



City of Arts & Innovation

**MINUTES
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

Monday, February 11, 2013 6:30 p.m.
Dales Senior Center
3936 Chestnut Street
Riverside, CA 92501
951-826-2000

Commissioners Present: Kallinger, Macias, Inaba, Moore, Ritzau, Hurtado, Berg and Poulsen

Commissioners Absent: Leibe

Staff Present: Ralph Nuñez, Director
Mario Lara, Deputy Director
Mayra Ocampo, Sr. Administrative Assistant
Robin Metz, Recreation Superintendent
Patti Callaghan, Community Services Superintendent
Randy McDaniel, Principal Park Planner

Riverside Youth Council Present: Maxene Denholtz

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kallinger called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no public comment.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Commission approved the minutes for the January 7, 2013 meeting as presented.

Motion: Berg
Second: Hurtado
Ayes: All except Poulsen
Abstain: Poulsen

Commissioner Moore entered at this time.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The following matters, presented to the Park and Recreation Commission on the consent calendar for consideration, were approved by a motion affirming the action appropriate to the item:

- 3. January Community Services Division Monthly Report
- 4. January Recreation Division Monthly Report
- 6. Capital Improvement Projects Tracking Report

Motion: Berg
Second: Hurtado
Ayes: All

PRESENTATIONS

None

DISCUSSION

7. STATER BROS. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT WASHINGTON PARK

Commissioner Berg recused himself from Commission due to conflict of interest.

Principal Park Planner McDaniel presented the Commission with a PowerPoint to provide an update of the final version of the proposed developments at Washington Park.

Commissioner Poulsen inquired about the original proposal of sharing the back parking lot with the church.

Principal Park Planner McDaniel did clarify that the top parking lot is owned by the church and can be shared space down the line, and an Agreement would be made between the City and the Church to clarify maintenance and usage rights. The parking lot is not part of the park land substitution requirement, which is why it is not part of the final plan.

Commissioner Poulsen asked why a vinyl chain linked fence will be placed along the side of the park facing Victoria Ave; she stated it would not be very attractive.

Principal Park Planner McDaniel mentioned that the same fence is at Arlington Heights Sports Park and looks fine. Wrought iron fence is ideal, but is not within the budget of Stater Bros.' plan.

Director Nuñez added that the chain linked fence is necessary to keep baseballs or soccer balls from going onto the street. In regards to the parking lot with the church, the lot will actually provide parking for the park. He pointed out that the parking lot would be very beneficial should the City and the Riverside Unified School District (RUSD) enter into a Joint Use Agreement for the use of fields at Washington Elementary School.

Commissioner Kallinger mentioned that a drinking fountain should be made available since the park will have a walking path and is designed for bikers to ride through.

Resident Esther Alcala inquired about the back wall of Stater Bros. connecting to her backyard.

Principal Park Planner McDaniel recommended Ms. Alcala bring her issues/concerns

before the Planning Commission meeting in April.

Resident Jim Montgomery, member of Victoria Avenue Forever (VAF), mentioned that VAF would like the development to maintain the integrity of the two rows of orange trees along Victoria Avenue; he also requested a meeting with the entire VAF board so they can see the final plan.

Director Nuñez mentioned that the window between the orange trees was at VAF's request. A meeting was held with Mr. Frank Heyming a few weeks ago to review the plan since he was the assigned representative.

Resident Dwane Mickelson asked for a timeline of when the project will begin and asked if the park land will be leveled.

Director Nuñez confirmed that the project should begin in late spring/early summer after the Planning Commission and Council approve the plan.

Principal Park Planner McDaniel mentioned that the park site will be leveled, creating a flat play area with soil moved from the Stater Bros. construction site. Also, a gentle slope will be constructed along Victoria Avenue to transition the flat play area down to the street.

Resident Grizelda Reed asked if additional restrooms will be built to accommodate the new amenities.

Principal Park Planner McDaniel indicated that additional restrooms will not be installed as part of this project.

Resident Mary Joy Barnett asked if additional picnic benches will be installed and if the gate connecting the park to the shopping center will ever be closed.

Director Nuñez clarified that picnic benches and picnic shelters are an amenity that can be added as time and funding permits.

Principal Park Planner McDaniel confirmed that the gates connecting the park to the shopping center will be open from dusk until dawn.

Following discussion a motion was made to accept the report for file.

Motion: Moore
 Second: Ritzau
 Ayes: All except Berg
 Abstain: Berg

8. TRANSACTION FEES FOR ONLINE RESERVATION PROCESSING

Deputy Director Lara asked the Commission to support the implementation of an online registration fee. The Department must upgrade the registration software by the end of November 2013, and the increase in cost as a result is estimated at \$21,000. The Department is proposing to implement a surcharge not to exceed \$3 for each online

transaction. The \$3 surcharge for online transactions would generate \$13,000 to help offset the anticipated increase in cost for the registration software.

Commissioner Poulsen asked if the Department should charge a straight \$3 fee for all online transactions.

Deputy Director Lara mentioned that the City cannot charge the customer more than what the vendor is charging; therefore, each transaction fee will be a percentage, not to exceed \$3.

Commissioner Ritzau asked if the Department is currently incurring an online transaction fee.

Deputy Director Lara confirmed that the Department currently is not charged for individual transaction fees, but the upgrade will require it.

Commissioner Moore inquired what the \$3 cap was based on.

Deputy Director Lara mentioned that based on the number of transactions anticipated and a comparison with other cities; the \$3 cap was expected to generate some offsetting revenues without deterring online registrations.

Following discussion a motion was made to accept the report for file.

Motion: Moore
Second: Hurtado
Ayes: All

9. PROPOSED SALE OF 3105 REDWOOD DRIVE FROM THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND THE PROSED SALE OF 2555, 2565, 2567, 2585 FAIRMOUNT COURT AND 2627 FAIRMOUNT BOULEVARD TO THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE FROM THE HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE FUTURE EXPANSION OF FAIRMOUNT PARK

Deputy Director Lara informed the Commission that on July 11, 2012, the issue was supported by the Commission However, since the item was continued on the City Council’s calendar and is now being rescheduled for consideration by the Council; an update was being brought before the Commission. There is currently a new evaluation price, which results in a better deal for the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department due to current market conditions.

Director Nuñez mentioned that an initial concern expressed by neighbors is who can potentially move into that area.

Principal Park Planner McDaniel mentioned that this item will be heard by Council on Tuesday, March 5.

Director Nuñez mentioned that the neighborhood should be informed beforehand so they are not caught off guard.

Following discussion a motion was made to accept the report for file.

Motion: Moore
Second: Berg
Ayes: All

5. JANUARY PARKS DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT

Commissioner Moore pulled this item to request that all graffiti and graffiti costs be tracked similar to the tree planting and removal tracking system.

Following discussion a motion was made to accept the report for file.

Motion: Moore
Second: Ritzau
Ayes: All

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Nuñez

- Informed the Commission that the Department received two awards from the California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS). One award was for Marketing the Mariachi Festival and the other was a Park Planning Award for the Dales Senior Center.
- Invited the Commissioners to the annual 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, February 23 at 7:30 a.m. at Fairmount Park.
- Invited the Commissioners to the Health Fair that is being co-sponsored by LULAC at Bobby Parks on Saturday, February 23 at 8:00 a.m.
- Informed the Commission that the HEAL Zone will present in a few months

Superintendent Callaghan

- Informed the Commission that the first Bridal Expo at La Sierra Senior Center on Sunday, February 10, was a huge success.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Kallinger adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:25 p.m. The next meeting will be held on March 11, 2013 at the Dales Senior Center, 3936 Chestnut Street, Riverside, CA 92501.