CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting May 5, 2009 - 7pm

Convened 7:10pm

ROLL CALL

Present: Marie Marston, Chair

Tom Anderson Tim Brown Kathy Hamilton Phillip Lugar Greg Ruzicka

Excused: Bill Garrett

Staff: Mark Harmon, General Services Director

Sean Levin, Recreation Superintendent

Teri Craig, Admin Asst

FY 2009/10 BUDGET PRESENTATION BY RECREATION & SENIOR SERVICES STAFF

The following PowerPoint was presented to the Commission:





















DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Director Harmon stated funding had been procured for the Castaways Flagpole and lighting and that installation would be completed before Memorial Day.

He stated that staff would be pulling item #7 - Special Tree Removal Request in order for additional information and would be return at a future meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1. Minutes of the April 7, 2009. Receive/file April 7, 2009 minutes.
- 2. Parks & Operations Division Activity Report. Receive/file monthly Activity Report for activities and upcoming projects.
- 3. Recreation & Senior Services Activity Report. Receive/file monthly Activity Report for activities and upcoming projects.

Motion by Commissioner Brown to accept items 1-3 of the consent calendar. Motion carried by acclamation.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

4. <u>Bench Donation Request</u>. Director Harmon reported that a request had been made to replace a bench around the playground area at Cliff Drive Park by Karen Harrington. He stated that staff recommends approval of the request.

Chair Marston opened the public discussion; hearing none, the public discussion was closed.

<u>Motion by Commissioner Brown</u> to accept the replacement bench donation from Karen Harrington. Motion carried by acclamation.

5. Recommendation to City Council for Additional Park Patrol Part-Time Staff Person. Superintendent Levin stated that staff had met with the Budget Committee, Recreation Police Department and Parking Control staff to discuss the possibility of additional part-time Park Patrol hours to help distribute the Information Regulation Cards and assist with compliance of beach goers on weekends and during the summer at CdM State Beach. He reiterated that the main responsibility of the Park Patrol is to educate the public by distributing these cards and assist the Police in the future by making visitors more knowledgeable about the rules of the beach. He did note that if this was approved by City Council that the earliest that staff could be hired and trained would be August or early September.

As part of the Budget Committee, Commissioners Brown and Lugar expressed their support of an additional 30 hours per week for Park Patrol to assist the CdM State Beach issues and year-round issues at all City parks.

Discussion ensued regarding what could be burned in the fire pits and tents on the beach.

Director Harmon stated that his staff had been reviewing other cities policies regarding the fire pits and he believes that the City Council will be supportive of a policy after some staff work has been completed.

Superintendent Levin stated that changes to shade structure regulations would involve amending the City Code.

Commissioner Hamilton noted her support and appreciation for the Budget Committee's work as well as staff on this issue. She noted that she as well as her neighbors are very appreciative of this Committee's work and looked forward to seeing the results of this action.

Chair Marston opened the public discussion; hearing none, the public discussion was closed.

<u>Motion by Commissioner Ruzicka</u> to forward to the City Council for their consideration and appropriation of funds for FY 2009/10 for an additional part-time Park Patrol staff person and to direct staff to forward a budget request to City Council on behalf of the PB&R Commission. Motion carried by acclamation.

6. <u>Reforestation Request</u>. Director Harmon stated staff had received a request for reforestation from the Bourke residence at 2205 Channel Road. He stated that they met the requirements of the G-1 Policy stating that property owners not residing within a legally established HOA may submit individual requests with a petition of 60% of property owners within the area defined for reforestation which in this case included 41 properties of which 24 were obtained. He noted that the property owner has agreed to assume the full cost of the removal and the replacement of the tree.

Chair Marston opened the public discussion.

Brigid Bourke thanked the staff for their help and urged the Commission to support their request as this Cottonwood tree has caused private damage.

Jan Vandersloot stated that he believes that the homeowner has met the requirements of the G-1 but that staff should allow some time to see if the root barriers would work and urged the Commission not to approve the removal at this time.

Director Harmon stated that staff believes that the sidewalk will need to be repaired again soon because of the size of the tree in the small growth area.

Chair Marston closed the public discussion.

<u>Motion by Commissioner Ruzicka</u> to approve the reforestation of one Cottonwood tree at 2205 Channel Road. Motion carried by acclamation.

- 7. Special Tree Removal Removed by staff.
- 8. Appeal of Tree Removal Denied at 400 Heliotrope. Director Harmon stated that staff had denied the request for removal of a Torrey Pine at 400 Heliotrope based on the fact that staff was able to move the curb to accommodate the tree and that the tree does not meet the requirements of the G-1 Policy for removal based on a repeated history of damaging public or private sewers and is dead, diseased or hazardous and presents a liability to the City. He stated that the denial of the request concurred by the Risk Manager and the City Manager. Director Harmon stated that staff is aware that the tree dies drop sap and is sympathetic to that the tree cannot be removed based on that alone. He stated that the homeowner is appealing the denial. He noted that clearly the tree does not lean and that is why they were able to move the curb to satisfy the roots of the tree.

Chair Marston opened the public discussion

Don Sneddon stated that he has been trying to have that tree removed since 1978. He stated that there is such a sap problem that no cars can park underneath it and that they have even placed a warning sign on the tree. He stated that he has his neighbors have signed his request remove also.

Matt Colburn stated that this tree is a nuisance and is cracking the sidewalk towards the house.

Discussion ensued regarding the sap and the age of the tree.

Jan Vandersloot urged that the Commission reaffirm the denial of the removal of the tree. He stated that it does not meet the requirements to remove and that the tree should remain as it is.

Commissioner Ruzicka asked staff if there was anything that could mitigate the droppings of sap.

Director Harmon stated no.

Chair Marston closed the public discussion

<u>Motion by Commissioner Brown</u> to deny the appeal for removal of one City Torrey Pint parkway street tree at 400 Heliotrope. Motion carried by acclamation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS -

Parks - Nothing to report.

<u>RSS</u> - Commissioner Brown stated that the residents and volleyball players at China Cove have come to a consensus regarding hours and that staff has received a request for relocation and will be on the June agenda.

AD- Hoc

- -Youth Sports Liaison Nothing to report
- -Community Services Award Nothing to Report.
- -Budget- Discussed earlier.

Other

-Marina Park - Nothing to report.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Fire Ring Policy
- China Cove Volleyball Court

ADJOURNED - 8:35pm	
Submitted by:	Teri Craig, Admin Assistant