

**CITY OF COSTA MESA
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

September 27, 2006

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Costa Mesa met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on September 27, 2006 at City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, California. The meeting was called to order by Chair Leece, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by Commissioner Harris.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present:

Wendy Leece, Chair
Robert Graham, Vice Chair
Byron de Arakal, Commissioner
Mark Harris, Commissioner
David Stiller, Commissioner

Also Present:

William J. Morris, Director of Public Services
Stephen N. Mandoki, Director of Administrative Services
Jana M. Ransom, Recreation Manager
Bruce Hartley, Maintenance Services Manager
Bart Mejia, Parks Project Manager
Robert Staples, Fairview Park Plan Administrator
Mark Taylor, Management Analyst
Mike Brandenburger, Recreation Coordinator

MINUTES

Motion made by Commissioner de Arakal, seconded by Commissioner Harris and carried five to zero, to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2006 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Anne McEligot
Resident, Costa Mesa

Ms. McEligot voiced her concerns with the field allocation policy and has requested that the Commission allow for the Coaches and Referee Training to be held at the Farm Sports Complex on October 7, 2006 while the Pancake Breakfast and Picture Day events are to be held at the Costa Mesa High School.

Discussion between Commissioner de Arakal and Ms. Ransom took place on the history of the requests for the Coaches and Referee Training, Pancake Breakfast and Picture Day events.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Ms. Ransom occurred on the permits issued in previous years for the Coaches and Referee Training, Pancake Breakfast and Picture Day events.

Commissioner de Arakal requested that staff explore any opportunity to allow for the training of the coaches and refe-

rees on the Farm Sports Complex on October 7.

Commissioner de Arakal also requested to agendize: (1) to review the use of the Farm Sports Complex for coach and referee training and make a recommendation to the Planning Commission with respect to the conditional use permit, and (2) to modify the Field Allocation Policy to allow that use at the next Commission meeting.

Humberto Caspa
Resident, Costa Mesa

Mr. Caspa voiced his concerns regarding Paularino Park use issues and requested that the Commission notify the Latino community and residents in the area of Paularino Park because they are not aware of this issue.

CONSENT CALENDAR

No items.

PUBLIC HEARING

No items.

OLD BUSINESS

TREE REMOVAL REQUEST – 1786 KINGLET COURT

Mr. Bruce Hartley made a power point presentation. The applicant, Ms. Eleanor Triglar, was present to address and answer questions by the Commission.

Public Comment:

Eleanor Triglar
Resident, Costa Mesa

Ms. Triglar was present to appeal the denial by staff for the tree removal request. She also requested to replace the tree with a smaller tree and to repair the sidewalk where the roots had caused damage.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Ms. Triglar ensued on the length of time Ms. Triglar has been a resident at 1786 Kinglet Court and on whether or not Ms. Triglar rakes the leaves herself.

Discussion between Commissioner Harris and Ms. Triglar took place on whether or not Ms. Triglar is aware that she will incur the costs for the removal and replacement of the tree should the Commission approve the tree removal request under discretionary removals.

Discussion between Commissioner Harris and Mr. Hartley occurred on the tree droppings, roots and root pruning, and on the cracks on the sidewalk.

Discussion between Commissioner de Arakal and Mr. Hartley ensued on grinding the roots, root barriers and pruning, and on repairing the curb, gutter and sidewalk.

MOTION

Motion made by Chair Leece, dies for a lack of second, to authorize the removal and replacement of the tree, per the Street-

scape and Median Development Standards, Section 4.0.3 - Discretionary Removals, which would require the replacement of the tree with one (1) twenty-four inch box-size tree planted at the same address or elsewhere on City property and two (2) fifteen gallon-size trees to be planted elsewhere on City property. The applicant would pay all removal and replacement costs.

NEW MOTION

Motion made by Commissioner Stiller, seconded by Chair Leece and failed two to three with Vice Chair Graham, Commissioner de Arakal and Commissioner Harris voting “No,” to authorize the tree removal request for health and safety reasons, which include the blockage of light from the overhead street light, the roots are obstructing traffic, and because of the tree droppings, and for the City to incur the removal and replacement costs.

SECOND MOTION

Motion made by Vice Chair Graham, seconded by Commissioner de Arakal and carried three to two with Chair Leece and Commissioner Stiller voting “No,” to deny the request for the removal of one City parkway tree located in the public right-of-way at 1786 Kinglet Court and for staff to install root barriers, surface grind the exposed roots to the extent that it is appropriate, and pressure wash the sidewalk and curb/gutter.

REVIEW OF TEMPORARY LIGHT USE AT THE FARM SPORTS COMPLEX

Ms. Jana M. Ransom presented the report.

Public Comment:

Ron Nugent

Representing Pop Warner Football

Mr. Nugent invited the Commission to attend a practice so that they will be able see that the portable lights are not enough. Mr. Nugent requested that the Commission authorize the use of more portable lights on each field because of safety issues.

Discussion between Commissioner de Arakal and Mr. Nugent occurred on whether or not the Newport Mesa Unified School District requested that Pop Warner Football remove their storage bin at the high school and on whether or not there is a time table for them to remove it.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Ms. Ransom ensued on the delivery date of the temporary portable light units and on whether or not it is feasible to rent two additional portable light units to place on fields 5 and 6 at the Farm Sports Complex.

Discussion between Vice Chair Graham and Mr. Nugent took place on the location of Pop Warner Football games and on whether or not the field at Costa Mesa High School is adequate for their games.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Mr. Nugent occurred on whether or not one field is enough for Pop Warner Football game days.

Discussion between Commissioner Stiller and Mr. Nugent ensued on the reason for the Newport Mesa Unified School District wanting the storage bin removed.

Two youths, one from Mighty Might Pop Warner Football and one from Junior Pee Wee Pop Warner Football, addressed the Commission.

MOTION

Motion made by Commissioner de Arakal, seconded by Vice Chair Graham and carried five to zero, to:

1. Allow staff to place portable light tower units on fields 5 and 6, at the Farm Sports Complex; the number of rental portable light tower units will be left up to staff's discretion to make the fields safe and playable; and,
2. Remove Condition 2 of the August 23, 2006 motion on this subject and allow staff to position the lights on all fields to provide maximum illumination while minimizing impact to neighbors.

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW OF PROPOSED PERMITTING REGULATIONS, PERMIT APPLICATION AND FIELD RULES AND ORDINANCE FEE FOR THE FLYING OF MODEL AIRCRAFT AT FAIRVIEW PARK

- i. REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES**
- ii. PERMIT APPLICATION AND FIELD RULES**
- iii. ORDINANCE**
- iv. ANNUAL PERMIT FEE**

Mr. Robert Staples presented the report.

Public Comment:

Jim Hanson
Secretary, Treasurer and Contest Director
Harbor Soaring Society Club

Mr. Hanson stated that the Club has two certified instructor pilots available to provide assistance to new flyers on the weekends at Fairview Park. He also mentioned that the Club provides a training program in a classroom setting and out in the field, which teaches the basic fundamentals on flying a model aircraft.

John Anderson
General Director, Harbor Soaring Society

Mr. Anderson said that the Club also distributes newsletters and flyers to Hobby shops and retailers, which provides the purchaser of a new model aircraft with more information on flying assistance and training.

Discussion between Vice Chair Graham and Mr. Hanson ensued on the requirement for liability insurance for new flyers.

Discussion between Commissioner Harris and Mr. Hanson took place on whether or not other cities offer this type of flying activity.

Discussion among Commissioner Harris, Mr. Staples and Ms. Ransom occurred on whether or not there is a minimum age limit to fly a model aircraft.

Discussion among Commissioner Harris, Mr. Staples and Mr. Anderson ensued on whether or not model rockets or rocket motors will be allowed for use at Fairview Park.

Discussion among Vice Chair Graham, Mr. Hanson and Mr. Anderson occurred on model aircrafts being flown at night in Fairview Park and in the vernal ponds area.

Discussion between Commissioner Stiller and Mr. Hanson took place on the section requiring proof of an AMA or homeowner's insurance on the permit application.

Mr. Hanson and Mr. Anderson thanked the Commission and extended an invitation to the Commission to attend a Fun Fly event on Saturday, October 21, 2006, at 8:30 a.m. in Fairview Park.

Discussion between Commissioner Harris and Ms. Ransom ensued on a beginner flyer program for teens in the future as a Summer camp.

Discussion between Commissioner de Arakal and Mr. Staples occurred on the two areas designated for flying model aircrafts at Fairview Park.

Discussion among Commissioner Harris, Mr. Anderson and Mr. Hanson took place on the maximum size of a model aircraft.

MOTION

Motion made by Commissioner de Arakal, seconded by Commissioner Harris and carried five to zero, to:

1. Recommend to City Council adoption of the proposed ordinance regulating Model Aircraft flying at Fairview Park and the Fairview Park Flying Field Rules with the following modifications:
 - a. Attachment 1, under 1-Purpose, the second sentence should read as follows:

“This ordinance prohibits the flying of model aircraft at Fairview Park without a permit **issued by** the City, provides for the establishment of procedures and requirements for the issuance, suspension and revocation of permits, and adopts regulations for the flying of model aircrafts at the park.”
 - b. Attachment 1, under 5-Suspension and Revocation of Permits, the first sentence should read as follows:

“If a person to whom a permit has been issued fails to comply with the Model Aircraft Flying Regulations, the AMA Safety Code **or the Fairview Park Flying Field Rules**, or is otherwise flying model aircraft in an improper manner, as determined by the City, then that permit is subject to suspension and revocation as provided for in these regulations.”
 - c. Attachment 1, under 5D-Appeal of Recreation Manager’s Decision, the second sentence should read as follows:

“The Administrative Services Director or designee shall conduct the hearing within **ten (10)** working days of receipt of notice of appeal.”
 - d. Attachment 3(h), under the Model Aircraft Flying Regulations section, the first sentence should read as follows:

“If a model aircraft lands on private property, no person shall go onto that property to retrieve the model aircraft unless that person first ob-

tains permission from the property **resident** to retrieve the model aircraft.”

- e. Attachment 2, under 5.3-Excluded Flying Areas of the Fairview Park Flying Field Rules, to remove the words “while classes are in session” from the sentence, which should read as follows:
“Aircrafts should not be flown over the Waldorf School property, nor the parking lot, residences, and pedestrians on or off the paths.”
 - f. Attachment 2, under 5.1-Approved Types of Planes of the Fairview Park Flying Field Rules, the second sentence should read as follows:
“Models that may not be flown include fuel (gas) powered internal combustion engines, rockets and **any** aircrafts exceeding the AMA weight limit.”
 - g. To include in the Fairview Park Flying Field Rules that pilots are required to display their permit above the waist.
2. Recommend that City Council establish a fee of \$20.00 annually for the maintenance of a permit system for individuals to fly Model Aircraft at Fairview Park.

**CONSIDERATION OF AN
AMENDED AGREEMENT WITH
THE HARBOR SOARING SOCIETY
FOR USE OF FAIRVIEW PARK**

Mr. Robert Staples presented the report.

Public Comment:

Jim Hanson
Secretary, Treasurer and Contest Director
Harbor Soaring Society Club

Mr. Hanson requested that the Commission amend the one million dollars (\$1,000,000) Bodily Injury and Property Damage in the agreement to reflect liability insurance to HSS/AMA members only and not the general public that uses the park.

Discussion between Commissioner de Arakal and Mr. Hanson ensued on the types of activities covered under the liability insurance.

Mr. Hanson requested that the Commission include “HSS/AMA,” in between the words “any persons,” in Item #12 of the agreement.

Mr. Hanson also requested that the Commission include “400 feet above ground level” for reference purposes in the agreement.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Mr. Hanson occurred on the current number of HSS club members.

Discussion between Commissioner Harris and Mr. Staples took place on including the use of an identification card by flyers in the agreement between HSS and the City so that Park Rangers will be able to quickly identify flyers with permits at Fairview Park.

MOTION

Motion made by Vice Chair Graham, seconded by Chair Leece and carried five to zero, to recommend City Council approve the amended agreement with Harbor Soaring Society for use of Fairview Park with the following changes:

1. In the agreement under item 12, insert “HSS/AMA” in the sentence, which should read as follows:
“HSS shall protect, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless CITY, its elected and appointed officials, officers, agents, employees, representatives, and volunteers from any damage to property and for injury to or death of any person and from all claims, demands, actions, liability, expenses, including attorney’s fees, or damages of any kind or nature arising out of or in connection with the performance of this AGREEMENT, or the use of the Site by an HSS/AMA persons, except that which is the result of the sole negligence of CITY.”
2. In the agreement under item 4, for clarification purposes, 400 feet should read, “400 feet above ground level.”

MAINTENANCE SERVICES MANAGER’S REPORT

Mr. Bruce Hartley made a power point presentation on the following topics:

- TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex
- Annual Evaluations of turf at Newport Mesa Unified School District sites
- Theater and Arts District Right-of-Way Rehabilitation
- Jordan Park – Boys and Girls Club ‘Sports Court’ Project
- Fairview Park Tree Donation
- Austin Street Re-Forestation
- Indiana Avenue and Kentucky Place Re-Forestation
- The Farm Sports Complex tree planting at Commission’s direction – notices were mailed to residents neighboring the fields
- Del Mar Community Garden landscape improvement project to start in 30 days
- Status on tree trimming
- Status on sidewalk grinding
- Other Miscellaneous Projects include:
 - TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex
 - Tot Lot Sand Replacement at
 - Lions Park
 - Heller Park
 - Jordan/Tustin Park
 - Mow Curb Installation

Discussion between Commissioner Harris and Mr. Hartley took place on cost effective measures taken for sidewalk grinding and root pruning.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Stiller acknowledged a letter received from Ms. Sandra Roy, which mentioned Ms. Becky, Ms. Jovita Guthrie and the Summer Teen Camp program. Ms. Roy stated in her letter that the Teen Program and the staff are great.

Commissioner Stiller mentioned that the lake at TeWinkle Park looks very nice and that the work being done on the TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex is coming along.

Commissioner Stiller said that he and his wife attended a concert at the Segerstrom Concert Hall, which he found to be better compared to the Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles.

Commissioner Harris said that the TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex Opening Ceremony will be on Thursday, October 19, 2006, at 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Harris mentioned that it is election year and recommends that citizens be courteous of each candidate's signs. He continued by saying that, if a sign is placed at an improper location on City property, City staff will take care of remove the sign, and, if a sign is placed on someone's property, respect the fact that the homeowner is allowed to put the sign on their yard and the sign should not be tampered with.

Commissioner de Arakal stated that he attended the California Parks and Recreation Society's (CPRS) workshop on "Measuring the Economic Contribution's of Parks and Recreation," which was conducted by Dr. John L. Crompton. He mentioned that he is much more educated about understanding the importance of parks and recreation as vital infrastructure in the community and what those assets contribute to the community from an economic and social stand point.

Commissioner de Arakal hopes that, when the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is open to process and develop long range strategies for adding more athletic complexes and upgrading the parks in the City, Dr. Crompton's organization will be included in our RFP list because Dr. Crompton is highly knowledgeable in this field.

Discussion between Commissioner de Arakal and Mr. Hartley ensued on whether or not the crew working on the additional lanes at Harbor Boulevard and Gisler Avenue is a City contractor.

Vice Chair Graham recommends to have a sign placed at the Golf Course, along the Harbor Boulevard frontage, to inform everyone that the Golf Course is a City of Costa Mesa facility and a City asset.

Vice Chair Graham asks that dog owner's clean up after their dog, especially between Swan Drive and Fairview Park, and he recommends that signage be put up in this area.

Vice Chair Graham also thanked staff for all their hard work.

Chair Leece mentioned that the Commission is looking forward to the joint meeting with the City of Newport Beach Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission on October 3, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss mutual issues on field use.

Chair Leece announced that the Lounge Chair Theatre will be

on October 7, 2006 on Narnia – The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.

Chair Leece also announced the availability of a brochure delineating the City of Costa Mesa Parks and Recreation - Chairperson Award Program, whereby groups and/or individuals will be recognized for making Costa Mesa a better place to live, work and play through their efforts by serving the community. She said that the brochures are available at City Hall and on the City's website at www.ci.costa-mesa.ca.us.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at **9:50 p.m.** to the Joint Commission Study Session meeting with the City of Newport Beach Parks, Recreation and Beaches Commission on Tuesday, October 3, 2006, at 5:00 p.m. at the Newport Beach City Hall. Thereafter, the regular Study Session will meet on Wednesday, October 25, 2006, at 5:15 p.m. in Conference Room 1A, followed by the regular Commission meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Submitted by:

WILLIAM J. MORRIS
Director of Public Services