

The monthly meeting of the Inglewood Parks and Recreation Commission was convened on Thursday, July 10, 2003, in the City Council Chambers, located on the 9th floor of Inglewood City Hall. Acting Chairperson, Norma Smith 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 Frank Wilson – At Large

Absent:

Commissioner Leticia Victorino – District III

Staff:

Sandra Green, Administrative Secretary
Rita Gardner, Deputy Director
Sabrina Barnes, Recreation Superintendent
Trina Tyson, Program Specialist
Mike McLaughlan, Park Maintenance Superintendent
Eric Escobar, Engineer, Public Works

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JUNE 5, 2003

A motion for approval of the minutes from June 5, 2003, was made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Agee. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – CENTER PARK

Councilman Ralph Franklin, District IV, thanked the Commissioners for working together as a team. He commended the Commissioners for their efforts on a number of projects initiated and completed. He also stated there is still a concern about Worthington Elementary and the public utilizing Center Park.

Rosa Aquilar, District IV resident, stated one of the Commissioners recommendations towards the Center Park issue was handled very rudely. As a representative of the City of Inglewood, Commissioners should handle everything in a professional manner.

Joel Vallejo, District IV resident, stated it was a shock to hear the comments made by one of the Commissioners at the community meeting. If anyone is in a public position they should be more careful about what is said, "let's close the door on Center Park" was not a good comment for a Commissioner to make. Any comments made by a Commissioner should be thought out carefully before discussing with constituents.

Martha Vasquez, District IV resident stated the safety of the children is the main concern at Center Park. There needs to be a resolution of the Center Park problem very soon.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Soccer Fields

Rita Gardner stated a bid went before Council to re-sod the Soccer Fields and suggested the Commission make a recommendation.

Mike McLaughlan said the Department has been trying to improve the condition of the Soccer Fields. City Council asked the Department to conduct a survey. Mr. McLaughlan conducted a survey of several surrounding cities and concluded the best way to handle the matter would be to re-sod the fields. The decision was based upon costs.

Commissioner Agee suggested the basketball courts, baseball and football fields should be taken into consideration before money is spent on soccer fields.

Commissioner Wilson asked what is the total cost to re-sod the fields.

Ms. Gardner answered the Department has allocated approximately \$140,000 for both fields.

Commissioner Wilson asked how long after the re-sodding, are the fields expected to be in a useable condition.

Mr. McLaughlan stated it would take six to eight months before the fields would be closed again to perform replacement and patch work.

Commissioner Wilson asked after those six to eight months, how much would it cost to maintain the fields.

Mr. McLaughlan responded approximately \$4,000 -\$5,000.

Commissioner Wilson asked after that time frame, how long will the fields be closed.

Mr. McLauglan responded about 60 to 90 days.

Ms. Gardner stated Capital Improvement Funds from Prop A were allocated for this project. General fund money will not be used.

Commissioner Wilson asked if the fields would need maintenance after the turf is applied.

Mr. McLaughlan stated although the turf is guaranteed to last for ten years, the fields would always require maintenance after the turf is applied. The cost for installation is about \$116,000. Annual maintenance costs are estimated to be \$5,000 - \$7,000.

Ms. Barnes stated the life expectancy of the re-sodding is dependent upon field use. The restriction against wearing metal cleats will extend field life.

Commissioner Wilson asked what is the anticipated usage of the fields, and what would be the restrictions. The Commissioner recommends re-sodding of the soccer fields.

Mr. McLaughlan stated while surveying other cities they learned that restricted use extends field life.

Eric Escobar, Engineer, representing the Public Works Department presented plans and specifications to renovate the soccer fields at Vincent Park. Mr. Escobar stated due to sod maintenance and normal field recovery from soccer play, the fields would need to be monitored for youth, adult and for non-residents play.

Commissioner Wilson asked is there a way of monitoring this type of play.

Ms. Barnes replied there are no restrictions or monitoring of field use in effect at this time, but staff will be supervising field use in the future.

Commissioner Agee asked how would the regulations be enforced on the fields.

Ms. Barnes stated the soccer fields at Vincent Park are open by reservation only.

Commissioner Smith asked for a motion to be made regarding the renovation of the soccer fields.

Commissioner Wilson made a motion for the Parks and Recreation Commission to recommend re-sodding of the soccer fields at Vincent Park with the condition that the fields be monitored regularly. Commissioner Agee seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Summer Jazz Festival

Ms. Gardner asked the Commission to approve the selling and consumption of alcoholic beverages at the South Bay Summer Jazz Festival.

Commissioner Wilson asked if the approval would be for picnics at the park as well.

Ms. Gardner stated the approval would only affect large-scale festivals. It has been recommended that several trees be removed for sound perfection at the Summer Jazz Festival.

Commissioner Wilson asked how many trees are they requesting be removed.

Mr. McLaughlan stated the request has been for the removal of three twisting junipers on the right hand side of the stage and two on the left hand side of the stage.

Ms. Gardner asked if any of the Commissioners have gone out to see the trees.

Commissioner Smith requested the Commission go out to the site and look at the trees before making a decision regarding removal.

Addendum

Ms. Gardner asked the Commission to review the addendum to the minutes from Commission meeting of June 5, 2003, regarding Center Park. Ms. Gardner informed the Commissioners that there is a new District Superintendent and School Board President at Inglewood Unified School District. She stated a

meeting would be scheduled in the near future to discuss the issue of Center Park.

Special Enforcement Officers

Ms. Gardner stated new traffic citation books with the increased bail amount have been issued to Traffic and Parking Enforcement Officers. The handicap parking fee will remain the same. The \$5.00 increase should bring \$13,000.00 in additional revenue to the City.

Senior Citizens Center

Ms. Gardner stated architects are working on the plans to renovate the Senior Center and have begun demolishing the south-side buildings and will continue to do so through the month of August. Staff is still seeking temporary housing. Some programs may be set up in different locations depending on the size of the temporary site.

Transportation Mural

Ms. Gardner stated contractors will be removing fifteen panels per day from the "History of Transportation" Mural and the conservators at the Sculpture Conservation Studio will begin work on restoring five panels at a time.

Summer Food Program

Trina Tyson said there are seven different sites that provide meals for the Summer Food Program. Approximately 600 meals are served a day. The Queen Street site is a little slow and encouraged the Commissioners to invite friends and neighbors to participate in the program.

Commissioner Wilson asked if there is a problem getting enough people to eat the free food.

Lockhaven Community Center/Programs/Sports/Special Events

Ms. Barnes mentioned the following:

- Lockhaven Community Center modifications are underway. Bids would be out next month.
- > Day camps are operating well.
- ➤ Boxing Show at Rogers Park was very well attended. The Department was notified that some of the youth boxers would be competing nationally.

- ➤ July 4th Firework Spectacular had great feedback.
- The Market Street Arts Festival will take place Saturday, October 4th, 2003. The event is in the planning stages.

Commissioner Agee said the Department is doing a good job. Keep up the good work.

Street Tree Master Plan

Mr. McLaughlan asked the Commission if they had a chance to review the Street Tree Master Plan so that it can be presented to the City Council.

Commissioner Smith stated she hasn't finished reviewing the plan but maybe the other Commissioners can speak on it.

Commissioner Agee stated he had completed the plan and feels it is a good one.

Commissioner Wilson stated he also finished reviewing the plan but feels it should be tabled to the next meeting until all Commissioners have completed it.

Commissioner Wilson made a motion to table the Street Tree Master Plan until the next Commission meeting. Motion was seconded my Commissioner Agee. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

<u>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</u>

None.

COMMISSION SUGGSTIONS, REPORTS AND QUESTIONS

Commissioner Agee stated there are people damaging the fields and action should be taken.

Commissioner Wilson commended staff on the new format for the Commission Minutes.

Ms. Gardner said the Commission Minutes will be posted on the website in the future.

Commissioner Smith congratulated Councilman Franklin for his new position as a Councilman and his past position as Commission Chairperson.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. Motion for Adjournment was made by Commissioner Agee and seconded by Commissioner Wilson. Motion passed.

The next Commission Meeting will be held August 7, 2003, at the 9th floor Council Chamber.