

PARK, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD MINUTES THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2009

A regular meeting of the Park, Recreation and Community Services Board was held in the Council Chambers in City Hall of Burbank 275 East Olive Avenue, Burbank, California. The meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm by Garen Yegparian, Chairperson.

ROLL CALL

Present Members Yegparian, Prouty, Ferguson, Layfer and Talamantes **Absent...** None
Staff Present... Director Chris Dasté, Deputy Directors Linda Oseransky, Marisa Garcia, Teri Stein, Jan Bartolo; Recording Secretary Jessica Sandoval

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes approved for November (5-0)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming events were announced and Johnathan Frank, the Department's new Administrative Officer, was introduced.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Little Theater Annual Report

Charles Johanson, representative from the Grove Theater Company, provided an overview of the 2007/08 season including new plays and events, classes, workshops, funding sources, and a review of the goals and objectives.

ACTION Note and File

2. Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Report

Dee Call, RSVP Director, provided a brief accounting of the challenges and opportunities available for those 55 and older through the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. RSVP, which operates through Federal Grant and City funding, responds to local community needs at over 75 non-profit organizations and public agencies. In the 2007-2008 program year, 140,441 hours were donated by volunteers (equivalent to an estimated value of \$3,184,609.90). Participants are screened, referred to agencies, provided with educational materials, and afforded additional opportunities based on their abilities and volunteer needs.

ACTION Note and File

3. Golf Course proposed Fee Increases

Ms. Bartolo reported that there is currently a negative cash balance in the Golf Fund of \$640,000 (due to facility construction and a general decline in play based on the state of the economy). Annually, a survey of surrounding courses and fees is conducted with the intent of maintaining parity with these facilities. Based on the results, and the fact that there has not been a proposed rate increase since 2006, it was the consensus of the Greens Committee to propose rate increases at DeBell which would go into affect with the adoption of the new budget in July. Increases between \$1 to \$4 were presented for resident and non-resident play.

After a lengthy discussion by the Board, Mr. Dasté assured the members that all the details and figures of the proposed fee increase would be provided in the report to City Council. Staff assured the Board that the Greens Committee had deliberated diligently on the impact of the proposed fee increases and had been very sensitive to the golfing public when making these difficult recommendations. Detailed information would be made available to the City Council so that they could make an informed decision and make any changes they felt warranted at their meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Ferguson that the Park, Recreation and Community Services Board accept the proposed fee increases and that the item be forwarded to City Council for their consideration. Passed 5-0.

ACTION Accept proposed fee increases and forward item to City Council for their consideration.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Aquatics Steering Committee

Ms. Garcia reported that the Architect met with the Committee and obtained their input. He is preparing conceptual designs for the Committee's approval and presentation to City Council. By request, the item would be brought before this Board for comments prior to City Council. The repair project for McCambridge Pool has gone out to bid. Verdugo Pool will not be open this summer. Staff is in discussions with the School District regarding using school facilities for the summer to provide community members access to two pools.

ACTION Note and File

2. City Council Agenda Items

Mr. Dasté reported on the Gross Park shade structure and new play equipment item (which was discussed in December), the \$1,000 Grant award (from NRPA/USA Football) for a youth football program, and the Pacific Park renaming presentation (scheduled for February 3rd).

ACTION Note and File

REPORTS

1. Ovrom Park

Ms. Bartolo reported that the project is progressing and there are visible site improvements being made. Project completion is scheduled for late February.

ACTION Note and File

2. Burbank Youth Task Force

Mr. Prouty reported that the Teens in Action "Bullying" segment qualified for Emmy submittal. He also reported on teen dances and the Barnes and Noble Pack for Success Book Fair.

ACTION Note and File

2. Cultural Arts Masterplan

Mr. Ferguson reported that the Committee continues to meet. They have condensed their ideas into four goals and are currently working on determining strategies for the implementation of these goals.

ACTION Note and File

3. Park Detail

Ms. Oseransky announced that Cindy Guillen-Gomez has been assigned as the new Park Patrol Officer. She will be working the Monday through Thursday shift, from 2:00 p.m. to midnight. In addition, as of December 19th, the option of using Overtime officers became available as a result of money earmarked by Representative Schiff's office through a \$223,000 grant program for Park Patrol. This has facilitated the hiring of Officers for duty on days that we did not have coverage before.

ACTION Note and File

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

None

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND STAFF

Ms. Bartolo announced, effective January 5th, an outside custodial contracting firm commenced evening service of park facility restrooms. The firm would be cleaning and locking 16 restrooms at night at various park locations. This would free up park staff from hours of early morning maintenance and relieve Park Patrol from locking duty and other safety concerns at night. City Council appropriated \$100,000 towards this goal at last year's budget, however, the final bid for services was \$62,000 for a one-year period.

Mr. Yegparian requested a future update on the L.A. River and Griffith Park projects and announced an upcoming hike. Mr. Talamantes extended an invitation to the Department's various committees to give a report to the Board. Mr. Ferguson welcomed Mr. Frank. Mr. Layfer requested a list of infrastructure projects within the Department that are pending funding. He also asked staff to provide a budget highlight sheet pertinent to the upcoming mandatory reductions within the department (including revenue increases and cuts).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

CHAIR: _____

Date: _____

SECRETARY: _____

Date: _____