

City of Costa Mesa
TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex Task Force Meeting Minutes

WHEN: Thursday, January 12, 2012, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - 6:04 p.m. by Tom Hatch, Chief Executive Officer.

2. **INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS, ALTERNATES AND GUESTS**

Members Present: Matt Richards, Ron Amburgey, Kevin Orton, Jay Litvak, Lou DeSandro, Gordon Bowley, Dean Abernathy, Ethan Temianka, John Rittenhouse, Tim Cromwell and Jack Morales

Members Absent: Jeffrey Wilcox and Roger Turk

Alternates Present: Matt Palma, Kim Pederson, Lisa Reedy, Elena Mueller and Jason De La O.

Council Members Present: Mayor Gary Monahan

Staff/Consultants Present: Tom Hatch, Ernesto Munoz, Bart Mejia, Alma Reyes, Lisa McPherson, Raja Sethuraman, Bruce Hartley, Lynnette Dodge and Jeff Hopkins.

Guests/Public Present: Marty Morales, resident, and Dave Johnson, consultant for local interested party.

3. **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Members were informed that Mayor Pro Tem Jim Righeimer is Mayor Monahan's alternate. The city council liaisons are not voting members; however, they are present to gather information, provide it to the city council and be available to answer any questions for the group. They will only be able to cast a vote if there is a tie. Three (3) areas the committee should look at is the impact of more field use; review mitigations that staff and consultants come up with; and define the use of the park and how to accommodate the users. The group would provide information to bring to the Parks and Recreation Commission, followed by City Council.

4. **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Dean Abernathy was nominated as chair and Gordon Bowley was nominated as vice-chair. Nominations were accepted by unanimous consent.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex history and project overview.

Ernesto Munoz briefly explained that staff members would be going over some information that has been provided on the thumb drives.

- Bart Mejia provided insight into the history of the complex and the master plan for TeWinkle Park. The TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex was constructed in 2006. It is currently run, operated and maintained by the City of Costa Mesa. Anything done outside of what the master plan indicates will necessitate reopening the master plan, which is a public process.
- Lisa McPherson discussed information that was provided on the thumb drives with regard to the users of the complex and fees charged and revenue generated.
- Bruce Hartley discussed his division's role in the maintenance and upkeep of the facility and its related costs. The cost of maintenance is approximately \$160k to \$170k for this facility only. Maintenance is accomplished via a combination of private contracts and City staff.

B. Committee member comments

Mr. Litvak expressed interest in having his group use the fields more and has issues with alcohol being served.

Mr. DeSandro commented that the field doesn't drain well and he would like that issue addressed.

Mr. De La O brought up a concern of alcohol being served at the facility.

Mr. Orton would like to see a regulation Little League field at the facility.

Mr. Amburgey would like to see the fields more utilized. He enjoys hearing the games from his home.

Ms. Mueller is concerned about the traffic impact as the fairgrounds have grown too much. She is not in favor of seeing a public park being made into a business; especially with the alcohol concern.

Ms. Reedy feels that perhaps the fees currently charged may have chased some users away from the complex and she would like to see them more available to the public.

Mr. Richards's group would rather play on regulation Little League fields.

Mr. Cromwell would like to see travel tournaments come to TWP to play, thus increasing the monies coming into the city via shopping, and restaurant and hotel use.

Mr. Morales would also like to see all-star tournaments being played in the city. If the facilities were available, that could be accomplished.

Mr. Rittenhouse believes judgment should not be rushed on giving city property over to BLD.

Consultant Jeff Hopkins commented that Big League Dreams (BLD) has been in business for 15 years. A new park is opening in Perris Valley this weekend and everyone was invited to come view the facility. BLD manages and operates facilities on behalf of cities and/or counties. Information provided by the various user groups and/or neighborhoods would help them in establishing a program plan. Response to alcohol at the facilities: Mr. Hopkins indicated that the current facilities BLD is involved with does not allow alcohol to be available during youth events. When alcohol is available, it is served only in a designated inside area.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. By the next meeting staff will provide expenses and revenues for the complex.

B. Mr. Hopkins will receive information from the members regarding their specific needs, which will assist in creating a program suitable for the location.

C. Prepare a Concept Plan based on items discussed and information provided by the members.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Dean Abernathy at 8:05 PM.

Next meeting TBD.