

**Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**April 6, 2010 – 7pm**

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**Convened** 7:04pm

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Tim Brown, Chair  
Tom Anderson  
Kathy Hamilton  
Phillip Lugar (arrived at 7:08pm)  
Marie Marston

Absent: Bill Garrett  
Greg Ruzicka

Staff: Mark Harmon, General Services Director  
Laura Detweiler, Recreation & Senior Services Director  
Dan Sereno, Parks Superintendent  
Sean Levin, Recreation Superintendent  
Teri Craig, Admin Asst

**PRESENTATION BY JERRY NININGER – HEALING FIELDS**

Jerry Nininger of the Exchange Club of Newport Harbor presented a video of the Healing Fields. They asked the Commission to save the date of May 14 for the Opening Ceremony of the Healing Fields at Castaways Park where 1776 flags will line the pathways of the park. He noted that the flags will be in place from May 14-16 and that that 100% of the proceeds from the sale of the flags will be donated to the men and women of the armed forces.

**DIRECTORS COMMENTS**

- Director Detweiler stated that the Recreation staff won the Agency Award Best of the Best CPRS awards out of 300 agencies for the Camp Newport brochure and the single focus brochure for CYC. She stated it is quite rare to win two awards and that Sarah Boulton leads the marketing crew. Chair Brown stated he was quite honored to be there and to see this fine staff receive the awards. She went on to say that the Sunset Ridge EIR had been approved and the application to the Coastal Commission will be submitted soon. Director Detweiler also announced the Marina Park EIR will go before City Council on May 11. She stated the Coastal Commission had approved the installation of the China Cove volleyball court and staff would return in six months to provide the PB&R Commission an update on the relocated court activities.

Discussion ensued regarding funds for Sunset Ridge and Marina Park.

- Director Harmon stated that Council has directed staff to negotiate for contract street sweeping with a Request for Proposal. He stated it would be discussed at the April 27 City Council meeting. He noted it could potentially save \$6 M over the next 10 years.

Discussion ensued regarding quality and budget of street sweeping.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. **Minutes of February 2, 2010 regular meeting.** *Waive reading of subject minutes, approve and order filed.*
2. **Park & 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.*
4. **Tree Donation.** *Approve tree donation of Recreation & Senior Services Department to be located at Grant Howald Park at CYC.*

**Motion by Commissioner Lugar** to accept items Consent Calendar items 1-4. Motion carried by acclamation.

5. **Tree Donation** – Director Harmon stated he had pulled this item because SPON had asked that the plaque be changed to *In Memory of Dr. Jan Vandersloot, Healer of People & Places* which is not in accordance with the Council Policy. However SPON and Mrs. Smith are donating 15 trees and only one will have the plaque. He stated that staff recommends approval to the proposed wording

**Chair Brown opened the public discussion**

Allan Beek spoke on behalf of SPON stating that due to the countless volunteer hours Dr. Vandersloot has given to the City and his 25 years of devotion to open space he urged the Commission to support this change of wording for the plaque.

**Chair Brown closed the public discussion**

**Motion by Commissioner Lugar** to approve the donation of 15 trees by Joan Irvine Smith and SPON with the plaque to read *In Memory of Dr. Jan Vandersloot, Healer of People & Places* to be placed with one of the planted trees. Motion carried by acclamation.

**CURRENT / NEW ITEMS**

6. **Community Service Award Procedure Revisions.** Superintendent Levin stated that the Commission had asked that Superintendent Levin work with Director Harmon to make the award more inclusive.

Discussion ensued regarding the procedure. After discussion it was decided to add the words group and organization to the following sentence on the nomination form.

*Explain why you are nominating this person/group/organization:*

**Chair Brown opened the public discussion; seeing none the public discussion was closed.**

**Motion by Commissioner Lugar** to approve the Community Service Award Procedure as amended. Motion carried by acclamation.

7. **Proposed City Tree Removals.** Superintendent Sereno stated the Public Works Department is requesting the removal of six City trees in order to accommodate the CdM Public Works Department project. He introduced City Engineer Peter Tauscher to the Commission and then provided a PowerPoint presentation to the Commission on the status of the trees. He noted that because of the extensive work that must be done and the fact that these trees have been root pruned in the past that it would be extremely difficult to save these trees but that the project would pay for the removal and replacement of the trees albeit in different locations.

Superintendent Sereno stated that he did received one phone call but the call was more about the curb and gutter replacement.

**Chair Brown opened the public discussion; seeing none the public discussion was closed.**

**Motion by Commissioner Hamilton** to approve the removal of the 6 City parkway trees to accommodate the CdM Public Works Department project. Motion carried by acclamation.

8. **Reforestation Request.** Director Harmon stated staff received a request for reforestation request from Andrew Patterson of Patterson Construction on behalf of Robert Francesan property owner at 2226 Channel Road. He stated that the applicant has complied with all requirements of the G-1 Policy.

**Chair Brown opened the public discussion.**

Mr. Patterson stated that he was providing the work for the homeowner and that this request was being made because the location of the tree is not conducive to the approved construction plans for the driveway.

**Chair Brown closed the public discussion.**

Commissioner Lugar stated that this is a beautiful tree and has reservations about removing it just because of construction issues and would be interested in seeing the plans.

Director Harmon stated that should the request be denied then a precedent will be set because in the past, reforestations have been approved if all the requirements of the G-1 have been met.

Chair Brown stated that the Commission is not in the position to rewrite the G-1 guidelines and that the Commission has a responsibility to follow the rules of the G-1 Policy.

Discussion ensued regarding the box size of the tree.

**Motion by Commissioner Anderson** to approve the reforestation request of Robert Francesan at 2226 Channel Road with the stipulation the replacement tree is a 48 inch box. Motion carried by acclamation.

9. **Appeal Denied Request for Tree Removal.** Director Harmon stated Parks staff had denied the request of the Wallis family at 1609 Antigua way stating the two trees are healthy except that they are infested with Lerp Psyllid which causes the tree to drop an excessive amount of leaves and droppings. He stated that staff has scheduled the tree for its annual pruning and for the bi-annual treatment for the Lerp infestation which should decrease the amount of debris and fallen leaves.

**Chair Brown opened the public discussion.**

Mr. Wallis urged the Commission to approve his request. He stated that he has owned this property since 2005 and that this is the worst tree of its kind and that it should not be planted anywhere. He noted that he is constantly having to sweep up after it and that is has caused sewer problems in the past.

**Chair Brown closed the public discussion.**

Discussion ensued regarding the need to see if the injections for the infestation work and noted that the homeowner could apply for the removal again should the injections not work and that staff can look at it again.

**Motion by Commissioner Lugar** to deny the appeal for the tree removal at 1609 Antigua Way.

Commissioner Anderson recused himself as he lives within 500 feet of the property.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Anderson, Brown, Hamilton, Lugar  
Recuse: Marston  
Absent: Garrett, Ruzicka

**COMMITTEE REPORTS –**

Parks – Nothing to report.

RSS – Nothing to report.

Budget – Nothing to report

Community Service Award – Discussed during the meeting.

AD- Hoc

– Youth Sports Liaison – Nothing to report.

– China Cove Volleyball Court – Approved by the Coastal Commission.

– Marina Park – Director Detweiler stated that the committee met and that Commissioner Garrett had attended the meeting which included discussions of funding and current timelines for the project.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The following is a compilation of future agenda items discussed tonight and in the past:

- Review of G-1 Policy – April/May
- Storm Report – April/May
- Fire Pits Potential Cost Savings Measures – Discussion ensued regarding items to be included; costs to clean the fire pits; safety from a risk manager point of view; compliance enforcement.
- Pirates Cove Lighting

**ADJOURNED @ 8:39pm**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teri Craig, Admin Assistant