

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Redd called to order the regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission at 6:02 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.

FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Hauser led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Hauser, second by Commissioner Ender, to approve the minutes of June 1, 2006, as corrected.

Hearing no objections, it was so ordered.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner 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 Alexa Joy, Sharon Collins, and Rita Siegel for their outstanding contributions to the community.

Awards were presented to Santa Clarita Autism Asperger's Network (SCAAN) representatives Vicki Berrey, Michelle Heid, Tyler Heid, Sara Meissner, Elise Meissner, Erin Moore-Lay, and Ryan Lay for volunteering their time to train City staff to identify and relate to youth with Autism and Asperger's. Davis Ender and Collin Curtain, Camp Clarita participants, assisted with presentation of the awards. Emily Iland and Lisa Iland were honored, but were unable to attend. Vicki Berrey provided Commission with information about the SCAAN program.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

There were none.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

PROCLAMATION – JULY IS PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

Chair Redd read a Proclamation declaring that July is Parks and Recreation Month in Santa Clarita.

ITEM 1

CENTRAL PARK CROSS COUNTRY COURSE OPPORTUNITIES

Tom Reilly, Park Development Administrator, presented Commission with a report on cross country course opportunities at Central Park and identified elements a successful cross country course.

Commission received and commented.

ITEM 2

TODD LONGSHORE REMEMBRANCES AND NAMING THE NEW PARK ON WHITES CANYON TODD LONGSHORE PARK

On April 25, 2006, the community of Santa Clarita endured the sudden passing of Commissioner Todd Longshore, who served on the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission for over 16 years. Commissioner Longshore had a passion and commitment for parks and recreation and made significant contributions in that area to the community of Santa Clarita. Recommendations from the ad-hoc committee, formed to present ideas for remembrance of the late Commissioner, were discussed.

Motion by Commissioner Hauser, second by Commissioner Ender, to approve creation of the “Todd Longshore Volunteer Coach of the Year Award;” placement of an inscription on a framed picture of Todd Longshore to be hung in the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department Office; renaming the City’s SCORE Scholarship Program the “Todd Longshore SCORE Scholarship Fund;” and to forward a recommendation to the City Council to name the new City park on Whites Canyon “Todd Longshore Park.”

Motion carried unanimously.

DeAnn Longshore, widow of the late Commissioner, spoke and was deeply moved and honored by the Commission and staff recommendations. She expressed the family’s appreciation for all the work Commissioners and staff do on a daily basis. The family is very happy and proud of the suggestions for honoring Todd.

PARK PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Commission received and commented.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

Commission received and commented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Arts Advisory Committee

Chair Redd reported that the Arts Advisory Committee is drafting a letter to the City Council requesting increased funding for the arts in the City budget.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS (COMMISSIONERS)

Commissioner Hauser:

1. Requested an email update on status of organizing a challenge for Councilmembers, Commissioners, and staff for the Santa Clarita Marathon on November 5, 2006, as part of the Santa Clarita Healthy City effort.
2. The 4th of July parade was phenomenal. Suggested a change in music selection and a return to more family activities.
3. Asked for status on her request that funds be included in the budget for the next segment of the Sand Canyon/Robinson Ranch Trail.
4. Requested advance notification of public events.

Commissioner Nelson:

1. Noticed that there is almost an epidemic of graffiti in the City. Appreciates that the City's graffiti abatement staff is working hard to eradicate it quickly. Suggested the community be made aware of the problem and encourage them to help address this issue.
2. A marked increase in graffiti activity was observed in the area of Rainbow Glen. Rick Gould, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services, stated that as of July 1, 2006, additional funding was budgeted to hire additional staff to address graffiti. Also, the new budget includes funding for a Probation Officer. Staff is working with the District Attorney on plans for a Community Court location in the City to be in place by September 2006. Adele Macpherson, Community Services Superintendent, stated that the graffiti observed on Rainbow Glen is on private property. The City has contacted the property owner to remove all graffiti immediately. Staff is working with Sheriff's Deputies to arrest and prosecute offenders.

Commissioner Ender:

1. The State of the City Luncheon was the best to date. Kudos to the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services staff for their accomplishments.
2. Excited to see that the Aquatic Center pools are being used by so many residents. Very excited to see all the summer activities and swim programs.
3. The Camp Clarita programs are great and the citizens are happy with the programs provided. Thank you to staff for a great job. Reminds me of why we live here.

Chair Redd:

1. Concerned about the Silly String use during the 4th of July parade.
2. Suggested increasing activities before the 4th of July Fireworks program at the Westfield Valencia Town Center. Also suggested that local nonprofit agencies be allowed to sell

items at the event. Director Gould provided information regarding rules that restrict outside groups to sell at the event.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS (STAFF)

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

1. The Commission recognition of staff annual event is scheduled for July 19, at 2:30 p.m., at the Activities Center.
2. An All-Staff Parks and Recreation Month Kickball challenge will take place on July 20, at 6:00 p.m., at Bridgeport Park.
3. The Commission will not meet in August.
4. City Council will announce the Commission appointments at the July 11, 2006, City Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Redd adjourned the Commission meeting at 7:24 p.m.

FUTURE MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission will be held on Thursday, September 7, 2006, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 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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