildings would be installed at the same time. He added that the concessionaires were on board with the after Labor Day start, with planned completion in late fall.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION – none.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS –

HCP Equestrian Center – Moss reported that it was interesting attending his first committee meeting, especially after reading about the rescue program in the newspaper, and added that the meeting summary was included in the packet. He commended Dominguez on his interaction with the committee members and equestrian center staff. Engle commented that the Equestrian Center Operator, Mary Behrens' "heart is in horses". He explained that there is a pasture area that can be used for the proposed horse rescue program. He added that the program would be designed so that it is not a burden on boarders, and that any accommodations that would need to be made to the pasture area would be approved through the proper process.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS –

Hubbard noted the Surf City Nights on Tuesday is rolling along, that downtown is busy, and that he enjoyed the AVP tournament. Hubbard also noted The Strand project turned out well and that he enjoys living the downtown lifestyle.

Jones invited staff and commission members to join her at her home for the 4th of July Parade. She also bid farewell to the outgoing commissioners, saying they will be missed.

McGough noted that the schools were having a difficult time with the current economic situation and state budget cuts. She thanked the outgoing commissioners for their contributions to the community.

Moss commented that the Visitor's Kiosk came out nice. He also added that the outgoing commissioners did an outstanding job during their tenure and that they will be missed.

Pogrund noted the Ocean View School District was undergoing the same struggles with their budget and noted it is the children who are most affected. He said Huntington Beach is a great community and that this was in part due to the work the outgoing commissioners and staff had accomplished.

Kreitz concurred with Pogrund and added that he is appreciative of the Volunteers that Huntington Beach has and the willingness that so many people have to serve the community. He said he hoped to see the outgoing commissioners back one day.

Engle reiterated Chair Kreitz's feelings about the community and outgoing commissioners. He added that the department has always run lean and that when the city has to reduce the budget, the community will feel the cuts in reduced programs and services. He said he hopes to get through the next quarter without additional budget cuts.

Bloom asked if the tot lot on the beach is off the shelf. Dominguez responded that the Commission and City Council have approved the project, and that it is just a funding issue at this point. Bloom said it is an honor to have served for all of the years. He said it was a great learning experience as well as rewarding to interact, debate, and accomplish many things.

Steel said she will always feel blessed and honored with the experience of serving on the commission. She said how great it is to work with professionals and commented she will miss her fellow commissioners. She said what a joy it is every time you can make a difference. She said that as a volunteer, it was a great opportunity and the best commission to work on.

Roberts said it surprised him that the commission was appointed and not elected. He commented the City formed the commission through resolution and has the power to improve the lifestyle for the citizen's of Huntington Beach. He said most commissions or committees don't have the influence that the Community Services Commission has to accomplish as much as the commission has. He said he has enjoyed the discussions and decisions, making the right decisions, and the camaraderie that everyone shares. He said everyone will be missed.

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED

Memo to City Council via City Administrator, dated May 19, 2009
Project Self-Sufficiency Newsletter, May and June 2009.
Council On Aging Newsletter, May and June 2009.
ShIPLEY Nature Center Newsletter, May and June 2009

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Community Services Commission regular meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Submitted by:

David C. Dominguez
Secretary
Community Services Commission

By: Mary Loadsman, Recording Secretary