

**CITY OF MERCED  
RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION  
MERCED CIVIC CENTER  
678 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Merced, California**

**MINUTES**

Meeting of March 26, 2007

I. CALL TO ORDER

The City of Merced and Parks Commission meeting was called to order on Monday, March 26, 2007 at 5:33 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Merced Civic Center.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-Chairman Darrel Cherf led the Recreation and Parks Commission and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL: Recreation and Parks Commission

Present: Darrell Cherf, James Newhoff, Steve Kuykendall  
Necola Adams, Pete Padilla, Jerry Crews, and  
Kathy Wagner

Staff: Alexander Hall, Eugene Drummond, Jake  
Meneley, Roberta Medina, Norene Borba, and  
Michelle Reid

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/S/C – Newhoff/Wagner motioned to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2007 meeting as submitted.

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COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON  
AGENDA

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V. PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Drummond requested that the presentations be moved to the end of the meeting.

M/S/C-Kuykendall/Wagner motioned to move the presentations on the agenda under item VIII. (Unfinished Business)

VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A. Parks and Community Services Event Calendar-May

B. City Council Agenda Items-Action Taken in April

C. MCAN Monthly Activity Report-March

D. Code Enforcement-March Written Case Report

E. Norene Borba- March Written Report

F. Jake Meneley-March Written Report

G. Eugene Drummond-March Written Report

M/S/C – Crews/Kuykendall motioned to accept the monthly written reports as submitted after some discussion regarding duties and abilities of Code Enforcement Specialists and shopping cart projects.

VII. NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

A. Black Pearls-Request for in-kind support for April 7, 2007.  
Eugene Drummond addressed the Commission regarding the request from the Black Pearls to have the restrooms at McNamara Park open and available.

M/S/C-Kuykendall/Adams motioned to approve the availability of the restrooms at McNamara Park for the event held by the Black Pearls.

- B. Mr. Lamar Henderson, Coordinator of the Fatherhood Program, addressed the Commission regarding the All Dads Matter event to be held on June 9, 2007, at the Merced Open Air Theater. He requested from the Commission that the fees be waived and that the organization be allowed to use special events equipment.

M/S/C-Kuykendall/Wagner motioned to approve waiver of fees and co-sponsor the event with a short discussion about which community organizations could participate in the event and what kind of training was being provided.

- C. Jake Meneley gave a presentation on the Mini Parks in Merced and specifically of the parks considered for disposal.

Theresa Moreno, 922 P Street, Merced, addressed the Commission regarding a mini park on 10<sup>th</sup> & P Street. She expressed that she would like to keep the park near her home because she and her neighbors use it.

Ronnie Deanda, 942 P Street, Merced, addressed the Commission regarding the mini park at 10<sup>th</sup> & P Street. He requested that the park be left as it is.

Jim Tolliday, representative for Habitat for Humanity, expressed interest in any lot that becomes available.

M/S/C-Wagner/Adams motioned to leave parks as they are with the City of Merced maintaining its current service level of them after discussions regarding concerns with closing parks that are being used, and the cost of keeping parks open.

## VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Kathy Wagner gave an update on the California & Pacific Southwest Recreation & Park Training Conference. She was voted the President-elect of the CAPRCBM.
- B. Necola Adams gave an update on the California & Pacific Southwest Recreation & Park Training Conference. She expressed that this was her first conference and she was excited to see Merced represented so well.
- C. Jerry Crews gave an update on the California & Pacific Southwest Recreation & Park Training Conference. He was glad to renew old friendships and is looking forward to the next one in Long Beach.
- D. James Newhoff gave an update on the California & Pacific Southwest Recreation & Park Training Conference. He said Merced was the best-represented city at the conference and was impressed with the commissioners.
- E. Eugene Drummond gave an update on the California & Pacific Southwest Recreation & Park Training Conference. He liked the fact that Merced was well represented, and that all EMA activities were coordinated by the City of Merced.

## IX. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Eugene Drummond gave a brief update on the Youth Commission. All commissioners are in grades 9-12. He read the names into the record.
- B. Mr. Hall asked the secretary to send a written request to Mr. Tony Slaton to appear at the next Commission meeting to give a presentation on the Boys & Girls Club.

## X. DEPARTMENT UPDATES-Alexander Hall

- A. Mr. Hall thanked the Councilman and Commissioners for their participation in the California & Pacific Southwest Recreation & Park Training Conference. He expressed his appreciation for their support of the department.
- B. Escrow has been opened for CP-42. Efforts are being made to annex the property into the City limits.
- C. The Parks & Community Services Department is moving to its new location, 690 West 16<sup>th</sup> Street, on April 6, 2007. There will be an Open House approximately a month after moving.
- D. After school programs will be turned over to the Merced County Office of Education. The only sites the City will operate are Stephen Leonard and McNamara Park. The Youth Services Division will shift its focus to the teen programs.
- E. Mr. Hall thanked staff for its efforts to get the RecTrac system operational by the first day at the new location. The second phase of RecTrac will include online registrations.
- F. There will a park dedication on Friday, April 20, 2007 for Councilwoman Michelle Gabriault Acosta's mother. Carol Gabriault Park is located at Highway 59 and Willowbrook Drive.

## XI. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Chairman Darrel Cherf thanked Councilmen Carl Pollard and Joe Cortez for attending the meeting.

Mr. James Gonzales of the Black Pearls thanked the Commission for its decision supporting their event.

Chairman Darrel Cherf acknowledged Mr. Ken Testa from Merced City Schools and thanked him for coming.

## XII. ADJOURNMENT

The Recreation and Parks Commission meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m. and will meet again on April 23, 2007 in the Council Chambers.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Chairperson, Recreation and Parks Commission