



**Recreation and Parks Commission
Davis Joint Unified School District, East Conference Room
526 B Street
Thursday, July 16, 2009
MINUTES**

Commission Members Present: Michael Bartolic, Roger Gambatese, Robert Glassburner, Lorraine Hwang (Chair), Nathaniel Leachman, Susan Sabatier (Vice-Chair) and Nicole Slaton

Commission Members Absent: Michael Beckman

Council Liaison Present: Lamar Heystek

Staff Present: Lisa Buckman, Sandy Dietrich, Elvia Garcia-Ayala, Donna Silva and Christine Helweg

Public Present: Ira Bray, Ernie Head-VFW Representative, and Michael Roudé-VFW Representative

Chair L. Hwang called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Approved by consensus

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of May 21 and June 18, 2009 were approved by consensus with a motion by R. Gambatese, seconded by N. Slaton.

3. Public Communications

Resident Ira Bray discussed brown areas in the turf at Mace Ranch Park, and requested that staff look into the possible irrigation causes.

4. Written Communications

None.

5. Request by the Veterans of Foreign Wars to Rename the Club Room of the Veterans Memorial Center

The Commission was presented with an overview of the project proposal submitted by representatives of the VFW, and VFW representatives presented additional information beyond that which was included in the staff report. The Commission expressed similar concerns to those of staff, and discussed other possible scenarios such as a curtain covering, etc that would block the photos from view during non-VFW events.

A motion was made by M. Bartolic, seconded by R. Glassburner, to accept the renaming of the Club Room to the “Commander’s Room,” separate from approving of the installation of photographs. During the Commission’s discussion, several commissioners expressed their concern about voting on the two requests separately, and the motion was withdrawn.

A second motion was made by S. Sabatier, seconded by L. Hwang to approve staff’s recommendation as presented in the staff report, and to direct staff to continue working with VFW representatives to identify other appropriate alternatives to maintain the multi-purpose space, while also meeting the objectives of the VFW. The motion passed as follows:

Motion: Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Abs: 1

VFW representative, Michael Roudé, expressed the organization’s commitment to this proposal, and stated that he could assure the Commission that the VFW organization would be willing to bear any additional costs associated with desired mitigation measures if the project was approved.

6. Recommendation of the City-UCD Student Liaison Commission to amend the Facilities Cost Recovery Policy

Christine Helweg, Community Services Superintendent, provided the Commission with a synopsis of the history and background surrounding the current request to amend the Facilities and Field Cost Recovery policy by the City-UCD Student Liaison Commission.

A motion was made by M. Bartolic, seconded by S. Sabatier not to amend the existing Facilities and Field Cost Recovery policy as requested by the City-UCD Student Liaison Commission to allow UCD Student Organizations to qualify for discounted Community Group facility rental rates. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commission further directed staff to return to the Commission in September 2009, with other possible policy amendments that may address the “intent” of the Commission to allow UCD Student Organizations to qualify for the discounted Community Group rate, if and when, the organization desires to conduct a one-time special event benefiting the community-at-large, without contradicting the City’s own anti-discrimination policies.

7. Proposed Community Outreach Plan to Consider Naming the North Davis Drainage Pond for Former Mayor Julie Partansky

Sandy Dietrich, Parks Supervisor, and Donna Silva, Parks & General Services Director provided the Commission with a status update on two requests received thus far by the City for projects related to a Memorial for Former Mayor Julie Partansky. Although staff has indicated that these two projects are separate, it is the desire by staff and the Commission to work collectively with community members to ensure that both projects are complimentary and/or compatible with each other and don’t present any conflicts with approved City policies.

As staff moves forward with community outreach for the proposed projects, the Commission requested that staff consider this item as a “community park” rather than just a “neighborhood park” for the purpose of noticing, and to extend the outreach plans to a minimum of 1,000 feet.

A motion was made by M. Bartolic to invite community members for both projects to the September meeting to discuss details of their project proposals. A substitute motion was made by S. Sabatier directing staff to work with both community project representatives to develop an integrated plan. There was no second to the motion.

A motion was made by S. Sabatier to delay the community outreach plan, and delay the decision to approve either project proposal until such time that staff has the opportunity to meet with each group to develop an integrated plan. Motion was seconded by L. Hwang. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Commissioner Announcements/Comments

None

9. Liaison/Staff Reports

- City Council Liaison report – Councilman Heystek discussed the recent Town Hall meeting that the City Council hosted, and commended Sandy Dietrich and Lisa Buckman for their efforts related to graffiti abatement. Councilman Heystek also discussed his voting position on the recently adopted City budget, voicing his ongoing concerns that there was not sufficient change to assist in the long term structural deficit for the City.
- Finance & Budget Commission (FBC) – no report
- Open Space and Habitat Commission – no report
- Upcoming Commission Meetings – Thursday, September 17, 2009

The meeting was adjourned by Chair L. Hwang at 9:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Helweg
Community Services Superintendent