

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S WEEKLY REPORT

January 18, 2010

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Charter Review Commission

The next meeting of the Charter Review Commission will be held in the City Council Chambers on Thursday, Jan. 21. The purpose of this meeting is to receive testimony on a request to add a section to the City Charter on prevailing wage. At the following meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 2, the Commission will be discussing the prevailing wage request. They will also be considering potential amendments to Charter Sections 613 & 614 – Contracting and Section 617 – Infrastructure. Meetings begin at 6 PM. Public input is encouraged

CITY TREASURER

Customer Service Tip of the Week – Say the Magic Words

Saying “Please” and “Thank You” are simple ways to be courteous to your customers. They’ll appreciate this courtesy and will be more interested in working with your company again.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Senior Services

Huntington Beach Senior Services is pleased to welcome back Mary McBride as a part-time social worker. In 1998, Mary interned in Senior Services to complete her Gerontology certificate and then she worked nine years in Senior Services first at Rodgers Senior Center and then her remaining five years at Outreach as a social worker. Most recently, Mary worked for the Orange County Social Services Agency. Mary has returned to oversee the Shared Housing Program funded by the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing stimulus grant and the Huntington Beach Council on Aging. The Shared Housing Program increases options for older adults with a desire to age in place and increases the availability of housing options for people in the Huntington Beach Area. Both home providers and home seekers register for the program so that people with similar ideas might link. For information about the Shared Housing Program, call Seniors Outreach 714-960-2478.

Youth Sports Grants

Applications for the City of Huntington Beach Youth Sports Grants are now available on-line and from the City’s Community Services Department (714) 536-5486. The Youth Sports Grant program is designed to improve facilities for youth sports in Huntington Beach by providing supplemental assistance to a nonprofit youth group’s existing resources for proposed projects (not ongoing operational costs). **Grants must be for capital expenditures such as permanent construction/repairs (backstops, lights, etc.) not portable fixtures or equipment and project must be located on public property within the City of Huntington Beach. The deadline for all applications is Friday, January 22, 2010.** Grant application must be hand delivered to the Community Services Department, 2000 Main St. For more information regarding qualifications and requirements, please refer to

the Youth Sports Grant Application. This information is currently posted on the City of Huntington Beach website at www.surfcity-hb.org.

Huntington Beach Art Center

"Arts for Lunch"

Please join us for Art for Lunch on Thursday, January 21 from 11:30 to 1:30 pm. Bring your lunch and view the show. Beverages and desserts will be provided. For further information, please visit our website at http://www.surfcity-hb.org/Visitors/art_center/ or call us at 714.374.1650

"Centered on Photography"

2010 begins with a salon-style photography show featuring 200 works by local, regional, and national artists. The show will continue through Sunday, February 7th.

"Blind Vision"

The Huntington Beach Art Center Foundation invites you to join them for this special fundraiser lecture and presentation on Friday, January 22. Doors open at 6:30 pm. As a legally blind photographer, Kurt Weston has overcome the barriers, obstacles and challenges of producing and exhibiting his art. Come and listen to his unique story. Tickets are \$40 per person and include Spanish Tapas and Sangria Bar. Call us at 714.374.1650 by January 20th to make your reservation.

Target Sponsored "Artsy Sunday"

Bring the family and a digital camera for this photography-based workshop with Daniel Rarela. This week's theme on January 24 will be Family Portraits from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Have fun and learn new skills. Participation is free and no pre-registration required. For more information call 714.374.1650

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

City Café Vending Machine

Upon the recommendations of their customers, the City Café, located on the Lower Level of City Hall, has added a vending machine outside of the Café for those who are looking for a refreshment outside of the Café hours. The vending machine includes various refreshments including Snapple, energy drinks, and other soft drinks. Also, don't forget to check the City Café every Monday for their weekly specials.

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

CORRECTION: In the Jan. 11 edition of the Weekly Report, the date of the greatest amount of library activity was December 4. The date should have been January 4, 2010.

Friends of the Children's Library to host Author's Festival on January 26

The public is cordially invited to attend the 23rd Annual Author's Festival, hosted by the Friends of the Children's Library, on Tuesday, January 26 between 2:30 pm and 4:30 pm.

More than 25 local writers and illustrators will take time out of their busy schedules to spend the day at schools in Huntington Beach and Fountain Valley, showcasing their books and

discussing with children the importance of books and the writing process. At 2:30 pm, during a Gala Reception in the Children's Library, the author's will greet children, parents, and local dignitaries. Of special note this year is the Awards Ceremony to take place at 3:45 pm, which will recognize the winners of the Amazing Beach Discovery writing and illustrating contest.

The contest, sponsored by the Friends of the Children's Library and the Sand Scribes Children's Writing Group, received about 350 entries from students in grades pre-K to 8th.

The entries were judged last week; winners will be notified by Tuesday, January 19. In addition to receiving a gift certificate to Barnes & Noble at the Awards Ceremony, winners will have the honor of having their artwork or composition posted in the Children's Library throughout February. Stop by and take a look at the excellent writings and drawings done by local school children!

PLANNING

Planning Commission approves Beach and Edinger Corridors Final Draft Specific Plan

The Planning Commission approved the General Plan Amendment, Zoning Map Amendment, and Zoning Text Amendment for the Beach and Edinger Corridors Specific Plan at the January 12, 2010, meeting. The Planning Commission had certified the Environmental Impact Report for the Beach and Edinger Corridors Specific Plan at the December 8, 2009, and continued action on the other entitlements to the January 12 meeting. The General Plan Amendment, Zoning Map Amendment and Zoning Text Amendment must next be approved by the City Council. The City Council hearing will be scheduled shortly and noted in a future newsletter.

New Chair and Vice Chair Selected for Planning Commission

The Planning Commission held their annual reorganization at the January 12, 2010, meeting. Blair Farley moves from Vice Chair to Chairperson, replacing Elizabeth Shier Burnett; Fred Speaker was selected as the new Vice Chair. The Planning Commission roster for 2010 is:

Blair Farley: Chairperson
Fred Speaker: Vice Chair
Barbara Delgleize: Commissioner
Tom Livengood: Commissioner
Janis Mantini: Commissioner
John Scandura: Commissioner
Elizabeth Shier Burnett: Commissioner

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach City Jail

In November 2004 the California voters passed Proposition 69. From the day it was passed, this proposition expanded the law and responsibilities for DNA collection from persons arrested for certain crimes. Effective January 1, 2009, the law further required the collection of DNA samples from everyone arrested for any felony crime if their sample was not already on file. This also includes registered sex and arson offenders. In the Huntington Beach City Jail, 942 buccal (inside of cheek or mouth cavity) swab samples were collected and

submitted in 2009. This is an important law enforcement tool used in solving past and future crimes.

PUBLIC WORKS

Storm Event Update

All storm drains and flood control pump stations operated as required to handle the weekend rains. According to rainfall measurements at the stations, the city received up to 2.35 inches between Sunday and Monday night. Stations at the southern part of the city had the highest numbers. Atlanta, Newland, Banning and Hamilton stations each recorded over 2 inches of rain, with Hamilton receiving the most. At the lower end of the rainfall were Slater and Bolsa Chica locations and at 1.15 inches and 1.21 inches respectively. More rainfall is anticipated this entire week. There were some areas of localized flooding, but no major damage reported. The high winds contributed to downed trees, broken branches, and a large amount of debris throughout the city. Tree and street crews worked throughout the weekend to clear streets and sidewalks.

Sandbags Available for Residents

Huntington Beach residents may receive up to 20 sandbags from the City of Huntington Beach Corporate Yard at 17371 Gothard Street, between Warner and Slater Avenues. Sandbags are available now, during storms, and whenever significant rainfall is forecast. Regular Yard hours are Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hours may be extended in the event of a major storm. Residents must show personal identification, such as a driver's license or photo ID card, a current utility bill or similar proof of residency. Customers are asked to bring their own shovel and fill their own bags, unless they are physically unable. Dry filled bags weigh approximately 20 pounds, wet bags double in weight. Sandbags are for the personal use of Huntington Beach residents only. Elderly and disabled residents may call the HB Fire Dept. CERT message line, 714-536-5974, to have sandbags delivered by volunteers. Contractors and businesses can purchase sand and bags at most building supply centers and home improvement stores. The City does not collect bags after the rainy season. It is the responsibility of the resident to lawfully dispose of the sand and the bag when no longer needed. Sand may not be released into the storm drain system. For more information on proper disposal, please call Public Works Maintenance at 714-960-8861. For information or questions on flood preparedness, visit www.ReadyOC.org.