

The monthly meeting of the Inglewood Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, April 3, 2003 at the City of Inglewood Council Chambers, located on the 9th floor of Inglewood City Hall. Chairperson Ralph Franklin presiding called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Commissioner Willie Agee – District I Commissioner Norma Smith – District II Commissioner Leticia Victorino – District III Chairperson Ralph Franklin – District IV Commissioner Frank Wilson – At Large

Also Present:

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department:

Sandra Green, Administrative Secretary
Sabrina Barnes, Recreation Superintendent
Kevin Hawkins, Director
Skip Halloran, Human Services Superintendent
Michelle Jordan, Program Assistant
Bruce Mills, Park Maintenance Supervisor
Alma Bryant, Operations Supervisor
Rita Gardner, Deputy Director

MINUTES

Motion for approval of minutes made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Wilson. Motion passed under the condition that minutes will be tabled until amendments are submitted to the office of the Director (Hawkins). (Attachment)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The 15 Month Agreement for the Training and Research Foundation was passed by Council.

The Division A Blue Team won the Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation championship.

Commissioner Franklin asked if the other teams won?

Sabrina Barnes stated only the Division A Blue Team won.

Sabrina Barnes stated the Cesar Chavez event went well.

Commissioner Franklin commented on the Cesar Chavez event, the layout was outstanding. He wished there were more people in attendance and suggested that perhaps one of the problems was the parking and the Department should consider Rogers or Vincent Park for the event. Overall the staff did an outstanding job.

Sabrina Barnes said most of the participants and guests parked at Hollywood Park and were shuttled to Darby Park.

Sabrina Barnes stated the Health Fair is April 12, 2003 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Commissioner Victorino asked if the Commission could get more flyers to distribute.

Sabrina Barnes replied she would get them before the meeting was over.

Michelle Jordan mentioned the VISTA's provide assistance to the Inglewood's Computer Lab which are partnered with the Southbay Area, El Camino College and the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA). The VISTA's also help with the outreach program and teach classes. The instructors are as young as 16 years of age to 42 years of age. There is a great cultural exchange with the program and has been very motivating for both youth and seniors.

Ms. Jordan reported on a program called Reaching Infinite Success through Education (RISE) connected with the College Lab which teaches the youth how to make resumes, computer skills, how to apply to a college, financial aide matters, how to write a college essay etc. She also reported on a SHAPE Program partnered with UCLA, which meet at Rogers Park Monday through Thursday from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The SHAPE program provides homework and mentoring assistance. All of these free programs have been very beneficial to the community.

Commissioner Franklin asked if an outreach program would be provided at the Lockhaven Community Center?

Michelle Jordan responded yes, if there is funding available.

Sabrina Barnes said the goal of the Department is to duplicate the programs on the east side of town (Lockhaven Community Center).

Skip Halloran reported that the architects have been hired for the Senior Center renovation.

Commissioner Franklin asked if it appears as though the Senior Center staff will be "filtered" to various locations.

Skip Halloran said at this point there would not be any filtering; every part of the Senior Center will be moved to one single location. The preferred location right now is the YMCA. The space is very nice. Construction will take over two years.

Commissioner Franklin asked if the overall construction would be over a four year period.

Skip Halloran stated that the project could be completed if there is adequate funding.

Commissioner Agee stated the time frame is accurate for the renovation of the Mural.

Commissioner Franklin asked if the area around the mural would be cemented?

Ms. Halloran said there would be plants around it.

Commissioner Franklin asked if there would be a slope into where the mural is located?

Ms. Halloran replied that there would be a slope.

Commissioner Franklin asked if there will be railing or fencing?

Ms. Halloran replied there would not be any fencing.

Commissioner Smith asked Skip Halloran if the Commission could be advised as to when the panels will be removed from the current site?

Ms. Halloran stated that the Commission will be advised when the panels will be removed.

Commissioner Agee asked if any of the panels had been removed?

Ms. Halloran replied that one was removed for testing.

Commissioner Franklin asked if the current location of the mural could be checked because one of the plywood panels was down.

Ms. Halloran stated the conservators were over at the site putting some facing material on the wall.

Bruce Mills reported on the Tree Maintenance Section. He stated that the crew has been cleaning the branches and trees that have fallen due to the strong winds. All of the athletic fields are looking good.

Commissioner Franklin asked about the construction that is taking place by Crenshaw Boulevard from Imperial Highway to Century Boulevard.

Bruce Mills replied that the Edison Company was being contracted to work on a project to provide tree maintenance services.

Commissioner Franklin said he saw the cherry pickers, but they are not only trimming the islands but they are doing the parkways and they too were looking good!

Alma Bryant said the Traffic and Code Enforcement Officers are involved in a Task Force to clean up the Darby/Dixon and the West Boulevard areas. She also discussed a joint Task Force between Public Works and the code enforcement division.

Commissioner Agee asked if it is true that tickets could be issued to individuals that wash their cars in the driveway.

Alma Bryant replied that in the future the Officers will start citing people (for a variety of offenses) due to environmental issues.

Commissioner Franklin asked if people could be cited for leaving their car on the grass?

Alma Bryant replied yes, if people leave the car unattended.

Director Hawkins stated this is an environmental issue and the focus will be on the worst offenders. He didn't project a door-to-door citing of folks. Constituents will be informed through public education before any enforcement of that nature would occur.

Commissioner Wilson asked if the citations go into affect, what would be the process, would there be a code, would the people go to the City Clerk?

Director Hawkins replied there should already be a code for washing cars on lawns. It is the water running off into the sewer that people will be cited for not washing cars. Again other South Bay cities are enforcing on environmental violations, but this effort (along with Public Works) is geared towards commercial enforcement, not residential.

Commissioner Franklin asked if there is a recycling process for the waste from tree trimming?

Bruce Mills replied that Western Waste is removing the branches, wood chips and palms as part of the recycling plan.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Franklin stated there was an item that came before the Commission in June of last year, and he would like to compliment the staff on the information given to him regarding Center Park and the Inglewood Unified School District/Worthington Elementary School. He stated that parents had requested a meeting with Councilwoman Lorraine Johnson and himself. There was a large audience in attendance in which they raised concerns for their children as they used the park

during school hours. This active parent group is planning to address these concerns to the Inglewood Unified School District and to the Parks, Recreation and Community Services, Director.

Commissioner Franklin asked is there a State or Federal Ordinance as to use of parks.

Commissioner Agee asked if there was any information on the concert at Vincent Park.

Rita Gardner replied that they did a walk through with the key principals. Staff plans to go to Council by the end of April. The Commission will be apprised of the status of the event in the future.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Agee suggested that the school board build playground equipment behind Worthington Elementary because Center Park is a Public Park. He stated he would like the School Board and the City to work together.

Commissioner Franklin stated to his knowledge there has not been much dialogue, if any, with the Inglewood School Board.

Commissioner Franklin asked that a motion be made for the proposal for the Computer Lab at the Lockhaven Community Center be approved. A motion was made by Commissioner Agee and seconded by Commissioner Victorino. Motion passed.

COMMISSION SUGGESTIONS, REPORTS AND QUESTIONS

Commissioner Agee commented that anything that means more education to the citizens of Inglewood, even if it's at less play area.

Commissioner Victorino congratulated the Computer Program and other educational programs going on at Rogers Park.

Commissioner Franklin stated the intent for the Lockhaven Community Center (built years ago) was to make it a safe place in which the Community would have recreational programs to help the children in their future endeavors.

Commissioner Franklin stated he would like staff to do an assessment of the programs at Center Park.

Commissioner Agee would like to commend staff on the removal of the illicit activity at Centinela Park.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m. Motion for Adjournment was made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Agee. Motion passed.

The next Commission Meeting will be held May 1, 2003 at the 9th Floor Council Chambers.