CITY OF MERCED RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MERCED CIVIC CENTER 678 West 18th Street

678 West 18th Stree Merced, California

MINUTES

Meeting of January 25, 2010

I. CALL TO ORDER

The City of Merced Recreation and Parks Commission meeting was called to order on Monday, January 25, 2010 at 5:32 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Merced Civic Center.

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

III. ROLL CALL: Recreation and Parks Commission

Present: Tony Dossetti, Eric Nelson, Bob Kane, and

Marlene Murphy, Pete Padilla, Virginia Morford

and Carl Pollard

Staff: Alexander Hall, Norene Borba, Jake Meneley,

Eugene Drummond and Michelle Reid.

Chairman Dossetti welcomed new commissioner, Carl Pollard.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-December 28, 2009

M/S/C- Kane/Padilla motioned to approve the minutes of the December 28, 2009 meeting as submitted.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON AGENDA

V. PRESENTATIONS

VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Parks and Community Services Event Calendar February 2009
- B. Norene Borba –December Written Report
- C. Jake Meneley- December Written Report
- D. Eugene Drummond-December Written Report
- E. Revenue Cost Recovery Report

M/S/C –Padilla/Kane motioned to accept the written communications as submitted.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Alexander Hall reviewed the memo that was sent to the City Manager regarding issues facing the Parks and Community Services Department. Some of the issues included changing the department name to Parks and Recreation, joint use agreements with the Merced Union High School District and the Merced City School District, which have City funds locked into indefinite projects. He also reviewed the Fahrens Park school joint use project with the Merced City School District. The District has a conversion request with the State that prevents the City from building on that site. The Commissioners also reviewed schematic floor plans of a proposed new community center in North Merced.
- B. Alexander Hall introduced the budget preparation calendar for fiscal year 2010/2011. He noted key dates for the department and asked the Commission members to attend at least one of the City Council budget study sessions.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS-ACTION ITEMS

A. Alexander Hall asked the Commission to consider renaming the Parks and Community Services Department the "Parks and Recreation Department" because the phrase "community services" has caused confusion for the public. They don't identify the department as parks planning and recreation programming. They presume the department offers social services for the community.

M/S/C-Padilla/Murphy motioned to rename the Parks and Community Services Department the "Parks and Recreation Department".

B. Alexander Hall asked the Commission to request that staff send a letter to the Merced Union High School District regarding the proposed Bellevue Road area high school before terminating the joint use and cost sharing agreements in an effort to afford the District time to discuss the issue. The District would need to make a decision as to whether it is going to build the new high school and gymnasium, which the City would have guaranteed use of. If not, the agreements would be terminated and the City funds earmarked for the project would be released.

M/S/C-Padilla/Murphy motioned to have staff send a letter to the Merced Union High School District requesting a decision on the new Bellevue Road area high school construction and to continue the item to the next month's Commission meeting for consideration.

C. Alexander Hall asked the Commission to consider requesting that staff send a letter to the Merced City School District requesting a decision on the proposed gymnasium at Rivera Middle School before terminating the joint use agreement between the School District and the City of Merced.

M/S/C-Padilla/Pollard agreed to direct staff to send a letter to the Merced City School District requesting a decision regarding the construction of a new gymnasium at Rivera Middle School.

D. Alexander Hall asked the Commission to request that the City sends a notice to the Merced City School District regarding the pending conversion of 3 acres request it has submitted to the State for the Fahrens Park school site. The City would like a Date Certain for the conversion or would like to have the request rescinded so it can develop plans for the site.

M/S/C-Padilla/Pollard motioned to have the City send a letter to the Merced City School District requesting a Date Certain for the conversion of 3 acres in Fahrens Park.

E. Alexander Hall notified the Commission that he had reservations with paying off the balance of the loan on the property at 1260 Buena Vista Drive. The City's financial status had not improved and it would not be in the City's best interest to pay the \$250,000 balance at this time.

M/S/C-Padilla/Pollard motioned to remove the item and not pay the balance.

XI. DEPARTMENT UPDATES-Alexander Hall

- Schematic plan of the new recreation center in North Merced. The center would be located on "M Circle" in the Bellevue Ranch development. It would be nearly 13,000 square feet and provide meeting rooms, a main hall, and a commercial kitchen. The City owns the land. The facility would cost approximately \$3 million dollars.
- Norene Borba is retiring in 2011. The department will need to be reorganized. The proposed changes are promoting a current supervisor to a Recreation Manager, which would report directly to the Director. The two Recreation Coordinators would be promoted to Recreation Supervisors in addition to the 2nd Recreation Supervisor. The three supervisors would report to the new Recreation Manager. The job descriptions would be updated in the process. Existing funds would be used for the positions.

X. GOOD OF THE ORDER

• George Sanchez updated the commission on park issues. Public Works will rip the ball fields as close to the start of the season as possible to avoid rain destroying the fields. The weather has made it difficult to access some parks so maintenance will resume when possible. The Dog Park drain has been installed. There should be no standing water after the rain.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The Recreation and Parks Commission meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. and will meet again on February 22, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Respectfully Submitted:

Chairman, Recreation and Parks Commission