

SAN BENITO COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK COMMISSION

Dick Gallagher

Hollister VFW

Jaime De La Cruz

Ed Hawkins

Paul St. John

Jerry Muenzer

Chair

Vice-Chair

San Benito County Board Chamber - 481 4th Street, Hollister, CA 95023

REGULAR MEETING ACTION MINUTES May 6, 2013

1. Call To Order at 7:00 p.m. by Commissioner De La Cruz.

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Gallagher.

1.2 Roll Call

Present:

Commissioners Dick Gallagher, Jaime De La Cruz, Ed Hawkins, Paul St. John.

and Jerry Muenzer.

Absent:

None.

Staff present: Public Works Administrator Steve Wittry and Staff Analyst Mike Hodges.

1.3 Acknowledge Certificate of Posting

The agenda was posted on May 3, 2013 by 5:00 p.m. at the San Benito County Free Library, San Benito County Courthouse, San Benito County Administration Building, and San Benito County Permit Sheriff Building per Government Code Section #54954.2(a).

A motion to acknowledge the certificate of posting was made by Commissioner Muenzer and seconded by Commissioner St. John. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Public Comment

Mike Gaitan presented the commission with photographs and concerns regarding the buffer zone of plants between this property and Heat #2 field. A prior county representative stated the planting of trees to assist with noise and dust levels would be performed. Mike stated he is a supporter of parks and community sports. He is seeking staff support to resolve these issues with the dust and noise.

Jennifer Bagley of the Hollister Heat spoke highly of all Public Works in quickly dealing with the Heat Softball league's restroom and field issues.

3. Consent Items

3.1 Approval of Minutes of February 4, 2013 meeting

A motion to approve the February 4, 2013 meeting minutes was made by Commissioner Muenzer and seconded by Commissioner St. John. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Staff Announcements – Information Only

4.1 Staff reminded the commission to complete and return their conflict of interest Form 700. If questions or assistance is required, please contact Public Works staff.

5. Commission Announcements, Introductions and Presentations - Information Only

5.1 Commissioner Gallagher updated the commission on activity within the Parks and Recreation Commission that included the Rock and Roll Bike Safety event, general plan parks elements, and some highway 101 improvements.

6. Discussion Items

6.1 Hollister Heat Movie Night

Maria Spandri of the Heat made a presentation to the commission regarding a proposed family night movie fundraiser. There will be security during the event. The event will end by 10pm. This event promotes family unity and raises girl's athletic scholarship funds. Steve recommended they also check with the Sheriff regarding meeting permits. Jennifer Bagley of the Hollister Heat stated the group would contact the local neighbors regarding the event.

A motion to approve the Hollister Heat Movie Night event was made by Commissioner De La Cruz and seconded by Commissioner Gallagher. Motion passed 5-0.

6.2 Park Operations Update

Mike updated the commission as to the financial, operational, and guest activities during the prior quarter. A septic repair was made at the Bertha Briggs. Tree removal continues on the west side. Restroom repairs were completed. Final installation of the rubberized fall material in the playground areas was completed. Steve added details regarding an event that occurred involving a parks maintenance worker riding the weed mower. In the high weeds was an unexploded firework from a prior event. His mower ran over and exploded the firework. There were no injuries except for bending of the mower's protective shield from the blast. Future firework events within the park will now be required to count and audit all individual fireworks used.

Commissioner Hawkins requested the weeds in the north end of the park be cut.

6.3 Park Water Supply

Steve gave an update on the irrigation well water project. County and City staff are negotiating a new agreement to address park water & sewer supply needs in exchange for a pump station site. The cost of water has risen over the past twenty years along with the volume of water utilized by the park. The field rentals agreements for user groups will now include the City Recreation Department which will be structured exactly like the other usage agreements. The irrigation well water project will include the drilling of a well, boring of distribution lines, and construction management. The well water for irrigation will be charged to the user groups at the actual cost incurred to supply the water which will be a fraction of the cost currently charged by the City.

6.4 Cell Tower

The county was approached by AT&T with a request to install a new cell phone tower in the Veterans Park next to the adult large field. The equipment will replace a light tower and install an equipment room similar to the Verizon footprint. Commissioner Hawkins requested any revenue from the tower remain within the park budget. Commissioner Muenzer informed the commission that during the current economic times, even if the tower brings additional revenue, the park budget would most likely not experience a budget net gain due to the reduced general fund parks support. Commissioner De La Cruz noted it would be nice to have the park become self-sustainable. We currently have no monetary value assigned to the potential tower contract.

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6.5 Veterans Park 2013-14 Budget

The County is entering the 2013-14 fiscal year budget process in June. The proposed Veterans Memorial Park Budget will look similar to this year's budget with the exception of water operations expenses, capital projects, and possible some new cell tower revenues. Staff presented detailed slides which showed all the FY13-14 projected expenses, revenues, capital projects, and equipment needs.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Veterans Memorial Park Commission, Commissioner Hawkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Gallagher. Motion passed 5-0.

The next regular meeting of the Veterans Memorial Park Commission will be held on Monday, August 5, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Mike Hodges, Staff Analyst San Benito County Veterans Memorial Park Commission