

PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

CITY OF DUBLIN

June 15, 2015

The June 15, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Parks and Community Services Commission was called to order at 7:02 PM at the Dublin Civic Center, Dublin, California, by Chair Totaro.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Totaro led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners (Cm.) Present: Ballesteros, Thalblum, Totaro, Tran, Tucker

Commissioner Absent: Giannini

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

3.1 BRIEF INFORMATIONAL ONLY REPORTS FROM THE SENIOR CENTER AND YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Senior Center Advisory Committee

Cm. Thalblum, Parks and Community Services Commission Liaison to the Senior Center Advisory Committee, reported on the Special Senior Center Advisory Committee meeting of June 4, 2015. The Advisory Committee took a tour of two senior centers, the Pleasanton Senior Center and the Alcosta Senior Center in San Ramon to learn about their activities and meal programs.

Youth Advisory Committee

Cm. Tran informed the Commission that the May 27, 2015 Advisory Committee meeting was cancelled.

3.3 PUBLIC COMMENTS -None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Regular Meeting May 18, 2015

On a motion by Vice Chair Ballesteros, seconded by Cm. Tucker, and by a vote of 5-0-0 with Cm. Giannini absent, the Commission voted to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 18, 2015 as presented.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS – None

PUBLIC HEARING – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Winter Quarterly Report

Ms. Lisa McPherson, Recreation Supervisor, presented the specifics of the item as outlined in the Staff Report pertaining to Recreational and Leisure Activities, Family Services and the Preschool Program.

Cm. Tucker stated he was impressed with the low cancellation rates. Ms. Micki Cronin, Assistant Director of Parks and Community Services stated that due to the Preschool Program moving from the Emerald Glen Activity Center to the Shannon Community Center Multipurpose Room, the amount of classes offered was reduced as the available space for classes decreased; Staff researched which classes had not run in the past and chose not to offer those classes.

Vice Chair Ballesteros asked about onsite daycare at the Emerald Glen Recreation and Aquatics Complex (EGRAC). Ms. Cronin stated the EGRAC would not have onsite Preschool in Phase I, but may be considered for a future phase. Ms. McPherson discussed the Preschool Program partnership with the Dublin Unified School District at Dublin Elementary School for the 2015-2016 school year. Vice Chair Ballesteros asked if the Preschool Program at Dublin Elementary would be in lieu of the Shannon Community Center preschool. Ms. Cronin stated the Preschool Program would be at both the Shannon Community Center and Dublin Elementary School.

Cm. Thalblum commented on the need for a Preschool Program and the popularity of the Breakfast with Santa event.

Chair Totaro asked about Breakfast with Santa's decrease in attendance. Ms. McPherson stated that other agencies offered a similar event the weekend prior to Dublin which most likely contributed to the decrease in attendance.

Mr. Rich Jochner, Recreation Supervisor, presented the specifics of the item as outlined in the Staff Report pertaining to the Sports Programs and the Senior Center.

Cm. Thalblum commented on the need for volunteers at the Senior Center and asked if there is any recruitment in place. Cm. Thalblum also asked if there is any advertising stating you do not need to be a senior citizen to participate in the senior classes. Mr. Jochner stated many people come in to volunteer for only a couple of days. Training a volunteer takes a considerable amount of time; therefore, Staff is looking for volunteers that are able to make a larger time commitment. Regarding the classes, Mr. Jochner stated that the senior classes would be included in the Activity Guide going forward and would not have as strong of a Senior Center emphasis.

Cm. Thalblum stated the Jr. Warriors program this past year was phenomenal; the team selections and refereeing were well run. Vice Chair Ballesteros agreed with Cm. Thalblum's comments and also commented on the growth of the Jr. Warriors program. Vice Chair Ballesteros added that the increase in the private lessons seemed to be going well and hopes it continues to grow. Mr. Jochner stated the coaches that taught the private lessons are well known in the community and did a very good job. Vice Chair Ballesteros asked about the Activity Guide changes. Mr. Jochner stated the Fall-Winter Activity Guide would have a slight change in the way the senior classes are marketed; classes would be listed as "Adults 50 and Over" rather than "Senior Activities."

Cm. Tucker commented on the high attendance numbers with the private lessons and that he was happy to see a Balance and Agility class offered for seniors. Cm. Tucker commented on his excitement with the Fallon Middle School facility being included in the Jr. Warriors League next winter.

Cm. Tran asked about the summer Jr. Warriors League. Mr. Jochner stated the summer league is more clinic based for more instruction; one clinic per week and one game per week. Cm. Tran stated she was happy to see the contracted sports programs increase as well.

Chair Totaro complimented Staff on the format of the report. Chair Totaro asked about waitlisted participants for Jr. Warriors. Mr. Jochner stated customers are given ample time to register for the league; many people want to sign up late to be with their friends. Ms. Cronin stated Staff really works hard to place kids on a team from the waitlist. Mr. Jochner stated the additional facility would help to reduce the long days.

Chair Totaro asked about the Make Me a Pro Basketball (MMAP) program. Mr. Jochner stated MMAP is an ongoing program; with limited space due to Jr. Warriors, Staff does not offer the MMAP classes during the winter and the winter break camp was not offered this year due to the holiday dates.

Chair Totaro asked about the volunteers with Open Heart Kitchen (OHK). Mr. Jochner stated OHK has a volunteer network in place and they prefer to have volunteers register directly with them. Staff may work with OHK to track the volunteer hours to recapture the hours and include them with the Senior Center volunteer total hours. Ms. Cronin stated Staff actively recruited volunteers for the lunch program and the volunteers are being asked to track their hours with both agencies.

8.2 Dougherty Hills Dog Park Renovation

Ms. Meghan Tiernan, Parks and Facilities Development Coordinator, presented the specifics of the item as outlined in the Staff Report.

Cm. Tran asked about the change in park hours. Ms. Tiernan stated the change in hours is to help reduce the noise for the neighbors.

Cm. Tucker asked about the completion date. Ms. Tiernan stated the scheduled completion date is the end of October 2015. Cm. Tucker stated he and Cm. Giannini are actively looking for information on successful turf at dog parks. Cm. Tucker stated he contacted Banfield Veterinary and they are willing to offer voluntary classes on pet education.

Vice Chair Ballesteros commended Staff on finding additional funding to accomplish all the park improvement options. Vice Chair Ballesteros asked about the grading on the hill. Ms. Tiernan stated Staff would create a v-ditch to drain the water away from the park to the back of the hill and may need to connect to an existing drain. Vice Chair Ballesteros commented that she liked the closure in March through May rather than the summer months.

Cm. Thalblum stated she was glad Staff found the funding, and the dog park owners would be happy. Cm. Thalblum asked about the trees. Ms. Tiernan stated the trees are existing and no additional trees are planned; ornamental plants will be added outside the fence line along the street. Ms. Tiernan stated the additional funding came from a one-time cost savings from a maintenance account.

Chair Totaro concurred with the Commission regarding the additional funding. Chair Totaro asked about the drainage problem in regards to past discussions on the expenses. Ms. Tiernan stated Staff would be grading the hill to improve the drainage. Chair Totaro stated Staff did a good job covering all the issues with the dog park maintenance. He thinks this is a very good equitable solution for the dog owners and the neighbors.

OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 BRIEF INFORMATION ONLY REPORTS FROM PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSIONERS AND/OR STAFF

The Commission thanked Cm. Tran on all her efforts with the community and her service on the Commission in her 2014-2015 term.

Cm. Tran stated the Dublin High School Club, Room to Read, received \$250 in donations at the screening of “Girl Rising” on May 30, 2015.

Cm. Tucker reported he attended the Dublin Chamber of Commerce May meeting with BART in attendance, the Easter Seals Kaleidoscope event in Dublin for autistic children, the Senior Center Volunteer Recognition luncheon, and he is a member of the Diablo Black Men’s Group Non-Profit organization; the organization awarded a scholarship to David Allen Green from Dublin High School.

Vice Chair Ballesteros stated her son is in multiple summer camps with Dublin and asked about the materials fee for certain camps. Ms. Cronin stated some contracted camps or classes have a materials fee where the instructor is paid the extra fees directly; the City receives a portion of the class registration fee only.

Cm. Thalblum reported she attended the Special Senior Center Advisory Committee meeting on June 4, 2015 and the monthly economic development meeting with the Dublin Chamber of Commerce.

Chair Totaro asked Staff if a recycling bin and a trash bin are together in the parks. Ms. Cronin stated Staff is moving toward having the two types of bins together when possible. Ms. Cronin informed the Commission of the “Report an Issue” on the City’s website.

Chair Totaro asked about a recycled water station at the Public Safety Complex. Vice Chair Ballesteros stated a residential recycled water fill station is located at the Public Safety Complex and it is a free program.

Ms. Cronin provided program and project updates.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Kransky, Senior Office Assistant.

Anthony Totaro
Chairperson

ATTEST: _____
Micki Cronin
Assistant Director of Parks and Community Services