

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

MINUTES

Meeting of April 28, 2008

I. CALL TO ORDER

The City of Merced Recreation and Parks Commission meeting was called to order on Monday, April 28, 2008 at 5:31 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, Steve Kuykendall, and Tony Dossetti

Excused: Necola Adams

M/S/C-Kuykendall/Dossetti motioned to excuse the absence of Commissioner Necola Adams

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

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/S/C – Newhoff/Padilla motioned to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2008 meeting.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON
AGENDA

Councilman John Carlisle presented the Parks and Community Services a certificate of appreciation from the Southeast Asian-American Professional Association, Southeast Asian Vision for Education in support of their scholarship program.

Commissioner Pete Padilla thanked the City and the Parks and Community Services Department for their support of the Merced Youth Baseball league and the opening day parade and games.

V. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Jake Meneley, City of Merced Sports and Aquatics Supervisor, presented Jr. NBA Coach of the Year nominations to coaches Rob Carroll and Jesus Mercado.

VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Parks and Community Services Special Events Calendar-March 2008
- B. City Council Agenda Items-Action Taken in April
- C. MCAN Monthly Activity Report-March
- D. Code Enforcement-March
- E. Norene Borba-March Written Report
- F. Jake Meneley-March Written Report
- G. Eugene Drummond-March Written Report
- H. CA Department of Fish and Game-Game Bird Heritage Program
- I. Budget Reduction Report

M/S/C – Newhoff/Kuykendall motioned to accept the monthly written with discussions on the Code Enforcement monthly report and the Budget Reduction report.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Roberta Medina, Code Enforcement Specialist, updated the Commission on the homeless abatement meetings. The administrative policies and procedures have been submitted to the City Attorney's office for review and finalization.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS-ACTION ITEMS

- A. Juan Meza from Calvary Assembly of God church requested a fee waiver or co-sponsorship from the City of Merced and use of the City's bounce houses for an event the church will hold on May 24th at the Merced Open Air Theater.

M/S/C-Padilla/Newhoff motioned to waive the fees for the Merced Open Air Theater and use of the bounce houses for Calvary Assembly of God church.

- B. Jan Sorge of Children's Outreach Ministries requested use of Fahren's, Applegate, Gilbert Macias, Rahilly, and Stephen Leonard parks to hold a vacation bible school from June 16 through June 20.

M/S/C- Newhoff/Padilla motioned to allow Children's Outreach Ministries use of Fahren's, Applegate, Gilbert Macias, Rahilly, and Stephen Leonard parks to hold vacation bible school.

- C. John Carlos of the MDOGS group asked the Commission to approve the new Dog Park Ordinance with the two recommended additions from MDOGS.

M/S/C-Newhoff/Kuykendall motioned to approve the new Dog Park Ordinance with the recommended additions.

D. The Commission opened the meeting to public for discussion on the Applegate Park Volleyball, Top Spin Courts proposals before the Commission for consideration.

Speakers from the Audience in Favor:

Karen Adams, Merced County Tax Collector, President of Kiwanis Club of Greater Merced

See Lee, Merced

Dr. Long Thao, MD, Merced

Rocky Vue, Merced

Marlene Murphy, Merced Zoological Society

John Carlos, M-DOGS

Dr. Tru Chang, Merced

Speakers from the Audience Opposed:

Dr. Valerie Albano, Merced

Helen Regaldo, Merced

Philip Golden, Merced

M/S/C-Newhoff/Morford motioned to accept Option #5 as an interim site for the Top Spin Volleyball courts with a recommendation that the City seek a long-term site for the courts, possibly at the new South Merced Park.

E. Alexander Hall asked the Commission to approve a request for a public hearing on Parks and Community Services fees on 6/16/2008. The department is proposing a fee increase for FY 08/09.

M/S/C-Dossetti/Kuykendall motioned to approve the request for a public hearing on the Parks and Community Services fees on 6/16/2008.

IX. DEPARTMENT UPDATES-Alexander Hall

1. Budget Update-The department has submitted a preliminary budget. The third Recreation Coordinator position has been eliminated.

2. Park Planner-Gordon Gray will return to finish the Merced Dog Park, Flanagan Park, Garrison Park, and Applegate Park at 26th & M Street.
3. Murchie Park-Construction has begun. Should be complete by the fall. There will be a park dedication when the park is complete.
4. Flanagan Park-Bid came in at twice the budget. Public works will work with a local contractor to complete the park.
5. COM-VIP-Five new Summer Camp sites will be added. The new sites are Fremont Charter School, Rivera, Tenaya, and Cruickshank Middle schools, and Merced High School. Sponsorships are available.

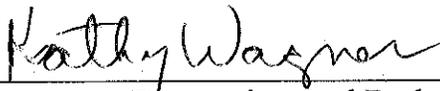
X. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Eugene Drummond clarified with the Commission that not all of the events on the approved Co-sponsorship list were budgeted items.
- Chairwoman Kathy Wagner thanked Councilmen Joe Cortez and John Carlisle for attending the meeting.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The Recreation and Parks Commission meeting adjourned at 7:42p.m. and will meet again on May 27, 2008 in the Council Chambers.

Respectfully Submitted:



Chairperson, Recreation and Parks Commission