

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

Convened 7:04pm

ROLL CALL

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

Staff: Mark Harmon, General Services Director
Sean Levin, Recreation Superintendent
Teri Craig, Admin Asst

DIRECTORS COMMENTS

- Superintendent Levin announced that Winter Wonderland was held this last weekend with approximately 1000 people in attendance; the Flag Football program completed its season; the largest youth flag football program in southern California with over 350 children that participated at Bonita Creek park on Friday nights as well as sending two teams to the Orange County Championships. He also noted that the new registration software — Active Net is running smoothly as it went live on November 18 which allows greater marketing capability and brings the City compliant under the credit cards rules as the information is not housed on our servers and brings less liability to the City. He noted that OASIS continues to run smoothly with over 900 signed up for the Fitness Center.
- City Council Actions – Superintendent Levin announced that the Dogs on the Beach Ordinance passed and becomes effective December 23rd.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Minutes of the October 5, 2010 regular meeting.

Recommendation: Waive reading of subject minutes, approve and order filed.

2. Park & Operations Division Activity Report.

Recommendation: Receive/file monthly Activity Report for activities and upcoming projects.

3. Recreation & Senior Services Activity Report.

Recommendation: Receive/file monthly Activity Report for activities and upcoming projects.

4. Bench Donation.

Recommendation: Approve bench donation of Beth Miller to be located at Galaxy View Park.

5. Bench Donation.

Recommendation: Approve bench donation of Mitch Herzog to be located at CdM State Beach.

6. Reforestation Request.

Recommendation: Approve reforestation request of Harbor View Hills Community Association at 1220 Keel Drive.

Motion by Commissioner Brown to accept items 1 through 6 of the Consent Calendar. Motion carried by acclamation.

NEW BUSINESS

- 7. Tree Removal – Requested by the City.** Director Harmon stated that staff is requesting the removal of a Fichus tree adjacent to 133 Opal Ave on Balboa Island to accommodate street, sidewalk, curb and gutter repairs. He noted that the project involves the repair of over 1,640 feet of concrete from

street, sidewalk, curb and gutter around this high risk tree species which is prone to tree failure when severely root pruned. He stated that tree would be replaced with a 36" box Water Gum tree.

Discussion ensued regarding policy changes regarding the 24" box tree versus a 36 inch box tree. Director Harmon stated that a report would be brought to the Commission at a future meeting

Chair Marston opened the public discussion; hearing none the public discussion was closed.

Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the removal of a City Fichus tree adjacent to 133 Opal Avenue on Balboa Island. Motion carried by acclamation.

8. **Castaways Park Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety.** City Manager Project Analyst Steve Bunting stated that the City has received several complaints regarding the use of the Castaways Park trail by bicyclists travelling at high speed and endangering pedestrians. He noted that after some discussion that the recommendation to the Commission is:

Direct staff to implement one or more of the following measures intended to mitigate the hazard:

- Divide the trail into two lanes, separating the bicyclists from the pedestrians as shown in Attachment A.
- Increase the number of "Walk Bike" messages painted on the downhill trail.
- Post signs urging bicyclists to use caution at the beginning of each trail and at each blind turn.

Discussion ensued regarding width of the trail and how to mark the trail; visibility of Park Patrol at the park and the possibility of speed bumps.

Chair Marston opened the public discussion; hearing none the public discussion was closed.

Motion by Commissioner Brown to approve the following recommendation:

- Divide the trail into two lanes with dotted lines, separating the bicyclists from the pedestrians as shown in Attachment A.
- Increase the number of "Walk Bike" messages painted on the downhill trail.
- Post signs urging bicyclists to use caution at the beginning of each trail and at each blind turn.

Request that staff return with associated impacts/costs to widen the downhill trail (about 300 feet down) to 12 feet wide. Motion carried by acclamation.

OLD BUSINESS

9. **Status Report on Relocated China Cove Volleyball Court.** Superintendent Levin provided a status report to the Commission on the China Cove Volleyball Court. Superintendent stated that staff has not received any complaints from the neighbors regarding volleyball players at China Cove. He also stated that use of the court as observed by Park Patrol has been minimal. Park Patrol Lead Brown stated that most of the conversations that they have had with visitors to the Cove are related to dogs off leash and alcohol.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Parks – Nothing to report

RSS – Nothing to report.

Budget– Nothing to report

Community Service Award – Nothing to report.

AD- Hoc

—Youth Sports Liaison – Superintendent Levin stated the bi-annual youth sports field allocation meeting is scheduled for December 8. A discussion will be held to implement a new fee of \$10 per player to directly

cover the maintenance of their allocated fields to work with the Municipal Operations and Recreation and Senior Services Departments to improve the fields.

Commissioner Anderson stated that he believes that the City has been undercharging for the fields and was surprised that Costa Mesa charges almost \$18 per player. He also noted that he would like to further explore the idea of moving forward with an artificial turf sports field.

—Marina Park – Nothing to report.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- G-1 Policy Amendment (24” to 36” box tree)
- Pirates Cove Lighting – Director Harmon stated that to install lighting at that location would require Coastal Commission approval and could cost as much as \$7,000 per light. He noted that he would bring a report to the Commission in the future to discuss this, procedures and associated costs.
- Castaways Parks widening of downhill trail

ADJOURNED @ 7:51pm

Submitted by: _____
Teri Craig, Admin Assistant