



**CITY OF EL SEGUNDO
RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, January 19, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
City Hall West Conference Room, 350 Main Street, El Segundo, CA 90245**

CALLED TO ORDER - The meeting of the Recreation and Parks Commission was called to order by Chairperson Debbie Bundy at 7:00 p.m., in the City Hall Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Led by Commissioner Caravello

ROLL CALL -

Chairperson Debbie Bundy	-	Present
Vice-Chairperson Colleen Glynn-Rich	-	Present
Commissioner Bob Motta	-	Present
Commissioner Margie Randall	-	Present
Commissioner Joe Caravello	-	Present

ALSO PRESENT -

Bob Cummings, Recreation and Parks Director
Mark Trujillo, Parks Superintendent
Meredith Petit, Recreation Superintendent
Dan O'Toole, Cable Division Program Manager
Jackie Day, Administrative Specialist

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS -

None

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS -

Steve Shevlin expressed his support for the tree planting and plaque recognizing Dick Oglesby.

A. CONSENT CALENDAR –

- 1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the Recreation and Parks Commission Regular Meeting of December 15, 2010. (Commission Action Required)**

MOTIONED by Commissioner Caravello and SECONDED by Commissioner Motta to approve the meeting minutes of December 15, 2010. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

B. NEW BUSINESS –

- 1. Consideration and possible action regarding a request from El Segundo Babe Ruth to Plant a tree in Recreation Park along with a 5" x 10" bronze plaque recognizing Dick Oglesby for his many years of volunteer service to El Segundo sports. (Fiscal Impact: None)**

NEW BUSINESS - CONTINUED

Recommendation:

(1) Approve the request from El Segundo Babe Ruth to plant a tree in Recreation Park along with a 5" x 10" bronze plaque recognizing Dick Oglesby for his many years of volunteer service to El Segundo sports; (2) Alternatively, discuss and take other action related to this item.

Vice-Chair Glynn Rich thinks Dick Oglesby is well deserving, however she is concerned that in 2004 a request for a tree and plaque was denied. She thought the policy was not to allow plaques on trees and she wants to be clear on the policy.

Commissioner Bundy recalls having discussions in the past about requests to have commemorative trees planted in the parks and suggested having staff locate the policy.

Bob Cummings commented that there is a policy from 2004 and copies were distributed to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Motta remembers being part of the discussion on the policy and what the Commission wanted to avoid were phrases like "in memorial" and "in memoriam" and this particular plaque says "Voice of El Segundo Youth Sports" and his name. He referred to the policy when he prepared the request.

Vice-Chair Glynn Rich is concerned about the wording in the policy. She wants to stay consistent with the policy. It is her understanding that people who requested trees were being referred to Tree Musketeers. She concurred with Chairperson Bundy to have the previous minutes pulled to get clarification or maybe revisit the policy.

Commissioner Caravello said the policy specifies the size of the plaque and although he thinks Dick deserves something he does not want to break rules or agreements that were made in the past.

Commissioner Randall said that since trees are listed on the policy she thinks the park is a fitting place to have a memory of Dick although there may have to be a compromise of the size of the plaque.

Further discussion ensued and the Commission requested staff to research the minutes from 2004 associated with the policy, who was turned down in the past, locations of trees and sizes of plaques currently in the park.

Commissioner Caravello MOTIONED to postpone this item until next month so the Commission can get more information. Vice-Chair Glynn-Rich SECONDED the motion. MOTIONED carried 4 – 1. (Commissioner Motta opposed)

- 2. Consideration and possible action regarding a request from El Segundo Little League to host the District 36 All-Star Tournament from Saturday, June 25 through Sunday, July 10, 2011. This would allow El Segundo Little League to operate outside of the agreement of hosting every other year during even numbered years. (Fiscal Impact: None)**

Recommendation

(1) Approve the request from El Segundo Little League to host the 2011 tournament and return to holding the tournament every other year during odd numbered years per the previous Commission decision; (2) Alternatively, discuss and takes other action related to this item.

This item was pulled from the agenda and will be reintroduced on the February 16, 2011 agenda.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding the Fee Assessment Draft Report offering proposed fee increases to various Department functions and programs. (Fiscal Impact: None)

Chairperson Bundy is overwhelmed by the report because there is so much information. She is concerned that this is not the right time to raise prices. She suggested this report be a Receive and File for the future.

Commissioner Caravello is also overwhelmed by the report. He has a lot of questions and is not sure there is enough time to have them all answered here. He has given a lot of thought to fee increases and he thinks that the rates the City offers compared to other cities is one of the great things about living here. He thinks the Commission should understand everything we do before we increase fees on the residence. He would like more time to look at it.

Chairperson Bundy presented the idea that in the past we have had task forces that specifically address items and this may be a good task force item. A task force is usually a mixture of 1 or 2 Commissioners, members of the community, and staff.

Vice-Chair Glynn Rich likes the idea of a task force. She also has a lot of questions and requested that if they do have a task force that she would like minutes so the other Commissioners can review what is discussed.

Commissioner Motta agrees with Commissioner Caravello and Chairperson Bundy, but does not think a task force is necessary to do something that is already done. Meredith put a lot of work in this report and the information is here. The consensus he is hearing is that no one wants to raise fees at this point so if they want to table it they should. He thinks it should be tabled for now and brought back at a time when the economy is ready.

Vice-Chair Glynn Rich asked if questions should be directed to Meredith. Commissioner Motta suggested asking the questions now. Chairperson Bundy suggested that each Commissioner comprise their questions and ask them in an open forum.

Recreation Superintendent Meredith Petit thinks it is important to note that this is not an all or nothing proposal. There are several options and to table it now may be too soon without discussion so she would be happy to answer any questions now.

Vice-Chair Glynn-Rich MOTIONED to table this item and revisit it in April. Chairperson Bundy SECONDED the motion.

Commissioner Motta asked what will be discussed in April. Vice-Chair Glynn Rich said that although she feels they need to go forward with fee changes at some point but if April is too soon they can table it then.

MOTIONED carried 4 – 1 (Commissioner Motta opposed)

4. Consideration and possible action regarding a program proposal from “Broadway in the Park” producer Jeff Cason, to produce a multi-day special event in July 2011 at the Softball Field in Recreation Park. (Fiscal Impact: None)

Meredith Petit introduced “Broadway in the Park” producer Jeff Cason to answer questions from the Commission.

Chairperson Bundy asked questions about “Broadway in the Park” regarding participation, admission fees, attendance, staff, and field use fees. Jeff explained that although the program is opened up regionally, they try to encourage as much El Segundo participation as possible. Last year 70% of the volunteers, cast, and staff were local to El Segundo. Depending on what the production requires there are a variety of ages participating. The pre-show opens the stage for thirty (30) minutes to local groups to showcase their talents. This year they are widening the price structure to include children and senior pricing as well as discounts and coupons. The show will run four (4) nights and they anticipate attendance to be 2,000 people. Jeff said he has volunteer staff to help him with the production.

Jeff said that if Council and staff feel it is appropriate they would like to request a fee waiver so they can become sustainable and be in the black.

Commissioner Motta asked Jeff if he will be able to complete the items on the list by next month. Jeff said he would.

Commissioner Motta commented that last year he was getting calls about the trash that sat out for over a week.

Commissioner Caravello expressed his concern regarding the “no trace” quotation and the fact that staff has concerns. He asked Jeff if he has non-profit status. Jeff said he does and it was provided last year.

Commissioner Caravello asked how many items on the list Jeff has now. Jeff replied that he has about a third to a half of the items on the list and feels confident that he can secure what he needs by the next meeting.

Commissioner Randall said that although staff had some concerns and issues from last year she would like to approve this if staff is comfortable with the checklist.

Bob Cummings said that staff is working with Jeff and is here to help him. We learned a lot from last year and this checklist is a good start to make sure we are not tying up loose ends at the last minute. If we are assured these things are taken care of well in advance we are 100% behind it.

Commissioner asked why we would not wait until the conditions are met then either approve or not approve it at that time. Meredith replied that Jeff has to put a lot of work in to this and there are certain things he needs to do that will probably incur a cost for him. He would like to know that if he completes this as requested approval is looking good for him.

MOTIONED by Commissioner Motta to approve the program on a conditional basis as suggested in the Background and Discussion portion of the report requiring all conditions to be met prior to Commission in February. SECONDED by Vice-Chair Glynn Rich.

MOTION carried 4 – 1 (Commissioner Caravello opposed)

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

None

D. REPORTS

Meredith Petit, Recreation Superintendent

- Written report submitted
- Based on feedback from the community, a portion of the allocated budget will be used to mail a preview of Summer Brochure so people can start planning for summer.

Mark Trujillo, Parks Superintendent

- Written report submitted
- Removed a poorly structured tree at 333 Virginia Street

Dan O'Toole, Cable Division Program Manager

- Written report submitted
- Two of his staff moved on. Heather Armstrong is an anchor for an ABC affiliate in Wisconsin and Jill Montgomery is an ESPN sideline reporter.

Bob Cummings, Recreation and Parks Director

- Staff has received complaints and is trying to identify funds to repair the racquetball courts. The courts are closed now so we can scrape and remove the loose paint so it is not a slip hazard. We are getting bids and will have it fixed as soon as possible.

E. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS –

Commissioner Caravello: Commented that the Dick Oglesby discussion had nothing to do with whether somebody deserves recognition. Dick deserves recognition. He donated a lot of time and brought happiness to people but it is our responsibility to look at policies and make sure we are consistent.

Commissioner Randall: Thanked Commissioner Caravello for bringing that up because Dick is very deserving.

Commissioner Motta: Would like to see everyone out to see "Hansel and Gretel in the next two weeks.

Vice-Chair Glynn-Rich: Thanked Commissioner Caravello for his comments. She knew Dick very well but it is a matter of policy. She agrees with Commissioner Caravello completely.

Chairperson Bundy: Agrees with the other Commissioners and appreciates the wording Commissioner Caravello used.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS –

None

ADJOURNMENT -

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm. - Regular Commission Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 16, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 350 Main Street, El Segundo, CA.