

**CITY OF SANTA CLARITA
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
6:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 2, 2006**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Redd called to order the regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission at 6:00 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 Commissioners Ender and Longshore.

FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Hauser led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Nelson, second by Commissioner Hauser, to approve the minutes of February 2, 2006.

Hearing no objections, it was so ordered.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Hauser, second by Commissioner Nelson, to approve the agenda.

Hearing no objections, it was so ordered.

AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS

There were none.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

Chris Clark, Area Director for Santa Clarita Valley Special Olympics, presented the Commission with a plaque in recognition of their continued support of the athletes of Special Olympics. Mario Hidalgo, Santa Clarita Valley Special Olympics Global Messenger, presented Rick Gould, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services, with a plaque for his tremendous leadership and support of Special Olympics.

Rick Gould presented Commission with the 2005 Best of Aquatics Award received by the City of Santa Clarita from *Aquatics International* Magazine for Best Public/Nonprofit Outdoor Family Aquatics Center. Mr. Gould recognized and thanked Pat Hagele, recently retired Aquatics Administrator; Doug Botton, Aquatics Supervisor; and Chris Lundie, Pool Technician for outstanding contributions to the Aquatic Center.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Don McLean, Santa Clarita Runners member, requested Commission and staff consider expanding the cross country course at Central Park into a first-class cross country course suitable for use for high school and other cross country meets. Mr. Gould suggested Commission could include this item as part of the next priority setting process.

ITEM 1

NON –MOTORIZED PLAN

Wayne Weber, Parks Superintendent, introduced Ian Pari, Senior Traffic Engineer, who presented Commission with a PowerPoint outlining plans for a non-motorized transportation plan to encourage use of multiple transportation modes.

Commission received and commented.

PARK PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Commission received and commented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Arts Advisory Committee – Chair Redd

At the February meeting, the Committee reviewed 2005 goals, including updating the Facilities Directory.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS (COMMISSIONERS)

Commissioner Hauser:

1. Congratulations to Pat Hagele, Doug Botton, and Chris Lundie and staff for the wonderful aquatics award.
2. Requested that the upgrade of the cross country track at Central Park be agendized for Commission in advance of the 2007 priority setting process.
3. Requested that restroom facilities be included along trails.
4. The February 11, 2006, opening of the Youth Grove at Central Park is incredibly important for the community.
5. Will be traveling out of the country to China from March 7-24, 2006. Thank you Phil Lantis, Arts and Events Administrator, for the Cowboy Festival pins to share with contacts in China.
6. Commissioners Ender and Hauser challenge Councilmembers, fellow Commissioners, and staff to run in the 2006 Santa Clarita Marathon. Suggested Gail Ortiz, Public Information Officer, head a campaign to encourage participation and foster a healthy lifestyle.

Commissioner Nelson:

1. How is the hillside holding up at Central Park with the recent rains? Mr. Weber responded that no seepage has been seen from the hillside to date.

Chair Redd:

1. The Youth Grove at Central Park is touching and greatly appreciated by parents.
2. Is the City assisting staff at Golden Valley High School in view of the recent disturbance? Adele Macpherson, Community Services Superintendent, stated City staff has been in touch with administrators at the high school.
3. Would like to see the Non-Motorized Plan tied to the Healthy Santa Clarita program.
4. Suggested a team building session involving Commissioners and staff once a year. Mr. Gould suggested Commissioners think about what that might look like and to let him know their thoughts.
5. Recently had lunch at Central Park and was impressed with the hard working Parks Maintenance staff.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS (STAFF)

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

1. The California Parks and Recreation Society (CPRS) Conference is scheduled for March 15-18, 2006, in Ontario, CA. Commissioners and Department staff are scheduled to attend various activities and the awards banquet.
2. The retirement celebration for Ellie Kane, City employee #4, will be held on March 9, 2006, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Activities Center.
3. Grand Opening of a 1/2-mile section of the Canyon View Regional Trail is scheduled for March 15, 2006, at 10:00 a.m.
4. Joe Inch, Parks Project Development Coordinator, is retiring. A retirement gathering is scheduled on March 30, 2006, at 5:30 p.m., at The Greens.
5. The next Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission meeting on April 6, 2006, will be held in the Century Room at City Hall due to election use of Council Chambers.
6. The non-resident fee issue is scheduled to be presented to City Council at the March 28, 2006, meeting by Councilmember Ferry. Commissioner Hauser requested a copy of the Agenda Report be sent to Commissioners prior to presentation at the March 28, 2006, City Council meeting.

Adele Macpherson, Community Services Superintendent:

1. The new Graffiti Coordinator is scheduled to begin work on March 13, 2006. Ms. Macpherson is very proud of the high interest from candidates for this position.
2. Ingrid Hardy has been promoted to Management Analyst in the Administrative Services Department.
3. Community Services staff are working long hours to accommodate the high interest in programs at the new Community Center. The English as a Second Language classes are all full with participants very excited and setting high personal goals. Currently, 90 teens are participating in programs at the Center and it is going really well. The boxing program should move into the new Center in about two weeks. Commissioners requested notification of the first boxing event at the new Center.

Wayne Weber, Parks Superintendent:

1. The Parks Maintenance staff has taken advantage of the Air Quality Management District's (AQMD) program for turning in old leaf blowers for new equipment. A total of 10 old leaf blowers were turned in to AQMD for new blowers. Television stations interviewed Jim Cooksey, Assistant Parks Supervisor, on the City's blower redemption.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Redd adjourned the Commission meeting at 7:13 p.m.

FUTURE MEETING

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

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

Ed Redd, Chair
Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission

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