

**CITY OF SANTA CLARITA  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION  
6:00 p.m.  
Thursday, October 5, 2006**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Redd called to order the regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission at 6:07 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 23920 Valencia Boulevard, Santa Clarita, California.

**SECRETARY'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

Commission Secretary announced that anyone wishing to address an item on the agenda should fill out a speaker's slip and submit it to the Commission Secretary before the item is announced by the Chair.

**ROLL CALL**

All Commissioners were present, with the exception of Commissioner Hauser, who was absent.

**FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Levison led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion by Commissioner Nelson, second by Commissioner Redd, to approve the Minutes of September 7, 2006.**

**Hearing no objections, it was so ordered.**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion by Chair Ender, second by Commissioner Nelson, to approve the agenda.**

**Hearing no objections, it was so ordered.**

**AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS**

Kindness and Character Count in Santa Clarita awards were presented to Michael Ewart for outstanding contributions to the community.

**PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMISSION**

There were none.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Don McLean, a local runner, spoke about the need for a permanent cross country course at Central Park. Chair Ender suggested contacting the William S. Hart Union High School District regarding a potential football field collaboration. Chair Ender noted that this will be added to the Priority Setting list.

## **ITEM 1**

### **COMMUNITY CENTER IN ACTION**

Adele Macpherson, Community Services Superintendent, presented a PowerPoint report to Commission on the new Community Center and its many programs.

**Commission received and commented.**

### **PARK PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

**Commission received and commented.**

### **QUARTERLY REPORTS**

**Commission received and commented.**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Commission received and commented.**

### **PUBLIC STATEMENTS (COMMISSIONERS)**

Commissioner Levison:

1. Asked if the City contested the Forest Service plan. Director Gould will follow up with Fred Follstad in Planning and provide this information.
2. Following up to see if the City applied for two grants discussed at last months meeting. Wayne Weber answered yes. Director Gould added that staff receives updates on what grants are available all the time. Staff review and decide which grants to proceed with. Asked if perhaps it is time to have a Grant Writer on staff? Director Gould said no, there are currently over 20 employees working on a Grants Committee city-wide. Staff is constantly and aggressively pursuing grants, as appropriate.

Commissioner Nelson:

1. Great presentation on the Community Center. Concerned about the possibility of gang members attending the Community Center, and that the deputy stationed there has an office that is tucked away. Adele Macpherson replied that Deputy Trejo is visible and makes his presence known, and that there is also a monitoring system in place.
2. Is there a job education/self esteem component being done with the kids to assist them with getting jobs? Adele Macpherson stated that Cynthia Llerenes currently conducts a Youth Employment Program that includes trainings for resume writing, how to dress for an interview, etc. Commissioner Nelson would like to see a joint project with We Care For Youth.
3. Thinks that offering childcare to the adults taking the ESL class is the best idea. Suggests partnering with College of the Canyons for ESL classes. Adele Macpherson will contact them and follow up.

Commissioner Redd:

1. Knew the Community Center would be successful, but had no idea it would be this successful. Will the Boxing program be expanded to Canyon Country? Adele Macpherson replied that there is a need for a Boxing program and many other programs in other areas of Santa Clarita. Director Gould added that the Parks and Recreation Master plan includes opportunity to address this in Canyon Country.
2. Asked if there has been a decrease in crime in the area surrounding the Community Center? Adele Macpherson will follow up to find out.

Chair Ender:

1. Loved hearing the success stories at the Community Center. How do we find out which kids have been kept out of trouble and how many are successful? Adele Macpherson shared a success story and will also follow up on this.
2. Would love to hold a Commission meeting at the Community Center. Director Gould stated that staff is looking into this already and are targeting a meeting for April or May of 2007.
3. Regrets the loss of a member of Commissioner Hauser's family.
4. Asked about the parking situation at Central Park, can the dirt lot be converted? Director Gould will follow up.
5. Looking forward to Parent U. Thanked Adele Macpherson for her wonderful staff.
6. Excited about the groundbreaking of Longshore Park, the tentative date is Friday, November 3, 2006, at 10:00 a.m.

### **PUBLIC STATEMENTS (STAFF)**

Rick Gould, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services:

1. October 11, 2006, is a mandatory ethics training from 1:30-4:30 p.m., in Council Chambers.
2. Plans are being made for a group photo shoot, on Friday, November 17, at 9:00 a.m., at the Aquatic Center.
3. The Street Art Festival is this weekend, October 7-8, 2006.
4. Make a Difference Day is on Saturday, October 28.
5. At next months meeting, the Priority Setting timeline will be distributed for your review.
6. The City nominated Commissioner Longshore for the Parks Hero Award through People for Parks, and he was selected. There will be a dinner in Los Angeles that the City has three seats for. More seats can be acquired if necessary.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Chair Ender adjourned the Commission meeting at 7:17 p.m., in memory of Commissioner Hauser's father-in-law, Arleigh Hauser.**

### **FUTURE MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission will be held on Thursday, November 2, 2006, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, First Floor of City Hall, 23920 Valencia Boulevard, Santa Clarita, CA.

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Richard E. Gould, Director  
Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

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Laurie Ender, Chair  
Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission

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