

CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
September 7, 2010 – 7pm

Convened 7:04pm

ROLL CALL

Present: Marie Marston, Chair
Tim Brown
Tom Anderson
Ron Cole
Bill Garrett
Phillip Lugar

Absent: Kathy Hamilton

Staff: Laura Detweiler, Recreation & Senior Services Director
Mark Harmon, General Services Director
Celeste Jardine-Haug, Senior Services Manager
Teri Craig, Admin Asst

DIRECTORS COMMENTS

- Director Detweiler announced that a very successful summer program had concluded and shared a sampling of statistics to include a 44% increase in sailing and tennis; with over 900 spots available for the City run Summer Day Camps, 874 spots were filled and with 160 available in Pint Size Camps over 150 spots were filled. She noted that this was thanks to all the hard work and dedication of staff. She noted that the OASIS staff had moved in and that the building training has begun. She went on to say that staff is very excited and looking forward to opening on September 20.
- Director Harmon stated that even though there has been a reduction in General Services staff the cool weather has helped with keeping on top of beach maintenance.
- Council Actions – Director Detweiler stated that Council directed the Animals on the Beach ordinance revision be returned to the Commission for additional review, specifically whether bayside beaches should be treated differently than oceanfront beaches. She stated that it would be on the agenda in October.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **Minutes of the August 3, 2010 regular meeting.** *Waive reading of subject minutes, approve and order filed.*
2. **Park & Operations Division Activity Report.** *Receive/file monthly Activity Report for activities and upcoming projects.*
3. **Recreation & Senior Services Activity Report.** *Receive/file monthly Activity Report for activities and upcoming projects.*
4. **Balboa Village Tree Donation.** *Approve Balboa Village tree plaques located in Balboa Village.*
5. **Bench Donation.** *Approve bench donation from Freddie Troy to be installed at Galaxy View Park.*

Motion by Commissioner Brown to accept items 1 thru 5 of the Consent Calendar. Motion carried by acclamation.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

6. **Application for Listing of Property at 804 S. Bay Front in the City's Register of Historical Property.** Economic Development Coordinator Katie Bowden reminded the Commission that the Commission had reviewed this application at their August meeting but had some questions and tabled this request until tonight. She noted that the applicant was not available but had Architectural Historians Kristy McAvoy and Laura Jensen present to answer any questions regarding the application.

Discussion ensued regarding motivation for the sale and history of the house.

Chair Marston opened the public discussion

Kristy McAvoy stated that as a historian she feels strongly that Lautner has contributed greatly and should be recognized for his architecture. She noted that the National Parks Services has recognized Lautner as a noted architect and that she believes that the reason for this application is not for a financial incentive but rather that this house be given its historical significance.

Chair Marston closed the public discussion

Commissioner Garrett stated that he felt that the Commission should not dwell on the sale of the property but rather that it meets the criteria for the historical listing. He noted that this is a unique house and that there is no other like it.

Motion by Commissioner Garrett to forward their recommendation to City Council that the Property at 804 S Bay Front be classified as a Major Historic Landmark (Class 1). Motion carried by acclamation.

NEW BUSINESS

7. **Naming of the OASIS Senior Center.** Director Detweiler stated that City Council had requested PB&R Commission review a request from the community for the naming of the OASIS Senior Center as the *Evelyn Hart OASIS Senior Center*. She noted that the Senior Center had been in operation for over 33 years and has thrived due to the efforts of many patrons of the community, elected and appointed officials and dedicated staff. Also referenced was Council Policy B-9 and the changes it went through in 2003 which removed the guideline to name facilities after renowned citizens in the community, and allowed for naming of rooms or amenities. Also noted were the many letters from the community which have been attached to the staff report recommending approval of the renaming as well as offering that Evelyn Hart's name be attached to the Event Center.

Chair Marston opened the public discussion

Scott Paulsen, Friends of OASIS President, stated that he adored Evelyn Hart but that the name of the Center should remain the OASIS Senior Center but urged the Commission to approve the naming of the Event Center as the Evelyn Hart Event Center.

Ed Romeo stated that he is a past president of OASIS and has been active with the Center for over 10 years and stated that Evelyn Hart is deserving of any and all accolades but recommended that the Center remain the OASIS Senior Center but honor her by naming the Event Center as the Evelyn Hart Event Center.

Tim Stoaks stated that he has served with Evelyn Hart on the Fundraising Committee and that he thought it was a great idea to honor her body of work as a Mayor, Council Member and community member. He urged the Commission to recommend to Council that the OASIS Senior Center be renamed the Evelyn Hart OASIS Senior Center.

Stan Kasik stated that the Commission and Council would not be renaming the Center but rather adding the name Evelyn Hart to the OASIS Senior Center.

Robert Shelton urged the Commission to respect the Council Policy and celebrate Evelyn Hart's leadership by naming a room within the Center after her.

Chair Marston closed the public discussion

Commissioner Garrett stated that he believes that the reasoning for Council Policy B-9 remains the same and that the policy is still valid and would agree to a motion naming the Event Center after Evelyn Hart is

appropriate but not the building

Commissioner Brown stated that he absolutely cares about Evelyn Hart and all her work as a Council Member, Mayor and community members. Commissioner Brown went on to say that it is more appropriate that the Event Center be named the Evelyn Hart Event Center and not the entire building.

Commissioner Anderson stated that he thinks it is a testament to Evelyn Hart's work that so many people are actually debating against a policy that has been set in place and believes that there is no debate that the body of work that Evelyn Hart has done is admired by all, but agrees that the policy is in place because the City is fortunate to have a number of folks that do a lot of work for their community and believes that the policy should stay in place and that the idea of naming the Event Center after Evelyn Hart is a very good idea.

Motion by Commissioner Brown to forward their recommendation that the Event Center be named the Evelyn Hart Event Center. Motion carried by acclamation.

8. **City Street Tree Designation.** Director Harmon stated that Street Tree Designation for Heliotrope Avenue had been discussed at the May 25 City Council agenda. He went on to say that Council Member Gardner had pulled the item. He noted that he and Council member Gardner had met with 25 homeowners and agreed that that the Palm and the Dwarf Southern Magnolia be designated as the street tree for Heliotrope. He stated that staff is trying to designate two to three trees on streets so that homeowners have a choice.

Chair Marston opened the public discussion

Ed Hepner stated that he was out of town when this meeting had taken place but that he was amazed at the choices of these trees as they will grow 20-30 feet high and is concerned that they will block views. He suggested that trees not be replaced on Heliotrope between Seaview to Ocean.

Marge Quinlan stated that these are good choices and should have minimal view impact.

Director Harmon stated that it is up to the homeowner if a tree should be replaced.

Chair Marston closed the public discussion

Discussion ensued regarding the 20 vacant tree sites and types of trees and tree trimming.

Motion by Commissioner Lugar that the Commission forward to City Council that the City Street Tree Designation List be amended for Heliotrope Avenue to list the Kentia Palm and the Dwarf Southern Magnolia as the designated tree species for that neighborhood. Motion carried by acclamation.

9. **Tree Removal Appeal.** Director Harmon stated that staff had denied the request to remove two Eucalyptus parkway street trees located at 427 31st Street because the trees did not meet the criteria as stated in Council Policy G-1. He went on to say that the homeowner Pat Chamberlain had requested an appeal. He went on to say that there had been some discussion regarding the ownership of the tree; the City Attorney stated that the tree is a City tree. He did note that these trees are messy and understands the homeowner's frustration with the tree but that it is not a reason to remove the trees. He went on to say that the trees do have some insect issues but staff would like the opportunity to do some additional injections and that the trimming schedule be changed from once to twice a year.

Chair Marston opened the public discussion

Pat Chamberlain stated that the debris from these trees are a constant battle and that the trees have out grown the location. He went on to say that these trees are the wrong species for this location.

Pat Hilton stated that she has lived with the mess of these trees for years and just cannot do it anymore and that they are just too old to get up with the leaf problem

Dan Hilton suggested that they at least remove the one tree that is over his house.

Thomas Dixon, husband of Mamie Van Doren stated that they live across the street and these trees are beautiful and should not be removed. He presented a petition with 50 signatures recommending that the trees remain.

Chair Marston closed the public discussion

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of increased trimming, dueling arborist reports, the fact that there are very few trees in this area and the age of the tree.

Director Harmon stated that the trees have no sign of failure.

Commissioner Garrett stated that he would not want this tree in his front yard but is concerned about the number of trees on street.

Commissioner Brown sympathized with the residents but cannot remove trees because of falling leaves.

Motion by Commissioner Lugar to deny the appeal for the removal of two City Eucalyptus parkway street trees located at 427 31st Street. Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anderson, Brown, Lugar, Marston

Noes: Cole, Garrett

10. **Reforestation Request.** Director Harmon stated that staff had received a reforestation request from Robert Thagard at 1706 Paloma Drive. He stated that all requirements of Policy G-1 have been met and that there is a possibility that if the tree is not removed that it could come back as a claim against the City. He noted that Carrotwood trees are a problem tree and that the City no longer plants them.

Discussion ensued regarding concrete damage and the box size of the tree if replaced.

Chair Marston opened the public discussion

Bob Thagard stated that with staff's assistance that all requirements for reforestation have been met and that even though he would be required to cover the cost for a 34 inch box tree he would be willing to consider a larger tree.

Chair Marston closed the public discussion

Director Harmon stated that he would discuss this with the applicant once the tree has been removed and that the replacement trees have been located.

Motion by Commissioner Lugar to approve the request for reforestation of two City Carrotwood parkway trees adjacent to 1706 Paloma Drive. Motion carried by acclamation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Parks – Director Detweiler stated that staff would update the Committee at 6pm at the October Commission meeting.

RSS – Nothing to report.

Budget– Nothing to report

Community Service Award– Nothing to report.

AD- Hoc

- Youth Sports Liaison – Nothing to report.
- Marina Park – Nothing to report.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Trash Pick-Up on Saturdays
- G-1 Review

ADJOURNED @ 9:05pm

Submitted by: _____
Teri Craig, Admin Assistant

DRAFT