

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

MINUTES

Meeting of February 25, 2008

I. CALL TO ORDER

The City of Merced Recreation and Parks Commission meeting was called to order on Monday, January 28, 2008 at 5:33 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Merced Civic Center.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-Chairwoman Kathy Wagner led the Recreation and Parks Commission and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL: Recreation and Parks Commission

Present: James Newhoff, Pete Padilla, Kathy Wagner, Virginia Morford, Necola Adams, and Tony Dossetti

Absent: Steve Kuykendall

M/S/C-Morford/Dossetti motioned to excuse the absence of Commissioner Kuykendall.

Staff: Alexander Hall, Norene Borba, Eugene Drummond, Kelly Roseman, and Michelle Reid

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/S/C – Newhoff/Padilla motioned to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2008 meeting with an amendment that includes the Hazmat report for Code Enforcement.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON
AGENDA

V. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Alexander Hall introduced Lindsey Johnson, the new Recreation Coordinator to the commission.

- B. Donna Yancey of the Black Merced Homecoming Committee addressed the commission regarding the upcoming event on May 25, 2008 at McNamara Park.
Eugene Drummond addressed the commission, commending the Homecoming Committee for their efforts
Marlene Murphy from the Merced Zoological Society spoke to the commission regarding the Society's partnership with the City of Merced. Chairwoman Wagner inquired about the status of the Ed-Zoo-Cational building. Ms. Murphy received an email stating that the plans were with the Planning Department.

VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Parks and Community Services Special Events Calendar-February 2008

- B. City Council Agenda Items-Action Taken in January

- C. MCAN Monthly Activity Report-January

- D. Code Enforcement-January Case Report

- E. Norene Borba-January Written Report

- F. Jake Meneley-January Written Report

- G. Eugene Drummond-January Written Report

M/S/C –Dossetti/Newhoff motioned to accept the monthly written as submitted with a discussion about the Code Enforcement monthly report and Norene Borba’s report.

VI. NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

A. Michael Wegley of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Merced requested the distribution of funds for the Wahneta Hall Trust Fund.

M/S/C-Adams/Dossetti motioned to approve the request for distribution of funds from the Wahneta Hall Trust Fund.

B. Alexander Hall presented the amended request from the Merced Union High School District for guaranteed use of CP-42.

M/S/C-Newhoff/Adams motioned to accept the amended request for use of CP-42.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Kelly Roseman, Code Enforcement Specialist, updated the Commission on the municipal code that deals with panhandling. The Chair asked that the commissioners submit their concerns with the current ordinance in writing to her so the commission can take steps to change the ordinance. Ms. Roseman also spoke about the homeless abatement meeting that was held with various departments within the City.

VIII. DEPARTMENT UPDATES-Alexander Hall

1. Update on the Recreation Coordinators-Department will be reopening the position. Margaret Littleton resigned.
2. Update on the 26th & “M” Street property-Applegate Park- The property has been cleared. Next step is to begin removal of structures. Department is coordinating with the Fire Department to burn the houses on the property.

3. Update on CP-42-
Staff selected RRM Design to complete the site master plan. Council will decide on contract.
4. Community for Healthy Kids – This is a program to help uninsured children get health insurance. The Merced City School District sent Resolution in support of the program.
5. Easby Property on Buena Vista Drive in Fahrens Park -
The City has purchased the property. The close has been delayed due to an existing line of credit on the property.
6. Com-VIP-Community Violence and Intervention Program-
Staff is working with the Summer Employment and Activity subcommittee to provide new summer recreational program. The dates are June 16-August 8, 2008. The fee is \$240.00 per person for 8 weeks.
7. Budget Update-The Department budget must be lower by 5% for FY 08/09. Staff will bring proposed budget to the Commission when it is finished.

Commissioner Dossetti inquired about the numbers for the summer camps. How many children will be able to attend each camp?

Eugene Drummond addressed Commissioner Dossetti's question. The camps can accommodate up to 60 children per day per site. The City's buildings will accommodate up to 30 children per day. Com-VIP is soliciting organizations in the community, seeking funds for sponsorship for families who cannot afford the camp. "Friends of Parks" has pledged \$3000.00 for sponsorship.

Chairwoman Wagner addressed Eugene Drummond regarding the lack of programming at the Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Drummond responded that there were no funds to pay staff. The Department has done budget transfers to allow programs to begin again in March.

Chairwoman Wagner asked Alexander Hall why the Boys and Girls Club was being funded for three more years, as opposed to the

recommended amount of \$100,000.00 for one year. Alexander Hall responded that the City Council appointed a sub committee to research the relationship between the City and the Boys and Girls Club. The sub committee recommended the additional funding, along with the three additional years.

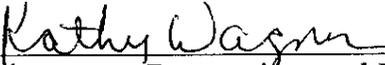
IX. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Chairwoman Wagner thanked Councilman Joe Cortez for coming to the meeting and for agreeing to be the installation officer at the CPRS Convention.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The Recreation and Parks Commission meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m. and will meet again on March 24, 2008 in the Council Chambers.

Respectfully Submitted:



Chairperson, Recreation and Parks Commission