

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

**October 25, 2006**

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Costa Mesa met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on October 25, 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 Stiller.

**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

**MINUTES**

Motion made by Commissioner de Arakal, seconded by Commissioner Harris and carried five to zero, to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2006 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

No items.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**AYSO DONATION OF SEED AND FERTILIZER FOR FARM FIELDS**

Motion made by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Vice Chair Graham, to pull this item for discussion.

Ms. Jana Ransom presented the report and check to the Commission.

Public Comment:

Mr. Steve Mensinger  
Pop Warner Football  
Mr. Mensinger announced that Pop Warner Football would also be donating \$1,000 towards the maintenance of the fields.

Mr. John Zick  
AYSO Region 120  
Mr. Zick believes that the fields at the Farm Sports Complex are well maintained by the Park Maintenance staff and considers the facility to be a premier facility. Mr. Zick mentioned that the donation of \$3,000 is a way for Re-

gion 120 to thank the City for partnering and working with the league.

**MOTION**

Motion made by Commissioner de Arakal, seconded by Commissioner Stiller and carried five to zero, to accept a donation of seed and topdressing (seed cover) valued at \$3,000 from the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) Region 120 to be used for restoration of the Farm Sports Complex fields #1, #2, #3 and #4.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

No items.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No Items.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**TREE REMOVAL REQUEST – 1849  
TANAGER DRIVE**

Mr. Bruce Hartley made a power point presentation.

Discussion between Vice Chair Graham and Mr. Hartley ensued on the pruning of the tree and the uplifting of the sidewalk.

Discussion between Commissioner de Arakal and Mr. Hartley took place on when the sidewalk panel is scheduled to be repaired.

Discussion between Commissioner Harris and Mr. Hartley occurred on the curb flow line, cracking on the street, and the retaining wall.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Mr. Hartley ensued on the one year allowance indicated in the alternatives section of the report.

Discussion between Vice Chair Graham and Mr. Hartley took place on the type of replacement tree to be provided.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Mr. Hartley occurred on whether or not surface roots of a tree are common.

Discussion between Commissioner Stiller and Mr. Hartley ensued on the issue of root decay and on the treatment used to preserve the tree.

**MOTION**

Motion made by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Stiller and carried four to one with Vice Chair Graham voting “No,” to approve the request by City staff for the removal of one City owned parkway tree located in the public right-of-way at 1849 Tanager Drive, with the requirement that the tree be replanted with a twenty-four inch box-size tree, from the Streetscape and Median Development Standards approved list for five foot parkways, at the same address, at City expense.

**TREE REMOVAL REQUEST – 427  
E. 19<sup>TH</sup> STREET**

Mr. Bruce Hartley made a power point presentation. Commissioner Stiller also provided additional pictures of the tree for the Commission to review.

Discussion between Commissioner de Arakal and Mr. Hartley took place on whether or not the meandering sidewalk encroaches onto the homeowners' property.

Public Comment:

Mr. William Clark  
Applicant

Mr. Clark voiced his concerns and requested that the Commission remove the tree for safety reasons because he believes that it is a hazard.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Mr. Clark took place on whether or not a tree limb had fallen on a car.

Discussion between Commissioner de Arakal and Mr. Clark occurred on whether or not the meandering sidewalk encroaches on his property.

Mr. Daniel Melarkey and Mrs. Gloria Melarkey  
Applicants

Mr. and Mrs. Melarkey voiced their concerns by providing information on various occasions a tree limb had fallen and asked the Commission to reconsider staff's recommendation in the report because they believe that the tree is dangerous and hazardous to the community.

Discussion between Commissioner Stiller and Mr. Melarkey ensued on the length of time Mr. Melarkey's father resided in the residence, whether or not Mr. Melarkey's father had ever submitted a tree removal request to the City, and on the number of occasions a tree limb had fallen.

Discussion between Commissioner Harris and Mr. Hartley took place on the City's tree trimming practices and on whether or not the concrete would need to be removed in order to root grind the tree.

**MOTION**

Motion made by Commissioner Stiller, seconded by Chair Leece and carried five to zero, to authorize the removal and replacement of the tree, per the Streetscape and Median Development Standards, Section 4.0.1 – Health and Safety Removal, which will allow the tree to be removed by the City, at no expense to the applicants. The City would replant the location with a new twenty-four inch box-size tree appropriate for the size of the planting location, removal and relocation of the sidewalk and stump grinding.

**TREE REMOVAL REQUEST – 1957  
SANDERLING CIRCLE**

Mr. Bruce Hartley made a power point presentation.

Public Comment:

Ms. Kelly McDonough  
Applicant

Ms. McDonough provided additional pictures for the Commission to review and asked that the Commission decide on a favorable reconsideration of staff's recommendation in the report.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Mr. Bruce Hartley ensued on the growth of a Crape Myrtle tree.

Discussion between Vice Chair Graham and Mr. Hartley took place on the age of the tree.

Discussion between Commissioner Stiller and Mr. Hartley occurred on the slanting/leaning of the tree.

## **MOTION**

Motion made by Commissioner de Arakal, seconded by Commissioner Stiller and carried five to zero, to authorize the removal and replacement of the tree, per the Streetscape 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 to be planted at that address and two (2) fifteen gallon-size trees to be planted elsewhere on City property. The Commission also requires that a Crape Myrtle be the twenty-four inch box-size replacement tree.

The applicant would pay all removal and replacement costs. The tree must be removed and mitigation trees provided to the City within one year from the date of final approval, after which the approval expires.

## **APPROVAL OF A CONCEPT PLAN FOR THE TEWINKLE PARK TOT LOT, RESTROOM AND PICNIC SHELTER RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

Mr. Bart Mejia presented the report. Mr. Tim Mann, Landscape Architect from Lynn Capouya and Associates, and Ms. Christine Lampert, Licensed Architect from Lampert Architects, were present to address the various aspects of the project and answer questions by the Commission. Also, Mr. Doug Hansen, Founder of Angel's Charity, was present to provide an update on his fundraising efforts and to answer any questions by the Commission.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Mr. Hansen ensued on website information for donations.

Discussion between Commissioner Harris and Ms. Lampert occurred on the locking and unlocking of a restroom door in an emergency situation and on whether or not the block wall for the restrooms would be graffiti proofed.

Discussion among Vice Chair Graham, Commissioner Harris and Mr. Mejia ensued on the future need for a sand volleyball court at TeWinkle Park.

Discussion between Commissioner Stiller and Ms. Lampert took place on whether or not the concept plan would require the removal of trees and whether or not the existing plumbing lines and electrical leads would be used for the new restroom.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Ms. Lampert occurred on whether or not the restroom stalls would be handicap accessible and on handicap signage in the restrooms.

Discussion between Vice Chair Graham and Mr. Mejia ensued on the lighting for the area and restrooms in the park.

Discussion between Vice Chair Graham and Mr. Mejia took

place on whether or not the park would have extended hours during the winter.

Discussion between Commissioner Stiller and Ms. Lampert occurred on whether or not the number of stalls in the women's restroom should be increased.

**MOTION**

Motion made by Commissioner de Arakal, seconded by Commissioner Harris and carried five to zero, to approve Concept Plan No. 1 for the TeWinkle Park Tot Lot, Restroom and Picnic Shelter Reconstruction Project and to approve the relocation of the large picnic shelter to the south.

**CONSIDERATION OF CHANGE TO  
REGULAR COMMISSION  
MEETING DATE FOR NOVEMBER  
2006**

Mr. William Morris presented the report.

Commissioner Stiller recommends holding the November meeting on Tuesday, November 21, or Wednesday, November 15.

**MOTION**

Motion made by Commissioner de Arakal, seconded by Commissioner Stiller, to move the regular November meeting to Wednesday, November 29.

Commissioner Harris stated that, due to a prior commitment, he will be unable to attend the November 29 meeting.

**AMENDED MOTION**

Motion made by Commissioner de Arakal, seconded by Commissioner Stiller and carried five to zero, to select one of the following options as a regular November meeting date:

1. Monday, November 20, 2006, provided that the Council Chambers is available to hold the meeting; or
2. Wednesday, November 29, 2006.

**RECREATION MANAGER'S  
REPORT**

Ms. Jana Ransom made a power point presentation on the following topics:

- TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex
- Portable Light Units at the Farm Sports Complex
- Neighborhood Community Center Monthly Revenue
- Camp Costa Mesa Summer Camp 2006 Evaluation
- Camp Costa Mesa Winter Camp 2006
- Advisory Committee on Teens (ACT)
- Mobile Recreation Program
- After School Programs
- Youth Sports
- Artist Showcase

Discussion between Vice Chair Graham and Ms. Ransom ensued on feedback received from residents in the area regarding the lights on fields #5 and #6 at the Farm Sports Complex.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Ms. Ransom took place

on whether or not the Field Ambassadors and Park Rangers are monitoring pick up games by the picnic area at Fairview Park, off of Placentia.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Ms. Ransom occurred on whether or not the Newport-Mesa Unified School District and the City are in communication with regards to the use of School District lit fields and on the plans to remedy the condition of the School District fields.

Discussion between Vice Chair Graham and Ms. Ransom ensued on when the construction of the Estancia Football Stadium and swimming pool at Costa Mesa High School will begin.

Discussion between Commissioner Stiller and Ms. Ransom took place on the status of the agreement with the Fairview Developmental Center for use of the multipurpose fields.

Discussion between Vice Chair Graham and Ms. Ransom occurred on the field infractions listed in the Field Ambassador Monthly Report.

## **COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

Discussion between Commissioner de Arakal and Mr. Bart Mejia ensued on the status for the final design and bidding of the permanent lights at the Farm Sports Complex.

Discussion between Commissioner de Arakal and Mr. William Morris took place on the status for arranging a study session with City Council in regards to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Commissioner de Arakal said that he was disappointed with the outcome of the joint meeting with the City of Newport Beach Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission, which was held on October 3 at the City of Newport Beach's City Hall. The joint meeting was held so that both Commissions would be able to discuss and provide AYSO Region 97 with additional lit fields in the City of Newport Beach.

Commissioner de Arakal stated that he was fortunate to attend the opening ceremony of the TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex, which was held on October 19, 2006. He continued by saying that the complex is a state of the art facility and that he is grateful to Council Member Monahan's vision and Commissioner Mark Harris' work and effort to spearhead the project.

Commissioner de Arakal commended the Costa Mesa Police Department for their exceptional police work for solving crime in the City.

Commissioner de Arakal mentioned that Measure A is wrapping up and Measure F is coming up and he asked the community to not be dogmatic with the Newport-Mesa School District during this construction process because it will bring our school facilities up to snuff.

Vice Chair Graham mentioned that several trees will be planted at Fairview Park and that he spoke with Mr. Bruce Hartley on

possibly installing a temporary water system, about 300 feet, on both sides of the Placentia Bridge, which will allow for an expansion of landscape opportunities.

Vice Chair Graham said that there is a new dog sign near Placentia Avenue at the north end of Fairview Park, which reminds people to clean up after their dogs and offers doggie bags for use.

Vice Chair Graham stated that the speed and weight limit signage on both sides of the Placentia Bridge detracts from the beauty of the bridge and they are ugly. He asked if the signage could be removed. Vice Chair Graham requested for an informational item from staff on the speed and weight limit signage.

Vice Chair Graham thanked staff for all their hard work.

Commissioner Stiller said that the TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex is a beautiful and excellent facility.

Commissioner Stiller mentioned that he will ask about the status on construction for the swimming pool at Costa Mesa High School and the stadium at Estancia High School during the liaison meeting with the Newport-Mesa Unified School District, which will be within a week or so.

Commissioner Stiller requested to agendaize for consideration the possibility of permanently moving the Commission meetings to the third Wednesday of each month, which will avoid any holiday conflict in the future.

Commissioner Harris mentioned that he heard rumors that Santa Claus will be flying to the Balearic Community Center in a helicopter on Saturday, December 9.

Commissioner Harris requested for an informational item from staff on the possibility for consideration to name the TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex after Council Member Monahan.

Commissioner Harris announced that Chair Leece is a candidate for City Council and wished her the best.

Chair Leece suggested that the Commission send a letter thanking the Newport Beach Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission for hosting the joint meeting on October 3 and the Commission supports her suggestion.

Chair Leece recommended that when Commissioner Stiller meets with the Newport-Mesa Unified School District to convey that they take into consideration the effects on taking the school fields off-line during Measure F and to please consider special accommodations because these fields are for our children in the community.

Chair Leece said that she has several safety concerns with TeWinkle School fields and she would like for staff to work with the Newport-Mesa Unified School District and with the baseball leagues with regards to addressing the irrigation issue, trip hazards, to ensure that all the light bulbs are working properly, to have the electrical cord for the pitching machine checked on, and on graffiti found on the slats in the chain link fence in the dug outs.

Chair Leece mentioned that she spoke with Ms. Jana Ransom on the possible use of Lions Park for soccer practices.

Discussion between Chair Leece and Ms. Ransom ensued on the status of Ms. Anne McEligot's request to use youth only fields for adult training.

Chair Leece welcomes nominations for the City of Costa Mesa Parks and Recreation Commission Chairperson's Award.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at **9:15 p.m.** to the regular Study Session on Monday, November 20, 2006, at 5:15 p.m. in Conference Room 1A, followed by the Commission meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Submitted by:

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WILLIAM J. MORRIS  
Director of Public Services