

PARKS, WELLNESS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

**April 9, 2013 Meeting Minutes
6:30 p.m., City Hall-Council Chambers
117 Macneil Street, San Fernando, CA 91340**

PRESENT: Commissioner NinaMarie Ballin, Saydith Navarro,
Commissioner Danitza Pantoja and Commissioner Joe Ponce

ABSENT: Commissioner Adriana Gomez

ALSO PRESENT: Ismael Aguila, Recreation and Community Services Operations Manager
Linda Bowden-Moreno, Recreation & Community Services Office Specialist

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

- Commissioner Pantoja called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.
- Present: Ballin, Navarro, Pantoja and Ponce
- Absent: Gomez

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- Commissioner Ballin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion was made to approve the agenda of the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission for April 9, 2013.

Motion: Ballin Second by: Ponce
For: All
Against: None
Abstained: None

IV. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of Minutes – March 19, 2013

Motion was made to approve the minutes of the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission for March 19, 2013.

Motion: Navarro Second by: Ponce

For: Navarro, Pantoja, and Ponce

Against: None

Abstained: Ballin

V. Public Comment

- None

VI. New Business

A. Tennis Programs for Residents (Phil Siordia, U.S. Tennis Association)

- Ismael introduced Phil Siordia (U.S. Tennis Association) to the Commission. Phil Siordia spoke on his desire to bring affordable tennis programs to the City of San Fernando, specifically to the underprivileged and disabled. This opportunity will be made possible through an initiative by the U.S. Tennis Association.
- Historically, students who have participated in this tennis program generally do better academically and behave better. Scholarship opportunities are also a benefit of participating in this program.
- Ismael discussed the goal of bringing in low-cost exercise programs to residents including the disabled community. There are a couple of options such as contracting a tennis coach or perhaps provide staff training. Outreach can be done by flyer distribution with the water bill or door-to-door drop off.
- There may be some investment needed to improve the tennis courts to make them playable.
- There was a general consensus by the Commission to support the U.S. Tennis Association in bringing tennis programming to the City.

VII. Old Business

A. Police Dept. Monthly Report (Interim Chief Robert Parks)

- Chief Parks was not present tonight. Item was tabled.

B. Heal Cities Campaign Update: Smoke Free Ordinance for Multi-Family Housing (Letter of Recommendation to the Planning Commission)

- The Multi-Family Housing portion of the Smoke Free Ordinance does not fall under the scope of the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission but would be handled by the Planning Commission. The Parks Commission was presented with a draft letter recommending that the Planning Commission move forward with this ordinance.
- Commissioners will look review draft and provide feedback.

C. Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission Priorities Update

- Staff provided the adopted priorities to the Commissions.
- Ismael contacted CSUN seeking a partnership to provide assistance in preparing a Park Master Plan. CSUN may be interested in assisting the City due to the financial constraints the City is facing. Ismael will continue discussions with CSUN and keep the Commission informed.

D. Senior Citizen Advisory Board (Overview and Discussion)

- Ismael advised the Commission that the Senior Board accepted the recommendation by the Parks Commission to recruit the fifth Senior Citizen Advisory Board member from Senior Housing due to the lack of nominees from the Park Avenue Club.
- The Senior Board will be moving forward with the recruiting of a member and bring back the item to this Commission once an appointment is made.

VIII. Staff Communication

A. Rudy J. Ortega Sr. Park (formerly Heritage Park)

- No reportable action at this time.

B. Layne Park

- No reportable action at this time.

C. Pioneer Park

- No reportable action at this time.

D. Recreation Park

- No reportable action at this time.

E. Las Palmas Park

- Staff reported on the Eggstravanza event held on March 30, 2013. The event was a success. Visitors enjoyed free candy, arts & crafts and other activities.

F. San Fernando Regional Pool Facility

- No reportable action at this time.

G. Other

- Staff reported that the item pertaining to Virtual Patrol at Pioneer Park, Recreation Park and the Pool Facility was approved by Council and will move forward.
- Staff informed the Commission that the annual Senior Expo is scheduled on Friday, May 24th at Las Palmas Park from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Flyer to be provided at the next meeting.

IX. Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Pantoja thanked staff for their hard work in putting on the Eggstravaganza event for the community.

X. Agenda Items for Next Month (May 14, 2013)

1. Approval of Minutes for April 9, 2013
2. Commissioner Ponce would like to discuss the safety concerns regarding the Pocket Park on Kalisher.
3. Commissioner Ballin would like to address issues regarding poor lighting at Las Palmas Park.

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Motion: Navarro Second by: Ponce
For: All
Against: None
Abstained: None