

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 Board of Supervisors American Legion San Juan Bautista VFW Board of Supervisors

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

REGULAR MEETING **ACTION MINUTES** February 6, 2012

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

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Muenzer.

1.2 Roll Call

Present:

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

and Jerry Muenzer.

Absent:

None.

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

1.3 Acknowledge Certificate of Posting

The agenda was posted on February 3, 2012 by 5:00 p.m. at the San Benito County Free Library, San Benito County Courthouse, and San Benito County Administration Building per Government Code Section #54954.2(a).

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

1.4 Election of Officers

The 2012 commission appointments are:

The motion to elect Jaime De La Cruz as Chairperson was made by Commissioner St. John and seconded by Commissioner Muenzer. Motion passed 5-0.

The motion to elect Paul St. John as Vice Chairperson was made by Commissioner De La Cruz and seconded by Commissioner Gallagher. Motion passed 5-0.

The motion to elect Dick Gallagher as San Benito County Parks and Recreation Commission Representative was made by Commissioner Muenzer and seconded by Commissioner Hawkins. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Consent Items

3.1 Approval of Minutes of November 7, 2011 meeting

The motion to approve all consent items was made by Commissioner Muenzer and seconded by Commissioner St. John. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Staff Announcements – Information Only

4.1 Mike distributed the quarterly De Anza parks newsletter, requested each commissioner verify their contact information on the Administration Commission Form, and updated the commission regarding the state grant application. Results are not expected until spring 2012.

5. Commission Announcements, Introductions and Presentations – Information Only

5.1 Commissioner Gallagher updated the commission on the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt to be held at the Veterans Memorial Park. The SBCPRC is also planning an upcoming "district" workshop that will be open to everyone.

Commissioner De La Cruz inquired as to the current and future purpose of the Brigantino Park. Steve updated the commission on the history of this city park and the future plans being proposed by the city for its development.

6. Discussion Items

6.1 Park Facilities Improvements

Staff presented a proposed park project requested by Damon Felice of the Hollister Little League that would replace an existing score booth at field #2 with a new structure. The project will be constructed with volunteer support, will adhere to all applicable codes, and be financed completely by the Hollister Little League. Commissioner Muenzer requested the new building remain in the existing foot print. Commissioner St. John wanted insurance the new building meets all ADA requirements. The commission gave direction that the Hollister Little League Score Booth #2 replacement project should continue with regular commission updates.

The Hollister Heat batting cage project status was updated from the last meeting. The old abandoned well has been located and is not a factor in the batting cage project. The second concern was the grant funding status is still an unknown factor. David Super and Bill Baer from the Hollister Heat presented their willingness to invest in the new facility with the knowledge that an approved grant would require the relocation of the cage at their expense for non salvageable assets. Commissioner Muenzer expressed his concerns over safety of the kids. David Super from the Hollister Heat noted safety measures to include covered cage netting, larger privacy fencing, and taller field fences would provide a safe assembly areas near the entrance of the cage. Commissioner De La Cruz requested staff compose a concern gathering letter to the Hollister Little League regarding the project and any safety concerns they might have. The commission gave direction that the Hollister Heat Batting Cage project should continue with regular commission updates.

6.2 Park Status Update

Mike updated the commission on the parks past quarter rentals, revenues, project status, facility issues, and user concerns. The mid-years financial status was presented with questions being addressed regarding budget amounts compared to actual expenses.

6.3 Facilities Rental Fees

Mike presented the commission with staff recommendation on the 2012 park rental fee schedule increase that was based on data and analysis presented during the last meeting. During the last meeting, the commission directed staff to move forward with a new fee based on community

affordability and fair market value for like facility rentals in this area. Staff recommended a new shelter rental fee of \$75 per event and a new Bertha Briggs rental fee of \$225 per event. The security deposits requirements for the new 2012 fee schedule for shelter rentals would be \$75 and Bertha Briggs rentals would be \$200. Security deposits will be refunded upon a site inspection and approval by the Public Works Department.

The motion to approve and implement the 2012 Veterans Park Rental Fees Schedule with a new Shelter rental fee of \$75 per event and new Bertha Briggs rental fee of \$225 per event was made by Commissioner Muenzer and seconded by Commissioner Gallagher. Motion passed 3-2 (Commissioner St. John and De La Cruz voted No).

6.4 Water Meter Report

Mike presented to the commission the current water meter usage data to date. All meters are installed and being monitored by the city of Hollister. Steve answered commission questions regarding possible water usage solutions included well augmentation, conservation, turf, solar, and the financial impacts of each course of action. Commissioner Hawking wanted clarification that the City of Hollister is the current water supplier. Commissioner St. John inquired if the current piping installed in the park is adequate if the well started producing. Commissioner Muenzer informed the commission on a current Water District Salt project that could possibly raise water rates in the future that would not be advisable for field irrigation.

Mark Haworth, president of the Hollister Babe Ruth, asked for a time line regarding when the meter reading data gathering and user fee increase would happen. He was informed the current plan is a year of data for evaluation.

Discussion concluded with possible well solutions, timelines for negotiations, providing dollar amount usage in addition to volume usage, and water conservation.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Veterans Memorial Park Commission, Commissioner Muenzer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Hawkins. Motion passed 5-0.

The next regular meeting of the Veterans Memorial Park Commission will be held on Monday, May 7, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

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