

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

**MINUTES**

Meeting of April 27, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER

The City of Merced Recreation and Parks Commission meeting was called to order on Monday, April 27, 2009 at 5:35 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: Kathy Wagner, Virginia Morford, Marlene Murphy, Adam Cox, Pete Padilla, and Eric Nelson.  
Absent: Tony Dossetti. (Motion to change "Absent" to "Excused" at May 25, 2009 Commission meeting.)

Staff: Alexander Hall, Norene Borba, Eugene Drummond, Jake Meneley and Lindsey Johnson.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES- March 23, 2009

M/S/C - Cox/Padilla motioned to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2009 meeting as submitted.

V. ADDITION TO AGENDA – Children’s Outreach Ministries request to use Applegate, Fahrens, Gilbert Macias, Rahilly and Stephen Leonard park sites for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Summer Blast Vacation Bible School. Alexander Hall requested addition of this item to the agenda. Commission approved addition of this item to the agenda.

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COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON  
AGENDA

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Ron Peters, residing on East 26<sup>th</sup> Street adjacent to Applegate Park addressed the Commission regarding the parking situation near the game court area. He questioned user compliance in the “No Parking” zone, and the relocation of the courts to the South Merced regional park (CP-42).

VI. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Revised Applegate Park Zoo admission fees: Russ Vara, Merced Zoological Society treasurer, reviewed zoo admission fee increases as proposed in the April 16, 2009 written communication to Alexander Hall.
- B. Skate Park update: The City Manager met with Merced Police, Parks and Community Services, and Public Works Department representatives in response to the Recreation and Parks Commission’s March 26 letter regarding crime and graffiti. Police Department Commander Norman Andrade reviewed crime statistics regarding Applegate Park and the Skate Park and asked the Commission for input regarding the problems. The Commission requested increased patrols of the area. Mr. Hall will follow up with the Public Works Department and Merced Community Action Network regarding lights and a skate park paint over and provide a report to the Commission.

VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Parks and Community Services Event Calendar – May 2009
- B. MCAN Monthly Activity Report – March 2009
- C. Norene Borba –March Written Report

- D. Jake Meneley - March Written Report
- E. Eugene Drummond - March Written Report
- F. Monthly Cost Recovery Report
- G. Boys and Girls Club Project Refocus Report - February 2009
- H. Memorandum of Understanding (T.E.A.L. IV) between Merced County Office of Education and the City of Merced.
- I. Game Bird Heritage Hunt Program donation letter.
- J. Thank you letter from Dorothy Glaus – AARP Tax Aide Program Coordinator.
- K. Merced Zoological Society letter regarding admission fee increases.
- L. Recreation and Parks Commission Skate Park letter to City Manager.
- M. Revenue – Cost Recovery Goals
- N. Skate Park Report internal memorandum response from City Manager (*spelling correction approved at 5/25 Recreation and Parks Commission meeting*)
- O. Grant Application Draft – Proposition 84

The Commission voted to accept the written communications as submitted.

## VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Boys and Girls Club Project Refocus funding:  
Alexander Hall reviewed the Project Refocus: Year 2 progress report and discussed the less than 50% program retention of participants with the Commission. The City provided \$135,000 funding for the first year and \$100,000 funding for the second year

of the program. Staff will provide copies of the endowment fund procedures at the next meeting.

#### VIII. NEW BUSINESS - ACTION ITEMS

- A. Alexander Hall - Recommend Resolution for Funding under Proposition 84 for CP-42 Phase 1, McNamara Park Renovation and Flanagan Park Renovation. No motion was made; the Commission suggested that staff follow through and prepare a draft copy of the recommendation for support of the Resolution for Funding at the next meeting.
- B. Letter to City Manager regarding Merced Skate Park – The item was removed from the agenda and included in the discussion following Commander Andrade’s skate park presentation (Item 6 N).
- C. Alexander Hall – Boys and Girls Club Project Refocus progress report – July through December 2008. Report was included in Unfinished Business VII, Item A.
- D. (Agenda addition) Children’s Outreach Ministries request to use Applegate, Fahrens, Gilbert Macias, Rahilly and Stephen Leonard park sites for Summer Blast vacation bible school. Volunteer Coordinator Jan Sorge reported the program is in its ninth year of operation at City parks. It is provided by approximately 20 Merced churches and is entirely staffed by volunteers. This year the program will be offered Monday through Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup> at five park sites. It serves approximately 300 children per day.

M/S/C Padilla/Cox recommending Children’s Outreach Ministries prepare a letter to the City Manager requesting City co-sponsorship of the event.

#### IX. DEPARTMENT UPDATES - Alexander Hall

- A. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.
  - 1) Staff is waiting for funding from the Stimulus Plan for Rivera Middle School joint-use gymnasium project – the request is for \$1,990,367.
  - 2) The Applegate Park Expansion project (26<sup>th</sup> and M Street) – the request is for \$200,000.

- 3) The Flanagan Neighborhood Park – the request is for \$900,000.
  - 4) South Merced Mini Parks (9) Playground Replacement - the request is for \$657,000.
  - 5) Charles Ogletree Neighborhood Park (Bellevue Ranch) - the request is for \$1,000,000.
- B. Proposition 84. The Final Guidelines have been completed and Parks and Community Services is waiting for the State Department of Parks and Recreation to start accepting applications. Three projects are up for consideration contingent upon this funding: South Merced Community Park (CP-42), Flanagan Neighborhood Park, and McNamara Neighborhood Park Re-Use project.
- C. The new proposed priority is Rivera Middle School serving the Loughborough area. The City will continue working with MCSD on development of a new gym at this site.
- D. Budget FY 2009-2010. The department budget has been submitted at a 15% reduction of approximately \$320,000.
- E. The department is renovating the Easby residence at 1260 Buena Vista as a residential rental unit. A local property manager will be selected through the bid process to manage the property.
- E. No new Recreation programs will be implemented in FY 2009-2010 due to budget constraints.

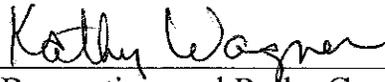
## X. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Pete Padilla thanked the Parks and Community Services Department for their support at the Merced Youth Baseball (*correction approved at 5/25 Recreation and Parks Commission meeting*) opening day event. Alexander Hall thanked Commissioners Padilla, Wagner, Murphy and Morford for attending the Richard Bernasconi Park dedication.

## XI. ADJOURNMENT

The Recreation and Parks Commission meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. and will meet again on May 26, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy Wagner".

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Chairperson, Recreation and Parks Commission