



(758)

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, September 9, 2015

6:00 p.m.

City of Huntington Beach

Civic Center Council Chambers

2000 Main Street

Huntington Beach, CA 92648

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Kreitz called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m. at which time the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Couey; Nicolina Cuzzacrea; Roger Forest; Albert Gasparian; Bridget Kaub; Jay Kreitz; J.D. Miles; Roy Miller; Jerry Moffatt; Norm Westwell

MEMBERS ABSENT: Paul Burkart (excused); Dick Thiel; Westwell (excused)

STAFF PRESENT: David Dominguez; Charlene Gomez

B. PRESENTATIONS:

Dominguez introduced Community Services Manager, Chris Slama, who gave an overview of the summer activities throughout the Community Services Department. Slama introduced Recreation Specialists Scott Getman and Krystie Franco, who presented awards to recreation staff and interns in the areas of aquatics, youth sports, and summer programs. Slama continued by introducing Recreation Supervisors, Kaci Thohl and Erin Burke, and thanked them and the commission for their continued support.

C. MINUTES:

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Kaub, seconded by Commissioner Coey to approve the Community Services Commission minutes from April 8, 2015.

Ayes: Couey; Cuzzacrea; Forest; Gasparian; Kaub; Kreitz; Miles; Miller; Moffatt; Westwell

Nos: None

Abstain: None

D. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None

E. DIRECTOR/MANAGER ITEMS:

Dominguez introduced Gomez as the new recording secretary for the Commission. Krietz thanked her for her help with the Committee surveys.

Dominguez went on to update Commission the park master plan. The final draft has been prepared.

E.1 Overview of Beach and Park Restroom Maintenance:

Dominguez provided Commission with an overview of the restroom facilities at the beach and within City parks under the purview of Community Services and Public Works, Parks Trees and Landscape Division. He summarized the maintenance schedules, number of restrooms and those cleaned by staff and those under contract by private custodial firms.

F. PUBLIC INPUT MEETING:

None

G. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

G.1 Pacific City – Public Park Conceptual Master Plan:

Dominguez provided an introduction to the public park Master Plan to be developed as part of the Pacific City project. He explained that Pacific City consists of two components - commercial and residential. The residential portion is to include a 2 acre park and is being developed by the firm of UDR. The street that divides the commercial and residential properties is Pacific View. The park is to be located on Pacific View.

Dominguez introduced Brian Lake from UDR, who in turn introduced his colleague, Matt Duvall to lead a presentation of the park plan. Mr. Duvall explained that the park is to be the foreground of the property and includes a park overlook, a tot lot, and is designed to simulate waves and ocean theme. The park will include methane vents that mimic artistic sculptures and mosaic walls for public art. Dominguez informed the Commission that the public art is the responsibility of the Design Review Board, but wanted the Commission to see what is planned. The Power Point presentation went on to show material and equipment specifications.

Commissioner Kaub asked if the 2 acre parkland is zoned as open space. Dominguez responded that it will be included in the City's park inventory and recorded as an easement for public park purposes. Commissioner

Kaub asked what if the Developer wanted to develop the park area at some point. Dominguez replied that the park was a condition of the project and an entitlement amendment would be required.

Commissioner Miller stated that the design is beautiful, but it seems to be at lot of grass.

Commissioner Kaub asked, what is going to keep middle-schoolers from entering the pool. Mr. Duval answered that there is a keypad with a code required for entry. He went on to respond about the design being all grass by noting that the design includes a large amount of tall, ornamental grasses, which are draught tolerant and that in the development of the design, mowed grass areas were kept to an manageable amount.

Commissioner Kaub asked where the residents park when using the park? Dominguez said that underground parking will be provided for residents of the project. While on-street parking would be available on Pacific View, it is anticipated that the park will be accessed mainly by pedestrians or cyclists. Commissioner Kaub said she brought up parking because she doesn't want the design held up like LeBard Park. Dominguez assured her that the issue at LeBard would be addressed but, the park at Pacific City will not include high intensity programming like at LeBard.

Commissioner Couey asked about the access road. Mr. Duvall explained that the road already exists, which is parallel to PCH between 1st and Huntington Streets.

Commissioner Moffatt asked if the drought tolerant areas will be designed to capture water. Mr. Duvall said there would be no retention areas but the project would comply with standards for site run-off.

Commissioner Cuzzarea asked about bike racks. Mr. Duvall said that they were the spiral rings shown in the Power Point presentation. She went on to ask about the estimated completion date. Mr. Lake said that it is scheduled for January, 2017.

Commission Miller asked what material is used for the methane vents and how it works. Mr. Duvall explained that it is designed with a common material that meets standards but will be sculptural in design. He was asked if they move and Mr. Duvall said no.

Conversation moved back to the images in the presentation with review of the samples.

Commissioner Forest asked if skateboarding had been taken into consideration. Mr. Duvall said that it is a design challenge that they are continuing to work on.

Commissioner Krietz asked if they envisioned park use by families, singles or mixed. Mr. Lake responded with families and empty-nesters.

Commissioner Miller asked if the 516 residences were apartments, homes or condos. The response was rentable apartments. Commissioner Cuzzacrea added to the question by asking if the apartments will be converted to condos for sale. Mr. Duvall said not at this time.

Motion: Moved by Gasparian seconded by Moffatt to approve the Recommended Action as follows: Approve the Conceptual Park Master Plan and Amenities as part of The Residences at Pacific City Development Project as presented with the understanding that the public art component will be subject to the review and approval by the Design Review Board.

Motion past unanimously.

H. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

H.1 Central Park Team Room: Plan check is scheduled for tomorrow with a two week turn-around between departments, and then the bid process will begin.

Commissioner Krietz asked for the background for the sake of the newer Commissioners. Dominguez provided the background.

H.2 Bartlett Park: Dominguez reported that a park clean-up event is scheduled for Saturday, September 19. A call for volunteers has gone out and flyers are posted. Public Works has to wait for the conclusion of the bird nesting period to do their annual cleaning of the brush areas or the park.

Commissioner Couey asked if the meeting place is next to the Newland House. Dominguez responded yes.

I. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

None

J. COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS:

J.1 Park Naming & Memorial Committee – Dominguez announced that the committee meeting is scheduled for October 1, 2015. He briefly reviewed the parks for naming consideration: Aravalos, Lamb and Wardlow parks. He explained that “Lamb” was never a park and that staff called it Lamb because it use to be a school.

Commissioner Miller asked if there will be a list of Council Member names to choose from. Dominguez provided information on the naming process. Dominguez assured Commission that staff will provide as much information as possible on how the parks were originally named. A meeting notice will be provided to the residents within a 500 ft radius of the parks. Dominguez listed examples of parks named after Mayors, community members and the first oil well site.

K. COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS:

Commissioner Couey reported on the Summer Concert Series in the Park, which are held on Sundays. The estimated attendance for this year is between 1500 – 2000 people. They are planning for 11 concerts next year.

Commissioner Kaub asked what is the required open space per populous for parks. Dominguez answered, 5 acres per 1,000 residents is the approved park standard for the City.

Commissioner Miller welcomed Gomez. He also thanked Dominguez for arranging for the lake clean-up by Kathy May's restaurant.

Commissioner Gasparian thanked Dominguez for the "restroom" report.

Commissioner Reardon stated that she enjoyed the presentation by the Community Services Department., and especially hearing about all there is to do for young people within the community. She loves living in Huntington Beach where there are programs for the young.

Commissioner Cuzzacrea asked about noticing for naming of parks. Dominguez explained that a notice is published in the newspaper and sent to residents in the vicinity of the parks. Residents can either come to the meeting or email their comments, which will become part of the record.

Commissioner Cuzzacrea asked about showers at the beach saying they have been turned off in neighboring beaches and if the City planned to do the same. Dominguez replied that no decision has been made to do so at this time.

Commissioner Moffatt asked Dominguez for an update on the Rodgers Senior Center. Dominguez said that Shea Homes has been selected to go through the process to potentially sell and develop the site. The first step would be to conduct an EIR and then a Measure C vote in November of 2016. Shea will be financially responsible for the EIR and for coordinating the Measure C process. Commissioner Moffatt asked about the financial aspects of the proposed change.

Dominguez reported that the sale of the property is estimated to bring in approximately \$14M for park improvements.

Commissioner Cuzzacrea asked if the seniors and the general public will all have input as the project progresses through public meetings and the Measure C process.

Commissioner Kreitz said that there seems to be an increase in the homeless population in the parks and asked about the impact to the Community Services Department. Dominguez said that it is challenging but the Police Department is doing its best to handle the situation. Commissioner Kreitz added that San Francisco has an issue with a lack of restrooms and has hired over 25 additional staff just to clean “stuff” off the streets. Dominguez stated he believed San Francisco has large encampments, and fortunately, Huntington Beach doesn't have that issue at this time.

L. ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO COMMISSION:
None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Commissioner Kaub motioned for adjournment with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Submitted by:

David C. Dominguez
Secretary
Community Services Commission

By: Charlene Gomez, Recording Secretary