
CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS, CALIFORNIA
Parks and Recreation Commission
MINUTES
JUNE 6, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jones called the Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Laguna Hills, California, to order at 7:00 PM in the Laguna Hills City Council Chamber, 24035 El Toro Road, Laguna Hills.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Jones.

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Present: Chair Mark Jones, Commissioner Daniel Cooper, Commissioner Jeffrey McConnell

Absent: Vice Chair Noenickx
Commissioner Farid Tabrizy

STAFF PRESENT: David Reynolds, Deputy City Manager; Dan Meehan, Community Services Superintendent; and Jaime Ballard, Administrative Assistant.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

2. MINUTES

2.1 REGULAR MEETING, APRIL 4, 2012

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 4, 2012, REGULAR MEETING, BY CHAIR JONES S/COMMISSIONER COOPER.
APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 3-0.**

3. PRESENTATIONS

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

4.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES RECREATION ACTIVITIES EVALUATION
PROJECT

Mr. Meehan summarized information in the staff report and provided a powerpoint presentation which gave the Commission an idea of questions included in the survey and the number of responses per each individual question. Included in the presentation was staffs "Observations" of the survey along with the "Next Steps."

Chair Jones suggested working with the Florence Sylvester Memorial Senior Center to see if staff could incorporate more senior programs. Chair Jones recommended including participants who actually attend current classes to obtain a larger survey sample size. Commissioner McConnell suggested more signage/advertisement to gain more community involvement and raise awareness especially for those residents who travel along Alicia Parkway and the 5 Freeway. Commissioner Cooper suggested continuing the outreach with local schools and principles along with advertising Community Service programs on Saddleback Valley Unified School District's website.

MOTION TO RECEIVE PRESENTATION, BY CHAIR JONES S/COMMISSIONER COOPER.

APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 3-0.

4.2 GOLFING, ROCKETS, REMOTE-CONTROLLED DEVICES, PORTABLE BARBEQUES IN CITY PARKS

Deputy City Manager Reynolds indicated staff was directed to bring the staff report back to the Commission for further consideration after a resident attended the April 10, 2012 City Council meeting and voiced concerns. Mr. Reynolds stated the resident who attended the City Council meeting is currently in the audience and would like to address the Commission at the appropriate time.

Mr. Reynolds stated staff had worked with the City Attorney's office on appropriate revisions to the Laguna Hills Municipal Code to achieve these park regulations which is reflected in the staff report and that staff did not feel it was necessary to prohibit radio controlled devices at City Parks. Deputy City Manager Reynolds indicated revisions to the Laguna Hills Municipal Code will now allow the temporary use of portable barbeques when such use is secured by a facility permit. Mr. Reynolds requested feedback from the Commission on the proposed revisions and introduced Jeff McPherson to the Commission.

Jeff McPherson of Laguna Hills greeted the Commission. Mr. McPherson stated that he and his son had used radio controlled vehicles for over twenty years within the City. Mr. McPherson stated throughout the years as the radio controlled vehicles had shifted more towards electric vehicles the noise issues have become less of an issue. Mr. McPherson also indicated that he was a school teacher in Garden Grove and their school receives quarterly newsletters from the City on

programs and activities to keep the parents in the community updated on current events within the City and he suggested providing the local schools with quarterly newsletters.

Commissioner Cooper stated he did not have any issues with the revisions to the golfing section of the Municipal Code update. Chair Jones expressed concern with idea of swinging golf clubs around kids at the park. Deputy City Manager Reynolds indicated staff and the City Attorney's office added the option of "except at the times and places designated by the Director" because at times staff had designated certain areas for recreation classes run by staff, however, mats were placed on the ground to avoid damage to the turf and it was within a controlled atmosphere. Commissioner Cooper stated the additional language added for the barbeques and fires portion of the municipal code was very beneficial. It was the consensus of the Commission to amend the municipal code with the recommendations provided in the staff report .

MOTION TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK TO STAFF AND AMEND THE MUNICIPAL CODE ACCORDINGLY, BY CHAIR JONES S/COMMISSIONER MCCONNELL. APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 3-0.

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5.1 2012 EARTH DAY LAGUNA HILLS AND ARBOR DAY POST EVENT REPORT

Superintendent Meehan summarized the report. Commissioner Cooper stated he thought the exhibits were outstanding and he was happy with the participation at this year's event. Commissioner McConnell asked Superintendent Meehan about participation from past year's events. Chair Jones stated the food donated for the volunteers by the vendors at this year's event was very good.

MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT, BY COMMISSIONER COOPER S/CHAIR JONES. APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 3-0.

6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner McConnell asked Superintendent Meehan if the artwork displayed at the 2012 Earth Day Laguna Hills Event would be displayed at this year's annual Fourth of July event. Mr. Meehan stated that staff had not given that idea any consideration at this point but did indicate the artwork is currently on display in the rotating art gallery. Commissioner McConnell felt that by displaying the artwork at this year's Fourth of July event on a prominent display, it could increase awareness and potentially generate more entries from local schools at next year's event.

Chair Jones asked if staff could request an update from the County regarding the bridge over troubled waters off Alicia Parkway behind the Wendy's Shopping Center. Deputy City Manager Reynolds stated staff would request an update from the County and provide this to the Commission as soon as an update was available.

Commissioner Cooper asked if mile markers were cost prohibited for the trails. Superintendent Meehan indicated after some research, it was determined the City actually only owns two trails within the City and that mile markers are a current Work Program and would require further research. Commissioner Cooper stated this might be a good Eagle Scout Project.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Parks and Recreation Commission at this meeting, Chair Jones declared the meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM.

DAVID T. REYNOLDS
DEPUTY CITY MANAGER

ATTEST:

MARK JONES, CHAIR

APPROVED AT MEETING OF AUGUST 1, 2012