

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL JOINT CITY COUNCIL AND
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

May 14, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor at 4:30 p.m. in Conference Room 1A at Costa Mesa City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, California.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Righeimer, Mayor Pro Tem Mensinger, Council Member Leece, Council Member Genis, Council Member Monahan, Chairman Byron de Arakal, Vice Chair Kim Pederson, Commissioner Dean Abernathy, Commissioner Robert Graham, Commissioner Don Harper

Absent: None

Officials Present: Assistant CEO Rick Francis, City Attorney Thomas Duarte, Public Services Director Ernesto Munoz, Assistant Development Services Director Claire Flynn, Recreation Manager Bob Knapp, City Clerk Brenda Green

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (00:01:52)

Introduction by Mayor Righeimer and Chairman de Arakal. (00:00:16)

1. UPDATE THE CITY'S OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN OF PARKS AND RECREATION.

Introduction by Public Services Director Ernesto Munoz. (00:02:02)

Mayor Righeimer spoke about the lack of information, and suggested adding estimated costs next to items. (00:03:36)

Council Member Leece commented on public outreach. (00:04:34)

Council Member Genis spoke on approval based on needs; demographics; formal survey of the population; and structured and unstructured recreation. (00:06:51)

Council Member Monahan requested that the consultant assess the Eastside and opportunities for active youth availability sports fields. (00:08:22)

Discussion ensued regarding demographics; opportunities that may arise on the Eastside; the last Master Plan implementation; phone survey results; importance of updating the Master Plan; community workshops; and bike paths. (00:09:09)

2. **EVALUATE THE FAIRVIEW PARK MASTER PLAN RELATIVE TO COMMUNITY NEEDS AND MAKE MASTER PLAN UPDATE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CITY COUNCIL FOR THE ADDITION, REDUCTION, ELIMINATION, OR MODIFICATION OF ACTIVE AND PASSIVE USES. INCORPORATE THE UPDATED FAIRVIEW PARK MASTER PLAN INTO THE OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN OF PARKS AND RECREATION. (00:13:35)**

Introduction by Public Services Director Ernesto Munoz. (00:14:00)

Discussion ensued regarding community needs and physical constraints; the Fairview Park Advisory Committee's role; structured and unstructured activities; ongoing costs; the Wetlands and Riparian Habitat Project; projects underway, funded, and pending approval; the stairway project; wildlife; handicapped access; and the scope of work and process of the Request for Proposal. (00:14:35)

Commissioner Graham spoke about a Master Plan of bikeways and a bike map. (00:25:02)

Commissioner Harper spoke about a bike check-in station at Concerts in the Park, and the movement toward bicycle use. (00:28:44)

Council Member Genis commented on the use of trade monies. (00:30:04)

3. **EVALUATE THE POSSIBLE INCORPORATION OF TALBERT REGIONAL PARK INTO THE CITY OF COSTA MESA. CONDUCT A SURVEY OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL RESOURCE AGENCY JURISDICTION RELATIVE TO TALBERT PARK; DEVELOP THE COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF PARK INCORPORATION; AND INITIATE EXPLORATORY DIALOGUE WITH THE COUNTY OF ORANGE. (00:32:25)**

Mayor Rigeimer requested staff to research the cost of developing and opening the south portion of Talbert Park; and the incorporation of the Banning Ranch property. (00:32:45)

Council Member Genis spoke about ownership of Talbert Park; completing projects at Fairview Park; in-sourcing maintenance of Talbert Park; Natural Communities Conservation Planning Program; and access to Talbert Park and Victoria Pond. (00:34:24)

Council Member Leece spoke on the presentation by River Park and their vision and plans. (00:37:55)

Assistant CEO Francis spoke on Talbert Park preliminary studies; maintenance cost; environmental overlay; fire hazards; and concerns about being a full service provider. (00:39:14)

Mr. Munoz commented on liability due to landslides. (00:40:35)

4. EVALUATE AND UPDATE THE STREETScape AND MEDIAN DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS. (00:43:25)

Mayor Righeimer commented on the appearance of the medians; design standards; and development. (00:43:30)

Mayor Pro Tem Mensinger spoke about the importance of updating the look. (00:44:29)

Council Member Genis spoke about drought tolerant vegetation; and current and new medians. (00:45:08)

Mr. Munoz shared new median opportunities and funding for new median areas. (00:45:42)

Discussion ensued regarding underground utility lines. (00:46:47)

PUBLIC COMMENTS (00:47:55)

Beth Refakes, Costa Mesa, spoke about consistency and use of concrete in medians; the median on Superior Avenue in Newport Beach; and drought tolerant plants. (00:48:00)

Discussion ensued concerning development standards for streets and medians; implementing a new look; and median development guidelines. (00:49:25)

Mayor Pro Tem Mensinger requested that staff work with the Parks Commission regarding the median from Gisler Avenue to Baker Street. (00:53:26)

Discussion ensued regarding areas in the city that are not being maintained and capital funding program to cover some of those areas. (00:53:58)

5. REVIEW AND UPDATE THE FIELD USE AND ALLOCATION POLICY. (00:55:29)

Mayor Righeimer commented on fields being used by semi-nonprofit groups. (00:55:33)

Commissioner Harper requested guidelines pertaining to the vision for each park. (00:56:52)

Council Member Genis requested a calendar of the facilities and users. (00:57:55)

Chairman de Arakal spoke about priority to the needs of the residents, and expressed concern regarding semi-nonprofit groups. (00:58:16)

Recreation Manager Bob Knapp spoke on the nature of the field use policy, and evaluating new groups in the future. (00:59:13)

Council Member Genis suggested reexamining groups and their titles. (01:00:09)

Mayor Pro Tem Mensinger spoke about shared resources and providing services to some Newport Beach youth. (01:00:56)

Vice Chair Pederson spoke about upkeep and field maintenance. (01:01:34)

6. EVALUATION EXISTING RECREATION-ORIENTED LEASE AGREEMENTS OF CITY ASSETS TO NONPROFIT/COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO DETERMINE IF CITY ASSETS ARE FULLY MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING ALL OR A FEW OF THE FOLLOWING: THE COSTA MESA SENIOR CENTER, ORANGE COUNTY MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEERS, COSTA MESA TENNIS CENTER, AND COSTA MESA COUNTRY CLUB. (01:02:26)

Mayor Righeimer requested staff analyze all City assets; moving the community garden to a larger area; the relationship to the users on the list; and how the community is being served. (01:02:47)

Mayor Pro Tem Mensinger spoke about serving the community and the best way to use assets generated from renting the various centers. (01:04:09)

Council Member Leece commented on the Senior Center as an underused facility; and expressed concern about moving the community garden. (01:05:55)

Mayor Righeimer spoke about how all assets would be best served by the community. (01:07:18)

7. EVALUATE THE CONDITION, COMMUNITY USE AND LEASE AGREEMENT FOR THE COSTA MESA BARK PARK. (01:08:59)

Chairman de Arakal provided an update of the Parks and Recreation Commission's progress. (01:09:12)

Discussion ensued concerning dog licenses; park fees; and self-policing at the park. (01:10:08)

8. ASSESS ACTIVE CITY RECREATION FACILITY DEVELOPMENT AND USE AT NEWPORT MESA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL SITES INCLUDING THE JOINT USE AGREEMENT. (01:11:44)

Introduction provided by Mr. Munoz. (01:11:59)

Council Member Leece requested a review of the Joint Use Agreement. (01:12:45)

9. CONDUCTING A NAMING COMPETITION TO OFFICIALLY NAME THE FAIRVIEW PARK BRIDGE. (01:13:20)

Mayor Righeimer deferred to the Parks and Recreation Commission. (01:13:27)

10. ASSESS POTENTIAL SITES FOR LAND ACQUISITION FOR PARK AND ATHLETIC FIELD DEVELOPMENT. (01:13:48)

Council Member Genis stated the task should be part of the Master Plan; and requested developing criteria for new sites. (01:13:57)

Council Member Leece suggested assessing the property where the Library Foundation has removed its sign from. (01:14:30)

11. ESTABLISH COMMUNITY-BASED NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT THROUGH USE OF CITY ASSETS. (01:15:11)

Mr. Knapp provided an introduction. (01:15:20)

12. ESTABLISHMENT OF PARK GROUPS SO THAT EACH PLANNING COMMISSIONER HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL AFFAIRS, COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND PERCEPTIVE PROBLEMS. EACH PARK WOULD BE SIGNED WITH THE COMMISSIONER'S NAME AND EMAIL. (01:17:08)

Chairman de Arakal stated a structure was needed and should be part of the Open Space and Recreation Master Plan; and indicated each commissioner would be assigned a zone. (01:17:22)

Mayor Righeimer spoke on the importance of having a commissioner's name assigned to each park, and connection to the community. (01:18:10)

Mr. Knapp explained the call routing process and records requests. (01:18:47)

Council Member Genis expressed concern with e-mail addresses posted on permanent signs. (01:21:01)

Discussion ensued concerning public inquiries about their park. (01:22:29)

Council Member Leece suggested that the commissioners divide into subcommittees, and spoke in opposition of new assignments outside the areas discussed. (01:24:28)

COUNCIL AND COMMISSION COMMENTS

Mayor Righeimer thanked everyone for all their hard work, and indicated the Preliminary Operating Capital Improvement Budget is online. (01:25:21)

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Stephen M. Mensinger, Mayor

Brenda Green, City Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE ADJOURNED MEETING/SPECIAL STUDY SESSION OF THE
COSTA MESA CITY COUNCIL**

MAY 28, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor at 4:30 p.m. in Conference Room 1A at Costa Mesa City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, California.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Righeimer, Mayor Pro Tem Mensinger, Council Member Leece, and Council Member Genis, Council Member Monahan

Absent: None

Officials Present: Chief Executive Officer Thomas R. Hatch, City Attorney Thomas Duarte, Assistant Chief Executive Officer Rick Francis, Acting Economic and Development Services Director Claire Flynn, Public Services Director Ernesto Muñoz, Finance and I.T. Director Bobby Young, Acting Chief of Code Enforcement Willa Bouwens-Killeen, Public Affairs Manager Bill Lobdell, City Clerk Brenda Green.

PUBLIC COMMENT (00:01:03)

Sharon Komer, Costa Mesa, spoke in support of funding for fields at Costa Mesa High School. (00:01:15)

Ed Baum, Costa Mesa, spoke in support of funding for fields at Costa Mesa High School. (00:03:42)

Frank Albers, Costa Mesa, spoke in support of funding for fields at Costa Mesa High School. (00:05:16)

Mayor Righeimer encouraged the public to speak to the School Board. (00:05:50)

Council Member Genis encouraged the public to ask the School Board about bond monies. (00:07:00)

Howard Hull, Costa Mesa, spoke in support of funding for fields at Costa Mesa High School. (00: 08:34)

**FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 PRELIMINARY OPERATING AND CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT BUDGET**

CEO Hatch provided an introduction to the budget and announced upcoming meetings. (00:10:18)

Staff report presented by Finance and I.T. Director Bobby Young. (00:20:26)

Council Member Genis expressed concern about using the reserve fund balance. (00:22:04)

Discussion ensued regarding the use of the reserve fund balance, property allocation, and the equipment fund. (00:26:58)

Council Member Monahan spoke about PERS rate increases, position vacancies, and estimated savings generated from outsourcing of services. (00:41:48)

Discussion ensued solid waste hauler franchise fees; cable franchise fees; permit fees; red light camera fees; the golf course; reimbursement fees; the Office of Traffic Safety Grant funds; State reimbursement funds; and the Non-Departmental, and Communications and Marketing categories. (00:46:31)

Mayor Righeimer spoke on the preliminary budget. (01:02:13)

Discussion ensued regarding what should be included in the preliminary budget. (01:05:08)

Mr. Young spoke on CEO recommendations and the Capital Improvement Program budget. (01:10:13)

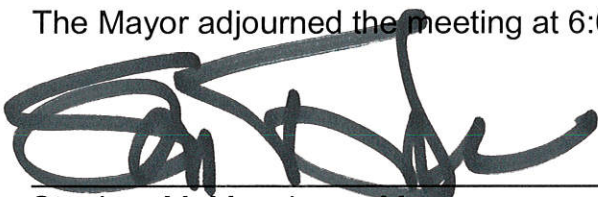
Discussion ensued concerning the general fund purchases. (01:12:25)

Ernesto Munoz, Public Services Director, spoke on funding for Fairview Park, deferred maintenance, Del Mar median strip project, and alley maintenance. (01:18:02)

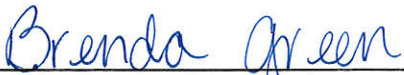
Discussion ensued regarding improvements at Fairview Park; Smallwood Park; median project at Del Mar; unimproved alleys; Tewinkle Park; a grant writer position and trees. (01:21:35)

COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS, COMMENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS - NONE

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:06 p.m.



Stephen M. Mensinger, Mayor



Brenda Green, City Clerk