CITY OF FULLERTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Regular Meeting City Council Chamber Monday, May 11, 2009 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dasney called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Shanfield led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Shawna Adam, Sueling Chen, Kathleen Dasney, Scott Hayes, Wes Morgan,

Kathleen Shanfield, Scott Stanford

Absent: None

Staff: Parks and Recreation Director Joe Felz; Parks and Recreation Managers

Grace Carroll Lowe, Hugo Curiel, Alice Loya, Dannielle Mauk, and Judy Peterson; Recreation Supervisors John Clements and Aaron Orozco, Events Specialist Ashley Glass; Landscape Superintendent Dennis Quinlivan;

Building and Facilities Superintendent Lyman Otley

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Stefanski, President of the Pooch Park Ad Hoc Committee, invited the commissioners to the Pooch Park 2nd Anniversary of the opening of the park on Saturday, June 6. He provided information on the activities, saying it would be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

CONSENT ITEMS (Items 1 - 3)

Commissioner Stanford MADE A MOTION and Commissioner Adam SECONDED the motion to approve the consent items with corrections as noted.

AYES: Adam, Dasney, Chen, Hayes, Shanfield, Stanford

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Morgan

ABSENT: None

The MOTION PASSED 6-0 with one abstention because Commissioner Morgan, being a new commissioner, was not present at the April 2008 Commission meeting.

1. MINUTES OF THE APRIL 13, 2009 COMMISSION MEETING

Recommendation to approve the Minutes of the April 13, 2009 Commission Meeting.

Chair Dasney noted typographical errors on Page. 9, third paragraph, where "there" should have been spelled "their" and in the fourth paragraph where the word "have" was spelled "havd."

New commissioner, Wes Morgan, said he was abstaining on approving the April Commission minutes and possibly on the other two reports because he wasn't a member of the Commission at that time.

2. LANDSCAPE DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT FOR APRIL 2009

Recommendation to receive and file the Landscape Division April 2009 Monthly Report.

BUILDING AND FACILITIES DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT FOR APRIL 2009

Recommendation to receive and file the Building and Facilities Division April 2009 Monthly Report.

Commissioner Chen commented that the Building and Facilities monthly report on graffiti stated that the response time was one to two days; however, her experience was that it was a month. Building and Facilities Superintendent Lyman Otley responded, saying he was aware of the incident, but that the normal response time was one to two days. He said this particular incident fell through the cracks, but it was a rare occurrence, and asked that someone please call him if this happened again. Chair Dasney asked for confirmation that the normal response time was one to two days, and Superintendent Otley said if the graffiti were "pornographic or gang-related," it would be covered the same day reported.

REGULAR BUSINESS (Items 4 – 10)

4. CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF ORANGE COUNTY BREATH MOBILE AGREEMENT

Director Felz introduced the Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) agenda item, noting that the proposed agreement was primarily for asthma-related services, and then introduced Recreation Manager Judy Peterson. Manager Peterson said the agreement would allow the CHOC mobile clinic to pull up to Richman Park to provide asthma-related services, mainly to children. She said the program will start with Richman, and if it goes well, more sites would be added. She said the program provided services at Orangethorpe Recreation Center last year.

Chair Dasney asked how the process happened, and Manager Peterson said CHOC approached the City, and that last year was their first venture with the City. Chair Dasney asked about any conflict with St. Jude Medical Center, and Manager Peterson said Community Relations Manager Barry Ross of St. Jude was familiar with the program and, in fact, helped write the grant. Manager Peterson also confirmed they wouldn't conflict with Maple Center either as there were no longer any mobile units at Maple due to the Richman Health Center having opened. She added that the CHOC mobile unit would come once a month.

Commissioner Adam asked about the proposed costs which were listed as none but the agreement mentioned fundraising, and Manager Peterson said the City can elect to do a fundraiser with CHOC, but doesn't have to. Regarding the break room also noted, Manager Peterson clarified that City doesn't have one, so one does not need to be made available. Chair Dasney asked about the billing noted on Page 4 and if there would be a set fee, and Manager Peterson said the fees were between CHOC and the client but that generally a sliding scale fee is charged.

Vice Chair Stanford asked if Manager Peterson could describe the process for obtaining services and how they would be informed about the service. Manager Peterson said CHOC has its own publicity network and flyers, and City staff can work with nearby schools or the centers. Recreation Supervisor Aaron Orozco said the publicity, as far as he knew, would be flyers distributed through schools, centers and organizations. Commissioner Stanford asked about the age group, and Manager Peterson said the agreement doesn't specify age although they were focusing on youth. Supervisor Orozco said it was youth-related asthma preventive care grant, so probably the youth would be referred to St. Jude.

Commissioner Shanfield asked about the mobile unit going to different parts of the City, and Manager Peterson said it would be up to CHOC, and that the City could negotiate with them as to other sites. Commissioner Shanfield said it appeared there was more primary care, not just asthma care, hence, Richman might not be the best choice because they already provide health care. Supervisor Orozco said the contract was written more generally in case there was other funding in the future; however, CHOC was intending to provide only asthma-related services.

Commissioner Shanfield asked how many children were served last year at Orangethorpe Center, and Supervisor Orozco said CHOC wanted to move to Richman Park because the service numbers were rather low at Orangethorpe. Commissioner Morgan asked if CHOC was expecting City to provide outreach services or if it was a "stand alone operation," but Supervisor Orozco said it was CHOC's responsibility.

Commissioner Chen asked what the schedule would be, and Manager Peterson said CHOC hasn't set up a schedule yet. Supervisor Orozco said he believed, at Orangethorpe, the mobile unit came on a Wednesday morning once a month for about four hours from 8 a.m. to noon, confirming this was a walk-in situation with coordination with the school. Commissioner Hayes asked if the low numbers last year might have been due to clinic hours during school time, and that an after school clinic might be better, but Supervisor Orozco said the focus was probably on pre-5 year olds.

Vice Chair Stanford stated that the proposed service was "a great concept," and MADE A MOTION for a recommendation to City Council to approve the proposed agreement with Children's Hospital of Orange County. Commissioner Chen SECONDED the motion. Chair Dasney called for the vote.

AYES: Adam, Dasney, Chen, Hayes, Morgan, Shanfield, Stanford

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

5. PREVIEW OF PROPOSED 2009-2010 – 2010-2011 PARKS AND RECREATION OPERATING AND FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGETS

Director Felz introduced the Parks and Recreation agenda item on the two-year operating and five-year capital improvement program budgets, noting that there was a preview of these at last month's meeting. He said, tonight, staff was hoping to get a Commission recommendation and also Commissioner comments and input, to be presented with a final budget at City Council at the June 1st and 2nd budget hearings. He said the agenda had not yet been set, but Parks and Recreation is usually heard on one of the evening sessions to allow for the most accessibility for the public. He said staff will mainly review the operating budget, update the capital projects budget and, thirdly, provide a separate review of the annual fee resolution or schedule of fees and policies specific to Parks and Recreation.

Using a Power Point presentation, Director Felz outlined the Department's goals which were to "provide programs and services which contribute to the community's health, recreation, and cultural enrichment, making Fullerton a more desirable place to live." He also provided a summary of park assets including 32 community and 13 specialized parks, 2 nature preserves, 5 greenbelts, and 2 commercial parks (Meridian Sports Club and equestrian stables), as well as 14 park facilities.

He then noted the Parks and Recreation budget goals of creating a balanced budget, consistency and flexibility in program budgeting, a focus on youth programs, and eliminating reliance on the Department's fund balance for program and salary costs. He said staff is now using programming/cost units so that if the budget needed to be decreased, certain units could be eliminated or added more easily, from a financial management standpoint. Programmatically, changes could be made to reduce or increase programming without significant operational issues. He noted that now, part of the proposed budget was tied to staff-to-youth ratios which were mandated by the State.

Director Felz said the Department was eliminating using the Parks and Recreation fund balance as a significant way to address shortages in on-going programming budgets, and that it would now be used only for one-time expenditures. He explained the Department fund balance, saying it was created each year through the budget surpluses at the end of the fiscal year due to operational savings and/or increased revenues.

He said virtually all of the challenges were with family and youth services with a \$100,000 cut in CDBG funding in 07/08, CDBG funding having been reduced city-wide, and internal departments taking the brunt of the cuts. There was also a 2% cut across-the-board city-wide from the General Fund (\$65,000 for Parks and Recreation) and \$288,000+ in the Parks and Recreation fund balance used to balance FY 08-09 shortages including the \$100,000 loss in CDBG funding. However, he said, the fund balance was being reduced rapidly and could not be depended upon to cover ongoing costs.

Some good news was the renegotiated trash contract with MG Disposal as its support for events increased by nearly \$30,000 to support city-wide events. Savings in

Administration and the Cultural and Events divisions were moved to Family and Senior Services. Another change was that the managers were put in charge of the capital projects related to their division, which allowed for 5% of division managers' salaries to be charged to CIP budgets. Director Felz noted that some of the fund balance was used to balance the budget, primarily for Lions Field and youth programs while the City was waiting to hear the results of some of the grants and economic stimulus monies related to youth and gang prevention programs for which they had applied. He said these strategies allowed the Department to balance the budget without significantly reducing core programs.

Director Felz noted that the total budget would decrease in 2009-10 to \$6,299,620 compared to the current budget of \$6,564,980, but would increase again in 2010-11 to \$6,404,250. He also noted the percentage changes in the budget: Salaries (-6%); General Fund contribution (-.4%); City-wide mandated reductions (-2%); City costs, e.g. maintenance and insurance (1.6%); grants (7%); revenue from programs (-5%); trash funds (88%).

A pie chart of the City and the Redevelopment Agency budget was provided, showing that Parks and Recreation was 3% of the City's budget whereas CIP and public safety accounted for a large portion of the City budget. Another pie chart indicated that over 50% of Parks and Recreation's funding sources was from the General Fund with the other sources being: Program revenues (22%), Brea Dam (13%), grants (6%), Redevelopment funds (6%), fund balance (1%) and water and trash (1%).

The current overall 08-09 Parks and Recreation fund budget was provided (\$5,046,080) including figures for revenue, fund balance and the General Fund, plus the proposed changes in the 09-10 and 10-11 budget. Director Felz noted that most of the reduction in the 09-10 budget was from a reduction in fund balance from \$288,870 in 08-09 to \$33,990; nonetheless, he said the latter figure was a sustainable amount to be used for youth programming for one year, and that, thereafter, staff expected to receive grants from the Justice Department to assist in covering those costs. He said, regarding the 2010-11 "placeholder" for Lions Field, that there was ongoing discussion regarding Lions Field maintenance and how to budget that. Director Felz then provided figures from other funding sources for the current and next two years including grants, RDA, trash/water and Brea Dam.

Regarding budget changes by division, the Park and Trail Program would move from the Administration Division to the Recreation Division, one unfilled Park and Trail position would be eliminated, and Laguna Lake management would move to the Recreation Division.

Chair Dasney asked about the unfilled Park and Trail position and if one person would have to do two jobs. Director Felz said no; instead of just the 3 current Park and Trail staff working, by moving them from Administration into the Recreation Division, there would be 7 staff available to take on cross-over tasks and assist each other.

Chair Dasney also asked about frozen positions and if there were any other than the 1.7 FTE noted. He said there were 2 frozen positions in the Cultural and Events Division and the Senior Center, but the job duties were being taken on by part-time staff. He said the

frozen positions were not reflected in the budget as that was a recent action that existed regardless of the budget.

Director Felz then reviewed the changes in the Recreation Division including the Park and Trail program and lake management at Laguna Lake being moved to that division from Administration. He noted that the lake management would be a new responsibility for the City but that staff had done its research. He also noted that the Park and Trail, Youth Leagues and Park Rentals programs will be combined and Lions Field funding would be added from the fund balance.

Chair Dasney asked for comment on the Brea Dam Fund, and Director Felz noted that, because the municipal golf course is a more affordable option for people, the fees had not declined greatly; however, other leaseholds, from which the City gets a percentage of the gross, have had 13% or more declines in revenue.

Regarding changes in the Family and Senior Services Division, Director Felz said the Department had implemented a neighborhood community center model, opening two new centers, the Gilbert and Don Castro centers, with substantial costs involved, particularly due to a full roster of programs started at Gilbert. Commissioner Chen asked about the rock climbing photo in this section of the Power Point presentation, and Manager Peterson said it was a youth leadership team-building activity. Chair Dasney said she thought the Outdoor Recreation program grew the most, and Director Felz agreed there was substantial growth, partly because this was a new program with many new activities.

Director Felz said \$29,230 from the Parks and Recreation fund would be used for the After School and Gang Prevention programs, with savings from the Administration and Cultural Events division, plus potential funds from gang prevention grants. Commissioner Shanfield asked about available grants through stimulus money, and Director Felz said after analysis of crime statistics, the City should be getting about \$210,000, for which both Police and Parks and Recreation are eligible, with Parks and Recreation prevention programs differing somewhat from programs run by the Police.

Commissioner Chen asked about large numbers of gang prevention programs, and if there were any statistics that can demonstrate that these programs work. Director Felz said City crime statistics can now track local gang activity whereas previously it could not; however, it was the Police Department's system and responsibility to track the information. Commissioner Chen wondered if the gang prevention programs were working and crime was reduced, if this would impact the number of police retained. Director Felz said that wouldn't necessarily happen, and that was the Council's decision.

Chair Dasney asked Community Center Supervisor Eloisa Espinoza about Page K-11 of the budget attachment, and Supervisor Espinoza explained that the 88,000 clients noted were duplicated attendance numbers for a variety of services.

Cultural and Event Services changes were reviewed, including a slow and steady growth of music education, part of which were programs and exhibits related to Leo Fender. This was due to an increase in MG Disposal contract support (\$62,500 now instead of \$33,030) as well as fundraising support from the Museum Association and other successful partnerships including one with the Fullerton School District.

Commissioner Hayes asked for clarification regarding the MG Disposal contract and Director Felz said it began 10 years ago with the City's trash contract when MG Disposal committed to an annual donation in the amount of \$20,000 in support of civic events. He said the newly-renegotiated contract included a higher amount of \$62,500 and pays for a large portion of fireworks and the New Year's Eve event, allowing the City to provide free events for the City.

Chair Dasney asked about Program Revenues on Page K-14 of the budget attachment and the blank spaces under years 09-10 and 10-11 of the Parks and Recreation fund, and Manager Loya said they were blank because there wouldn't be any contribution those years.

Commissioner Adam asked about the non-regular hours of staff on Page K-14, and Director Felz said those were hours worked by part-time non-regular staff. Manager Loya also explained that in the Cultural and Events Division as well as in other divisions, part-time staff will often fill an open full-time staff's position.

Commissioner Chen asked about the estimated budget, and Manager Loya explained that when a budget is written and adopted, it is only an estimate of costs and revenue, and that it would become "actual" after July when more is known.

Commissioner Adam asked about the facility rental fees dropping at Maple Center, and Manager Peterson said a couple of long-term church rental groups disbanded.

Commissioner Chen asked if the commission could go page by page on the budget, and Director Felz said it was the Commission's choice how detailed they wanted to get. However, he said because staff had discussed a lot of the issues over the past two years without any significant changes except those just discussed, he hoped some of the details had already been discussed.

Vice Chair Stanford felt the issues had been discussed and asked if, given the budget constraints, staff was comfortable with the budget. Director Felz said he felt 100% confident about the budget with its solid programming and revenue predictions. Vice Chair Stanford said he'd worked with staff the last couple of years and felt comfortable with its work and a lean budget, and appreciated the free events for the community, saying the latter was what made the community "outstanding." Director Felz said staff's task was to connect the Commission's work on a number of issues over the past two years along with Council direction, and how it translates into dollars.

It was clarified that the operating budget and capital budget would be voted as one item. Director Felz said although Commission and Council would look at the five-year CIP budget, only the first two years' funding are identified formerly as part of the Council approval. In October or November, he said, the priorities of the CIP would be reviewed in detail with the Commission.

Commissioner Chen asked about the fund balance and how there could be a \$288,000 budget deficit, and Director Felz said there had been solid management of the funds through the years through staff savings, additional revenues, or grants that might supplant a Parks and Recreation fund. However, he said management of two or three years ago identified and used the fund balance money when there was a budget shortfall. Director

Felz said CIP gets significant RDA funds as well as Park Dwelling fees from developers, with some Brea Dam funds. He said one cannot interchange these funds with others.

Commissioner Morgan asked about the two-year budget process, and if Council adopts a budget every two years, with yearly reviews and revisions. Director Felz affirmed the two-year budget and agreed that Council could make serious revisions at Year 1; however, last year, there were only minor revisions. He agreed the CIP process identifies and approves funding for Years 1 and 2 while Years 3 to 5 have placeholders.

Director Felz then provided a brief overview of the previously-approved projects, beginning with Lemon Park at \$1.2 million. The Department also received \$400,000 in recent County grants for maintenance needs of existing facilities, which were previously presented and approved, but were now formalized in the CIP budget, and included renovations to the Red Cross Building (\$100,000), backstop replacements (\$134,000), Laguna Lake restroom restoration (\$110,000), and Independence Park improvements (\$150,000). He said next year, there would be more serious master planning at Independence Park but the aforementioned maintenance and safety needs would be addressed first.

The next CIP section Director Felz reviewed was capital projects needing budget approval. First was Fullerton Community Center, funded for over \$22 million, with all the initial funding identified in the budget. Other projects included the Hillcrest Park Rehabilitation for \$5,500,000; Pooch Park to be made permanent per Commission recommendation with \$100,000 in City funding, and working in conjunction with the Pooch Park Advisory Committee which will also provide funding and other resources for a master plan and improvements; and Richman Athletic Field Improvements for \$650,000.

Director Felz said there was a new addition to the budget which was playground safety surfacing for \$40,000 yearly. Commissioner Chen asked how many parks could be resurfaced through this fund and Director Felz said it depended on the park size, but the minimum cost was probably about \$20,000.

He also mentioned park facility repairs and replacement funds in the amounts of \$304,000 in park dwelling fees and \$25,000 from Brea Dam funds in 09-10, and ongoing funding of \$100,000 in park dwelling fees and \$25,000 from Brea Dam funds.

Director Felz said that Valencia Park spray pool needed a recirculating pump as there were insufficient funds for one at the time the park was renovated, but the Department could retrofit the spray pool since funds were now available.

Other projects in the CIP budget were the Tri-City Park Master Plan and ongoing improvements of \$150,000 (2 year total) and a study for the Muckenthaler Event Center and Parking Structure for \$25,000.

There was a line item for a proposed Bastanchury Tennis Center (\$6,600,000) and Nature Center (\$3,025,000) related to St. Jude Medical Center's pending construction, in the event St. Jude required the current Tennis Center property for a staging area. Director Felz said this was no longer a real possibility and would probably be taken out next year. Commissioner Shanfield asked about the Nature Center, and Director Felz

said it would have been located where the current Tennis Center is after St. Jude finished using the site for staging construction equipment.

Director Felz ended his presentation by noting that the overview did not include every item on the capital projects budget, although everything was included in an agenda attachment; however, those items represented the significant changes in funding as well as new funding.

Commissioner Hayes asked about the City's involvement with Tri-City Park, and Director Felz said three cities, Fullerton, Brea, and Placentia sit on an authority which oversees the park. Each City has a specific role and funds the park equally, with programming and maintenance managed through Placentia. Although Tri-City Park has had a Placentia identify, Director Felz said this was changing, with a stronger role for the other two cities.

Director Felz noted that although Lions Field construction was just beginning, and was a \$14 million project, this wasn't part of the capital budget discussion because it had already begun and the CIP budget was a "looking forward document."

Commissioner Shanfield asked about project priorities, and if those could be moved. Director Felz said they could be moved, but that the Commission had reviewed and assisted in prioritizing the projects, and that they were positioned based on funding realities. However, the priorities could change due to external events such as grant funds coming in, e.g. Truslow Park, which suddenly became a top priority.

Commissioner Morgan said he wanted to comment that the Parks and Recreation Department, with 29 full-time employees and a \$6.3 million operating budget, serving 135,000 people in 22 square miles, was getting a lot done for a limited budget, compared to most Orange County cities. He also said he was impressed with the amount of RDA funding in the parks.

Commissioner Chen said there was no question about how well the staff was doing, but one should always try to find ways to increase revenue. She thought the rental income was rather low compared to how many facilities the City had, and asked that there be an analysis in this area. She said she understood that there were also quality of life issues but that the City still must look at costs and believed a solid financial standing would result in a long-term benefit for the community. Commissioner Dasney commented that Commissioner Chen's point was well taken.

Vice Chair Stanford MADE A MOTION that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the staff's request that the Commission recommend approval of the proposed Parks and Recreation Department two-year operating and five-year CIP budgets, and Commissioner Hayes SECONDED the motion. Chair Dasney called for the vote.

AYES:

Adam, Chen, Dasney, Hayes, Morgan, Shanfield, Stanford

NOES:

None

ABSENT:

None

The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

6. PROPOSED 2009 – 2010 PARKS AND RECREATION POLICY STATEMENT AND FEE SCHEDULE

Director Felz provided a Power Point presentation regarding the proposed Parks and Recreation Policy Statement and Fee Schedule, noting that there were some increases in the cost of doing business plus minor increases to offset direct costs. He said some increases were based on market comparisons of individual programs. Chair Dasney said she appreciated seeing the rationale behind the changes.

Cultural and Events Division Manager Dannielle Mauk said her division was proposing increasing some fees related to booth rentals to be consistent with already existing fees such as electrical outlet fees or deposits, while the booth fees at First Night were increased because of its popularity and demand. Staff was also proposing making changes at the Summer Concerts to include food booths for a more festive atmosphere, which they would evaluate.

Manager Mauk also noted that the no-smoking policy at the Museum Plaza which affected the Beer Garden and Fullerton Market, had gone surprisingly well with no one complaining that they couldn't smoke. Instead, she received thank you's for the change and just one complaint about someone smoking.

Regarding the Recreation Division, Recreation Manager Grace Carroll Lowe said the Department is proposing to charge those doing business in City parks \$12 per hour for a permit. Staff also wanted to change the sports complex fees to a "per field" charge rather than a "per complex" charge. Chair Dasney asked about the policy preventing someone from renting on a weekly basis and Manager Lowe said this was to prevent outside groups like travel ball teams from monopolizing a field.

The basic park rental fee, which hadn't been raised in probably five years, would be changed from \$11 to \$12. Manager Lowe said the Department would also like to increase rental fees at major facilities, however insignificant the increase might be, plus charge a 30-day cancellation fee of \$10 to mitigate costs from credit card transactions.

Family and Senior Services Division Manager Judy Peterson noted the proposed increases for her division including a document preparation fee which would increase from \$85 to \$90. She said that advertising in the Senior Bulletin was increased due to increased printing costs.

Director Felz said that this was not the environment to be making a lot of big changes, rather the Department was trying to keep costs stabilized. He also noted that the proposed Policy Statement and Fee Schedule did need the Commission's recommendation to track concurrent with the budget, and to go to City Council.

Commissioner Adam asked about tournament scheduling fee, and if this had an impact on sports groups, e.g. Golden Hill during District 56 tournaments. Recreation Supervisor John Clements said the fee had been waived and would continue to be waived. Director Felz added that the City's relationship with the leagues was "a work in progress," and that the fee waiver was unusual as most cities charged leagues fees. He noted this was also different from the City's relationship with other non-profits which were often contractual

with revenue sharing sometimes, hence, the Department's desire to review the policies related to leagues.

Commissioner Shanfield asked, if a family wanted to have a party at a park, if there was any enforcement to ensure there was a permit when required. Director Felz said yes, that that was one of the major successes regarding the Park and Trail program, as the staff previews the area prior to an event and ensures that the policies are enforced. Manager Lowe pointed out that if a group had less than 25 people, it did not necessarily need a permit; however, a permit would reserve that space. Commissioner Shanfield thought this policy might not be that well known.

Commissioner Morgan asked about the waived tournament fees for resident youth leagues and if the fee was a deterrent to outside leagues, and staff concurred it was similar to non-resident fees.

Commissioner Adam MADE A MOTION that the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend to City Council the adoption of a resolution implementing the proposed changes to the Policy Statement and Fee Schedule for Parks and Recreation programs. Commissioner Chen SECONDED the motion. Chair Dasney called for the vote.

AYES: Adam, Chen, Dasney, Hayes, Morgan, Shanfield, Stanford

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

7. REPORT ON CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS

Director Felz reported on the following items:

- Recognition of Donors for the 'Forever Fullerton' Exhibit Museum Manager Dannielle Mauk assisted in the Council recognition of the donors. Commissioners were encouraged to see this "great exhibit" with participation from many local businesses.
- FAST Annual Report and Proposed Fees Approved This item had been previously reviewed in detail and approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission.
- Presentation Acknowledging Truslow Park/KaBOOM! Community Partners The
 exceptional participation from the community was noted by Director Felz, and Chair
 Dasney also recognized the Stanford family's "rally to service" as well as the City
 employees from Parks and Recreation, Maintenance and Engineering who were "a
 cheerful presence."
- 3001 Pearl Drive Closed Session Item It was noted that this was an issue revisited from a 2005 agenda item. The direction from Council was that the City should try to discuss acquisition or clean-up of the blighted property with the owners, but the issue was very complex with 33 pieces of property and nearly as many owners with no

home owners association. It was confirmed that this was regarding the same property about which some youth had recently approached the City. The Gems Neighborhood Association was seeking help from City as the only entity that might be able to help them to address this problem.

8. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

- An update on the following Capital Projects was provided by Director Felz:
 - ➤ Lions Field had its ground breaking ceremony, and the commissioners who attended were thanked. Demolition was scheduled for May 18 and will start moving quickly.
 - Commissioner Stanford asked about the status of the Community Center project, noting that the two interview processes had been completed for the architect. Director Felz said the Council-recommended architect, Robert Coffee & Associates, had signed the contract with Project Manager Griffin Structures. Staff was now seeking additional members to broaden the Building Committee, and space-use planning was happening now. Director Felz said it would be at least several months before planning was completed in order for Coffee to begin its design process, and that the preliminary concept plans would be brought to the Commission for review. Although it was difficult to say when the plan would go to Commission, it was "Priority #1" and staff would be speaking with Coffee to set up a project schedule.
- Brief Program Highlights were provided regarding the summer programs which were gearing up, the Fullerton Market was operating, and the summer newsletter was out.
- Director Felz noted the Special Meeting regarding the Puente Street bike path scheduled for May 18th, and urged the commissioners to re-visit the area. They were told the presentation would be very similar to the previous Commission presentation (in December 2008) but the May 18th meeting would also include comments on the impetus for a second meeting, i.e., the genuine sentiment expressed by one group that it hadn't had sufficient time to prepare for the first meeting. He said this was an unusual situation, and that this was not a formal public hearing. Public comment would be heard with more leeway for the public, and decisions could be made by the Commission on how to conduct the meeting, based on how the meeting was proceeding. Commissioner Shanfield asked if a decision would be made that night, and Director Felz said he hoped so. Another agenda letter with information would be provided prior to the meeting.

Commissioner Morgan asked for clarification on the process, and Director Felz said there would be a staff recommendation to approve the proposed project as it had already been approved as part of the City's General Plan, which the opposing party now recognized as "serious business." Chair Dasney noted that one will often hear how the bicycle users fought long and hard to get the project approved and funded. Commissioner Shanfield noted that the "Fullerton Observer" had an article featuring excellent comments from both sides of the issue which Director Felz confirmed. She also asked if problems could be mitigated to make the project

more palatable for the opposition and Director Felz said it was a question for next week.

9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Chair Dasney asked about the swearing-in of new Commission members, and Director Felz said that it had been done prior to the meeting, and that this was a new practice.

Chair Dasney said Director Felz would organize park tours for the new and other interested commissioners in the next couple of months.

Commissioner Stanford applauded the Truslow Park KaBOOM project, saying it was a great community event, and was well-organized and executed. He said he drove by and saw 35 kids enjoying the park, gave "kudos" to the Parks and Recreation Department for another "fine project" giving the kids a great place to play.

Commissioner Adam said she spoke with various people near the park, that the neighbors were really thankful for the lighting, felt much more secure, and that they felt they really belonged to the City. She hoped there would be more projects like this, and noted the many Parks and Recreation staff who volunteered their time.

Commissioner Chen asked about the Community Resource Fair noted in the senior newsletter. Center Supervisor Eloisa Espinoza said it was scheduled for June 6 with 25 – 30 vendors who rent space and will provide information on their services and businesses for older adults. Health, nutrition information, healthy snacks and entertainment would also be provided. She said there was no language assistance per se when asked by Commissioner Chen as the vendors would provide their own materials. Chair Dasney noted it was on the same day as the Pooch Park event.

Commissioner Chen said she had two opportunities to include her students in the Outdoor Recreation Brea Dam camping and survival programs with Outdoor Recreation Coordinator Yvonne Pedersen, and that her students said those were the best field trips they had ever been on.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Felz

Director of Parks and Recreation

JF:pf