



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION**

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

6:00 p.m.

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

Chair Tomaino called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and Westwell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Burkart; Bridget Kaub; Jay Kreitz; Roy Miller;
Brian Rechsteiner, Nick Tomaino; Norm Westwell

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gasparian (excused), Hubbard (excused)

STAFF PRESENT: David Dominguez; Mary Loadsman

PRESENTATIONS: Erin Burke, Recreation Coordinator and League Managers Kelli Berry and Stephanie Blomquist presented the Youth Sports League Champion and Harry W. Montague Sportsman Awards to Youth Basketball Teams. Chair Tomaino thanked Recreation Supervisor Rob Frizzelle and staff for their dedication to youth sports and the community.

MINUTES:

Motion: Moved by Burkart and seconded by Westwell to approve the Community Services Commission minutes dated March 13, 2013.

Ayes: Burkart; Kaub, Miller; Rechsteiner; Tomaino; Westwell

Abstain: Kreitz

Absent: Gasparian; Hubbard

Motion passed.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Barbara Haynes, Chair of the Historic Resources Board, noted that when traveling through Butte, Montana, she came across a plaque that was appealing as well as durable. She explained the City of Butte has an aluminum plaque for all of their buildings listed on the historic register and would like the Commission to consider this type of plaque for Triangle Park as well as the wording submitted on proposal #3.

Gloria Alvarez a member of the Historic Resources Board (HRB) and Downtown Residents Association thanked the Commission and staff for working with the HRB to prepare and validate the information provided in wording proposal #3 for Triangle Park. She asked that Commission to consider approving proposal #3 as presented, pending the National Historic Register's approval date.

Mary Urashima, a Huntington Beach Resident, spoke in support of proposal #3 as the recommended wording to describe the well documented historical value of Triangle Park.

DIRECTOR'S ITEM:

Dave Dominguez reported that Public Works is in the process of obtaining a design for the slope and sidewalk adjacent to Huntington Lake. The project will be included in the upcoming Capital Improvement Project budget and planned for completion in September 2013.

PUBLIC INPUT MEETING: None.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

Dog Wash Facility – Dominguez explained the Commission approved a self-serve dog wash facility at Dog Beach for recommendation to City Council in June 2011, with the stipulation the actual location in Dog Beach be brought back to Commission for approval. Staff has been working with the vendor on the appropriate location for the facility. Based on site conditions, access and view impacts, staff concurs with the vendor's proposal to place the facility at a location below the bluff, immediately to the north of the public parking lot and restroom #13. Being at a level lower than the beach path and parking lot will require the concessionaire to provide the required ADA access path to the facility. The proposed facility will be subject to the appropriate entitlements including a Coastal Development Permit, Design Review Board approval and approval by the State.

Motion: Moved by Rechsteiner, seconded by Kaub to approve the location of an approximate 200 square foot self-serve dog wash facility at Dog Beach to be below the bluff and immediately to the north of Restroom #13 as presented.

Motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Triangle Park Plaque – Dominguez provided background on a request from the Historic Resources Board (HRB) for a custom park identification sign to include a monument plaque describing the history of the park which was presented to Commission on November 14, 2012. The item was referred to the Park Naming & Memorials Committee (PNMC) for review. The Commission reviewed a recommendation at the January 9, 2013 meeting but, felt there was too much wording for the plaque to be included on a custom park identification sign and opted to address the sign and plaque issues separately - referring the plaque wording issue back to the Park Naming & Memorials Committee. The Committee conducted an additional public meeting to review the proposed language on February 14, 2013. Based on recommended revisions made at the December 6 meeting, the Committee reviewed proposed language from the HRB and formed a recommendation to Commission with a caveat that staff would work with members of HRB to ensure that the events included in the proposed language were consistent with public records of the city.

Chair Tomaino thanked staff and the PNMC members for working through the wording options for the Triangle Park Plaque and asked for comments.

Rechsteiner explained that one of the concerns with the extensive wording is that it is difficult to read on the bronze plaques and that the significance of what is being presented can be lost.

Miller concurred and that originally, his preference was to include information in a bullet-point fashion and include factual information, however, after reviewing the new sign product and reviewing the wording proposed in Attachment #4, felt that the narrative properly reflects historic value to the park and downtown Huntington Beach.

Burkart said he appreciated the work the PNMC members put into having the options to present to Commission noting that whether the information is bullet point or narrative is a personal preference. He added that the information substantiated in Attachment #4 provided a concise history and informational point of view that had value.

Kaub concurred with Burkart and Miller.

Kreitz commented that while it was interesting looking at the plaque wording options, he also felt it was important to either provide a photograph or rendering to assist non English speaking individuals to appreciate the significance of the area.

Westwell preferred to have the monument and plaque at ground level so as to discourage any tagging and is in favor of the bullet-point type format.

Motion: Moved by Burkart, seconded by Rechsteiner to

- 1) Approve the concept of a free standing monument plaque at Triangle Park, utilizing non-city funds, with the type and location to be determined by staff and the Historic Resources Board and;**
- 2) Approve the wording on Attachment 4 for recommendation to City Council.**

Kreitz asked if Commissioner Rechsteiner and Burkart would be willing to amend their recommendation for the wording on the plaque to include a photograph or rendering of Triangle Park.

Motion #2 amended to:

- 3) Approve the wording on Attachment 4 and include a graphic or rendering supporting the history of the park if feasible, for recommendation to City Council.**

Motion passed: 6-1 (Westwell – No).

Park Sign Priority List – The Park Naming & Memorials Committee prepared a priority list for parks city-wide to receive a standard park identification sign.

Motion: Moved by Kreitz, seconded by Westwell to approve the priority list for installing signs as funding becomes available: 1- Lake Park, 2 – Blufftop Park, 3 – Greer Park, 4 – Harbour View Park, 5 – Bartlett Park, 6 – Wardlow Park, and; Park sign requests for other parks be brought back to Commission for approval.

Motion passed 7-0.

Harbour View and Newland Park Play Equipment – Dominguez reported that as part of the 2002 State Park Bond, the City received \$1.8 million in grant funds with the Commission and City Council approving the funds for reconfiguration of Edison Community Park. With Phase I complete, staff was under the impression that remaining funds would be returned to the State. During discussion with the State Grant Officer, it was learned that the remaining funds of \$208,000 would be available for additional park projects. Dominguez explained that in the early 2000's when other parks were receiving play equipment, the equipment at Harbour View Park and Newland Park were deemed acceptable by safety standards however, a decade later, the park play equipment is not safety compliant and has been removed from Harbour View Park, and will be removed from Newland Park.

Kreitz recalled he was on the committee that had to decide which parks received play equipment and which parks would not receive equipment, how hard a decision it is. He said he is pleased to see new play equipment going in.

Rechsteiner said he agreed with Harbour View receiving equipment and questioned the need for equipment at Newland Park. Dominguez explained that some of the play areas belong to the school, and that the area with equipment belonging to the City - the equipment would not be there much longer. Rechsteiner's opinion is that play equipment should go to parks that do not have equipment.

Kaub asked that if the rules change for play equipment would the new play equipment have to be replaced. Dominguez explained that Public Works has staff members that are certified playground inspectors and inspect the equipment on a routine basis. Play equipment only needs to be replaced if deemed unsafe.

Tomaino asked what the life expectancy for play equipment is. Dominguez responded 15 to 20 years.

Westwell asked if staff had considered using the funds to increase the number of soccer fields available. Dominguez responded the original funds were used to create athletic practice fields however, the remaining funds are insufficient to complete other field improvements.

Motion: Moved by Kreitz, seconded by Kaub to recommend to City Council that available funds in the amount of \$208,000 from the 2002 State Park Bond be utilized for the purchase and installation of new play equipment at Harbour View Park and Newland Park.

Motion passed 7-0.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

New Senior Center – Dominguez reported staff presented information on potential alternative locations on a new senior center to the City Council at the annual Strategic Planning Session in January. Staff presented the pro's and con's for sites in Huntington Central Park, the Rodgers Senior Center and the Park, Tress and Landscape Yard. At the conclusion of the presentation, Council directed staff to provide further analysis of each location for presentation at a 4/15/13 Study Session.

Capital Improvement Project Budget FY 2013/2014 – Dominguez explained that for the past four or five years, staff has brought the preliminary budget to Commission as a "receive and file" item in April. He explained that the budget process for the upcoming fiscal year is just now in the preparation stage, that staff would like to present the budget at the May Commission meeting to be more in-line with other departments.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Park Naming & Memorials – Committee meeting summary of February 14, 2013 included in Administrative Item Triangle Park – Monument Sign report.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS:

The Chair and Commissioners thanked the members of the Park Naming & Memorials Committee and staff for their contribution in working with the Historic Resource Board on the plaque wording and sign type for Triangle Park to recommend to City Council.

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO COMMISSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Submitted by:

David C. Dominguez, Secretary, Community Services Commission

By: Mary Loadsman, Recording Secretary