The monthly meeting of the Inglewood Parks and Recreation Commission was convened on Thursday, March 2, 2006, in the City Council Chambers located on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor of Inglewood City Hall. Commissioner Norma Smith presiding called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., followed by the flag salute.

#### Roll Call

#### Present:

Commissioner Willie Agee – At Large Commissioner Cindy Giardina – District I Commissioner Norma Smith – District II

#### Absent:

Commissioner Irlanda Ordonez – District III Commissioner Henry Brown – District IV

## Staff:

Kevin Hawkins, Director
Sandra Green-Hilliard, Administrative Secretary
Stephanie Baltazar, Administrative Aide
Sikizi Allen, Senior Center Manager
Rita Gardner, Parks Superintendent
James Henry, Recreation Supervisor
Cheryl Jackson, Administrative Assistant

## **Public Comments**

No public comments.

#### **Approval of the Minutes**

A motion for the approval of the minutes from February 2, 2006 was made by Commissioner Giardina and seconded by Commissioner Agee.

## **Director's Report**

**Kevin Hawkins** stated good evening. It's good to see you three, especially you two who I haven't seen in a while; it's always a pleasure. Before I get into my director's report, the Parks Administration Superintendent needs to leave, so today she will be going first. Without further ado, Rita Gardner.

Rita Gardner stated thank you. I appreciate you understanding my brother's situation.

## Mayor's Town Hall Meeting

Mark Martinez and Rita Gardner attended the Mayor's Town Hall meeting on Thursday, March 24, 2006. The tree removal and tree trimming policies were covered. They also spoke about the tree trimming schedule.

Rita Gardner stated Commissioner Agee was there. We also mentioned that we are going to reinstate our fifth crew. Our fifth crew will be coming in shortly. We will be using them to do the trimming of the trees in the parks as well as emergency calls, removal of stumps, root pruning, etc. This will really help us because we have been back logged the last three years; a lot of people are calling asking why their trees have not been trimmed. We'd like to get them on board as soon as possible so we can get caught up. There are 26,000 trees throughout the city, so this crew is really needed.

## **Equipment Down**

The root pruner was down for about three months. The residents' are beginning to get anxious as to why we haven't pruned any trees. We are now back on schedule. We root pruned on Cullivan, Casimir and Penny last week.

**Rita Gardner** stated one other thing on the tree trimming schedule that you should have received in your packet is that we try to stick to the schedule. When we do get calls for different reasons such as emergencies, we get pulled off and so we have to try and appease everyone. Once we get our 5<sup>th</sup> crew reinstated we will be able to stick to the schedule. As you see we have a crew in each district.

Last Tuesday there was a staff report that went before Council. Because of your concerns, we were able to pursue a staff report for them to approve a resolution so we could submit a grant application to encumber funds for the 2002 Bond Act. We had projects that were earmarked and this was a presentation that was done in the past which you concurred with. We are trying to make sure that the grant application is submitted in time so that we are able to encumber the funds. The total cost of the grant we will be entitled to is \$811,000.

Last but not least, today we were trying to move the new container around at Rogers Park. Our Director was with us. There were several things that needed to be done. It is a new container for the North Inglewood Little League. It is going to be positioned right across from the little league field. We want to get it going and get all of the necessary appliances installed and everything working before the beginning of the little league season which I believe begins within the next three weeks. If you ever go by Rogers and I'm sure the North Little League President will ask you to come and join the Opening Day Festivities, you will get to see the new container. We will be able to sell hot food and cold drinks. We'll also be able to use it for our own programs. Any questions?

Commissioner Agee stated yes, a  $5^{th}$  crew that will be primarily for parks is great.

**Kevin Hawkins** stated primarily, but as Rita pointed out there is a crew in each district. The fifth crew is also the roving crew so when we get calls from Commissioners, City Administrators and various council folks, that will be the crew that will be dispatched to take care of those types of inquiries. Right now we are pulling crews away from various districts in order to accommodate Commissioner Smith, as an example.

**Commissioner Agee** stated each Commissioner has a district but I don't have one so I'll have to take the parks.

**Kevin Hawkins** stated it's the roving crew.

Sandra Green-Hilliard stated that is your crew.

**Commissioner Agee** stated that's what I want to hear you say.

**Rita Gardner** stated certain trees needed trimming like those at Vincent Park. We are getting ready to hold our summer day camp program and Mr. Henry always asks us to make sure that the trees are trimmed down in the areas where the kids play. We are so happy that we are getting the 5<sup>th</sup> crew.

**Commissioner Giardina** stated just one quick question so we can get you out of here Rita. The particular measure that you sent to the Council has to do with the bond that we discussed that also is for the projected water park feature?

**Rita Gardner** stated that is the one, it is included.

**Commissioner Giardina** stated thank you, it sounds wonderful. That's all I wanted to know.

**Rita Gardner** stated and it was approved.

Commissioner Giardina stated wonderful.

**Commissioner Smith** stated I have no questions, so Rita you may go.

**Kevin Hawkins** stated every time we get to this point it's like a teacher looking over to see whose next and everyone is looking down. Let's start with Ms. Allen. We're going to go with Human Services and you have to give us the background with what has been going on with you.

**Sikizi Allen** stated good evening. Trina sat in for me last month because I was in Senegal getting married.

**Commissioner Giardina** stated well congratulations.

**Sikizi Allen** stated I am Mrs. Wagne, that's the excitement that is going on in my life. But I'm back tonight to represent and I'm very happy. Thank you all for your congratulations.

## Temporary Relocation of the Senior Center

We are working together with city staff and the seniors to prepare to roll out the plans to meet the transition time and be out of the Senior Center on Locust by June 1<sup>st</sup>, and into our temporary location by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Which means our primary services and support will be housed at the Veteran's Building. Our transportation center will be housed in our transit center that's on Market Street and we are on hold and waiting on the decision where the remainder of the staff will be located. We are looking at City Hall, but that has not been decided yet.

Along with that we are preparing to go out to bid for caterers for our meal program. We are also actually holding meetings with the seniors and establishing committees with them so that they may also be involved with the transition of moving over to Vincent Park.

Sikizi Allen asked are there any questions regarding the move?

**Commissioner Agee** stated I think the seniors are really going to like it there because of the access they will have to the park. I understand you're building a patio.

Sikizi Allen stated we are building a patio outside.

**Commissioner Agee** asked is the kitchen well on its way?

**Sikizi Allen** stated we will not have a kitchen over at the Veteran's Building. We will go with catered meals and that is in the process.

**Commissioner Smith** asked do you have any questions regarding the relocation of the senior center?

Commissioner Giardina stated no.

**Commissioner Smith** stated you may continue.

**Sikizi Allen** stated we've also been recommended to receive a grant from Partnership for Families in the amount of \$32,000 to help families who are abused and neglected. The \$32,000 will be used to hire a full time care manager to oversee that program and work with the families.

We also received \$3,000 from Hollywood Park Racing Charities which will go towards the Oral History Project.

## Mural Project Update

Regarding the mural project update, applications totaling \$622,000 have been approved and the bids for the contractors opened on March 1<sup>st</sup>. The lowest bid we received was \$650,000.

Commissioner Smith asked what was the amount again Sikizi?

**Sikizi Allen** asked lowest bid or the amount of the grant?

Commissioner Smith stated the lowest bid.

**Sikizi Allen** stated the lowest bid was \$650,000.

**Commissioner Smith** asked and the total amount of the application?

Sikizi Allen stated \$622,000.

The Oral History Project under the direction of Ms. Elizabeth Norwood is focusing on the depression era. The kids are studying to act as docents. Skip is just ecstatic about everything.

Last but not least and this just happened today, we had applied for a grant at Kaiser for our Be Well Program in the amount of \$5,000. We received the \$5,000.

Any questions?

**Commissioner Agee** stated I'm just glad to see this project moving forward. You know I'm one of the committee members that has been with this project since the beginning and I agree with you. Skip is ecstatic and I tell you it is going to be one fabulous project. Everyone here in Inglewood is going to be proud of it and I will have my overalls on.

**Commissioner Giardina** asked to fit the era right?

Commissioner Agee stated to fit the era. I don't know what Kevin is going to wear.

**Commissioner Giardina** stated congratulations on everything.

**Commissioner Smith** stated you always bring us a lot of great news Ms. Allen. We always enjoy your reports, they are very informative.

**Kevin Hawkins** stated yes, they are always very informative. Sikizi mentioned the senior center relocation and she also mentioned that the target date for that is in July. We'll do a separate presentation on that. A lot of developments on that have recently occurred, but the just of it, so you know is that the senior center project has been on the books for a while and the move is required. We've also reported out to you the condition of Vincent Park and we've also talked about the Girl Scout building. We've had the opportunity to look at relocating a lot of the services to the Veteran's Building which was basically to coordinate our Recreation programs. We feel pretty good about what's in store. Once we start moving out we will come to the Commissioners to assist us in mitigating the impact on the seniors. Despite the fact that everyone has known about the move, the senior center is home. It's a place where you get information. You get your spiritual and you get everything there. To up root seniors from that no matter if it's a known facility or not, we are taking into consideration that there is still going to be an impact. We have already started reaching out to the seniors, but we are going to call on you to assist us in letting them know that it's ok and that there is light at the end of the tunnel.

With that, Mr. Henry.

**James Henry** stated good evening. It truly is a pleasure to see you again and to be able to report to you good news as always.

## Relocation of Vincent Park Office and Programs

Effective February 6, 2006, all programs and activities currently held at the Edward Vincent Park Office located at 700 Warren Lane were temporarily relocated to alternate sites. The Edward Vincent Park Office staff and Pre-school Program have been temporarily relocated to the Veterans Memorial Building. The Girl Scouts meeting place has been relocated to the newly renovated Lockhaven Community Center. At this time, it is not known how temporary "the move" will be for all involved. Programs and activities resumed on Monday, February 13, 2006.

#### Cultural Awareness Celebrations

The City of Inglewood hosted an array of activities during the month of February to promote and celebrate its rich cultural diversity and the arts.

On Saturday, February 18, 2006, Vincent Park was the site for Gifts: A Celebration of the Promise. A program with continuous performances, demonstrations and lectures was held from 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Attendance was minimal.

## Mobile Recreation Open House

In an ongoing effort to provide services community wide, on February 22, the Mobile Recreation Program hosted an Open House from 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. at Lockhaven Community Center. The event, which consisted of self-defense demonstrations, arts and crafts, face painting, music, refreshments, giveaways and Computer Class registration, was attended by over 100 youth and adults.

#### Cesar Chavez Day Celebration

Final plans are being made for the City's Annual Cesar Chavez Day Unity March, Recognition Ceremony, and Celebration. The event will take place on Saturday, March 25, 2006. The March assembly will begin at 9:30 a.m. at Hollywood Park-Gate 8. The unity march will begin at 10:30 a.m. Participants will march along 90<sup>th</sup> Street to Darby Park. The recognition ceremony and celebration will take place at Darby Park from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The formal program will include special guests, dignitaries, live entertainment, exhibitors/vendors, arts & crafts, a student art and essay exhibition, interactive games and a soccer tournament. This event is co-sponsored by the Inglewood Unified School District.

## Health, College and Career Fair

Preliminary planning is underway for the Annual Health, College, Career and Earth Day Celebration. The City will once again host three great events at one location. The event titled "Healthy Life, Healthy Living," will feature Health Fair Expo, College and Career Readiness and an Earth Day celebration. The event will be held on April 22, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Rogers Park. The one-day event is designed to encourage healthy lifestyles and bring awareness to issues that impact quality of life, including physical health, education and environmental health. Recruitment is now underway for medical and non-medical volunteers, representatives from various colleges and universities, and environmentalist. Services will be available and offered free of charge to participants, ages 2 to 102.

## 30th Inglewood Spring Adult Tennis Tournament

The City's 30th annual Inglewood Spring Adult Tennis Tournament will take place on March 11 & 12 and March 18 & 19, at Centinela Park.

#### Joe Kimble Invitational Tournament

The Joe Kimble Invitational Tournament concluded this past weekend with 8 City teams receiving on automatic berth to the Bay Area Tournament.

The teams represent youth ages 8-14. On March 10-12 these teams will represent the City of Inglewood against other Bay Area Cities.

**James Henry** asked are there any questions?

**Commissioner Giardina** asked what time did you say the parade for Cesar Chavez starts?

**James Henry** stated the Cesar Chavez parade assembly begins at 9:30 a.m. at gate 8. The unity march will actually start at 10:30 a.m.

Commissioner Giardina stated ok.

**Commissioner Smith** asked is that it Commissioner?

**Commissioner Giardina** stated yes, thank you.

Commissioner Agee stated I want to congratulate you on the Cesar Chavez Celebration. I would like to see something similar to that for MLK day. Everyone will be able to participate because let's face it; everyone does not go to church. The way Cesar Chavez's birthday is set up, everyone can participate in the march and the programs. I would like to see something like that for Dr. King's instead of the long march and going to church; not just a Christian service. I believe in church, but I want to see everyone participate and not everyone goes to church. That's my opinion and just wanted to get it off my chest.

**James Henry** stated so long as you feel better.

**Commissioner Smith** stated James, are there any plans going on as we speak for the Juneteenth Celebration?

**James Henry** stated yes ma'am and I'm sure my Director is anxious to expand on that for you.

**Commissioner Smith** stated then I will redirect my question to Kevin.

**Kevin Hawkins** stated you ask good questions. We are making plans for Juneteenth. To be quite honest, we are actually seeking funding for the celebration. We are looking at an outside funding source which I actually posed to our Interim City Administrator and I think it's a project worth while. So far we have received positive feedback. We are committed to have this one way or another.

**Commissioner Smith** stated I know we had one meeting, but I didn't hear anything else so I was just curious.

**Kevin Hawkins** stated we are proceeding but again it is tentative based on funding. I don't want to get too far out and make a commitment to find out we don't have that kind of money to pull it off. But once I get a confirmation on that you'll start seeing a lot more just like with all of our events. We do want to have it.

I had a chance to be a part of the black history month. We had a variety of celebrations. One was the spoken word that was held over at the Library Lecture Hall. It was done in conjunction with our SHAPE students and UCLA. I didn't know that there was so much talent in this community. If anyone is familiar with Deaf Poetry Jam that comes on, it was that and then some. We had over a hundred people there. We had some City employees who were there that I had no idea had skills. We also had high school and college students all anxious to express themselves. The only thing that was missing was some Starbucks. It was healthy, educational and a creative outlet. Eventually, we want to start getting more access, so you will be hearing a lot more of this. It was off the hook, off the chain, or whatever you want to call it. It was tremendous.

**Commissioner Smith** asked so you are planning on making this on ongoing event like once a month or once a week or what?

**Kevin Hawkins** stated hopefully on a quarterly basis. Right now the turn out was so high because we did it in conjunction with the student union of UCLA. We had folks flying in from Berkley just for this. They came to give their piece and left. We want to tap into that so our charge and challenge to them was ok, you are here today, how can we harness all this creative and positive energy and use it to continue this event and also promote and foster everything we are about throughout this community because it is a cross section of cultural. It was very positive and we are very excited about this. We want to get the library involved in it also.

**Commissioner Smith** stated I'm glad for that. My children attend poetry readings but they go to one on Fairfax once a week. But they should have something in their own community.

**Kevin Hawkins** stated well again I've been in talks with the Library Director Richard Siminski about doing things just like this. If you go to Barnes and Noble or Borders they have various readings and book authors who come through. We can do the same thing here and if it isn't in the main library we have the library lecture hall adjacent to it. With that, we are advertising to get it out. If there are pieces, we can do like linkages to our website and the library's. It can promote and foster the kids learning and reading up on the topics.

For example, there was this one girl who came up there and she was very shy and went from poetry to rap and rocked the mic. She had everyone up. If that is the future, the future is very, very bright. It was very uplifting.

Going over to Cesar Chavez, in order to increase the outreach, we have recently retained a PR firm that focuses on the Hispanic market that's going to seek to increase the attendance at the celebration. But also like in other city events when you look at it, Cesar Chavez is the one City event that pretty much represents the cross section of Inglewood. No other event has dual representation. But Cesar Chavez is one event that has the cross section of attendance. We would like to see Cesar Chavez belong to everyone just like Martin Luther King belonged to everyone. So we are taking that same approach. We will be reporting out in the future as to the success.

Finally the Health Fair, College & Career Day over at Rogers Park. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year that we've combined these events. They've all been separate events in the past. Each event targeted the same audience, so we decided to combine them all. This is a tremendous event. We are really looking forward to it.

Commissioner Smith stated thank you Kevin. You still have the floor.

**Kevin Hawkins** stated now we are bringing the new kid on the block. As you know we have Code Enforcement and Parking Enforcement as a part of our department now. We have our Administrative Assistant from that Section who is Marsha Turner's assistant, Cheryl Jackson.

**Cheryl Jackson** stated good evening. It is truly my pleasure to be a part of this and to be back under Parks, I'm happy. Basically I'd like to report on what's new and forthcoming.

Recently there has been a new enforcement group established called the Regulatory Enforcement Group which is comprised of Code Enforcement, Parking Enforcement, CSI (Community Service Inspectors) and SRI (Storm Drain Runoff Inspectors) units who handle the waste management items, parks, trash scavengers, and of course, the storm drains. This group combined has been very effective. Once something is sent in email, everyone gets the same email and is able to respond. This last week things have been handled immediately. It has eliminated "who is going to take charge."

We have been so short staffed and I am happy to report now we have just brought on eight new part time SEO's who handle our parking. We've got 13 new crossing guards and two new Code Enforcement Officers. We were really short. We even used Code Enforcement Officers to staff MLK they assisted the skeleton crew that we had. Training has been on going for about three weeks now. We are out in full force and working as a team.

Any questions?

**Commissioner Agee** stated all I'd like to say is this is your first time and you're already a pro.

**Cheryl Jackson** stated you are so kind sir. You always have questions, I don't mind.

**Commissioner Agee** stated that's all I have to say.

Cheryl Jackson stated thank you.

Commissioner Giardina stated pleasure to see you tonight Ms. Jackson. I actually have a concern. Because natural gas is so expensive this year, one of my neighbors paid for a quart of wood. They brought the wood and lined it up behind the fence on the side of the house. It's not visible from the street but somehow she received a citation. She told me this is really a problem for her because her mother lives with her and she is 87 and is always cold and if she keeps her gas on, she can't pay the bill so she burns the wood. She asked why she got cited for this. I believe that it may have spawn from neighbors calling in, so I was lost trying to explain it. She asked me to come down and look at it and it appeared to be perfectly fine to me. It wasn't scattered. It was stacked neatly. She paid to buy it and have it stacked. I was perplexed. Rarely am I short for words and I thought it was really interesting. I was wondering if we had some way to find out what's going on. They said it should be elevated and hers is. It's so far behind on the side of the house I really don't understand how it presents a problem. Maybe you can give me some insight.

**Cheryl Jackson** stated I'd first of all like to get the address and the information so I can look at what we are talking about. It is not visible from the street?

**Commissioner Giardina** stated it is 2518 West 80<sup>th</sup> Street. The house is so immaculate, well kept and landscaped. She told me she use to keep the trash cans on the side because she has a dog and her mother is so old that when she would take the trash out the dog was there. She placed them behind the gate. I told her honestly that I don't see a problem with that. We are neighbors so I don't really understand and she asked me if I could check into it. So for you to be here tonight is actually a gift for me.

**Cheryl Jackson** stated on one hand I really do need to look at the wood, because Kevin I'm sure you can speak more on it as far as it being a fire hazard. But I'd really like to look at the Inglewood Municipal Code, so I can see exactly what the violation is. It could be a multiple of violations as far as the wood itself.

**Kevin Hawkins** stated I think the main thing is what is your neighbor's name?

**Commissioner Giardina** stated Ms. Payne.

**Kevin Hawkins** stated tell Ms. Payne we will look at the address to see exactly what the citation was.

Commissioner Giardina stated it was the trash cans being visible from the street and then I think when they came they saw the wood, so they got off with two.

**Cheryl Jackson** stated the trash can being visable is definitely a citation.

Commissioner Giardina stated no she removed them and so she moved the wood and lined it up because it is a whole quart of wood that she paid \$300 for. Lord knows we need it sometimes, but for it to have been in the condition it is in, neatly stacked and away. The only person it is really visible to is the neighbor next door and I just don't understand. So I told her that I'd try to check into it, but I had a death in my family and the past couple of weeks have been really awful for me.

**Kevin Hawkins** stated we'll definitely look into it.

**Commissioner Agee** stated all do respect to the Commissioner.

Let me tell you what happened to me today. I had some trees growing in my backyard. I got up on top of the garage and cut the trees down and guess what I ran into up there? A possum. I had a fight with a possum today and I won. I don't know if the wood that is stacked on the ground can attract snakes. If you have it raised then I'm sure that would be a different story, but I don't know if that is the situation or not.

**Commissioner Giardina** stated with the problems we've had and it has been talked about on television concerning the infestation of rats because of all of the problems we've had with possums. But that doesn't have anything to do with that. The wood has been elevated. But like I said, I really didn't have a definitive answer for her.

Unfortunately I went in my garage the other night and a possum was in my garage, but I wasn't about to do battle with it because I have two guns and I thought if he wasn't so close to the hot water tank, I could fix him right now. So I just eased back into the house and now I nervously enter the garage every time because it was quite frightening. I believe this rodent issue is serious. It is defiantly something that we need to comply with, but I just need to know what the problem is.

**Cheryl Jackson** stated we'll take care of it.

**Commissioner Smith** stated see my dog takes care of all my possums; and Commissioner Agee I'd advise you to stay away from them. I think they're battling you.

Commissioner Agee stated I took care of him.

**Commissioner Smith** stated that's right you're a country boy.

**Commissioner Agee** stated I'm a country boy. I just hope they don't put me in jail for beating up a possum.

**Commissioner Giardina** stated no, they're going to let you off on that one.

**Commissioner Smith** stated we've kind of strayed, but Cheryl thank you for your report.

**Kevin Hawkins** stated there is no better Commission.

Commissioner Smith stated not like this one.

**Commissioner Giardina** stated often imitated, never duplicated.

**Commissioner Smith** stated we can't stay serious all the time. We've got to find some humor and we've managed to do that.

Cheryl Jackson stated I'm glad to be at this meeting.

**Commissioner Smith** stated ok Kevin, I'll turn it back over to you.

**Kevin Hawkins** stated just real quick as Cheryl mentioned we've got our new crossing guards out. You all may have heard about the crossing guards who have been hit, one in Norwalk and another one today. We have been talking to our crossing guards just to make sure they are briefed on their safety and we have units near them to make sure that they are monitoring traffic. The crossing guards are so important. Just in case it comes up, we are aware of it and are taking steps to make sure they are safe.

Finally, I passed out a couple of documents. The most recent one was the tentative schedule for the relocation of the senior center. It is kind of a projected time line, so as we talk about it you will have it in advance even though it is really tentative. What needs to happen is that they are relocated to the Veteran's Building by July and August, so you know what stage we are at when we talk about this.

The first document I handed out to you marked "confidential" is something I probably shouldn't have done, but did in being responsive to the Chair who had expressed that you all wanted to see the budget before it was submitted. Recently all the departments in the City went through a budget review. We have quarterly reviews and we just came up on our four month review. This is just a summary sheet; there are individual sheets that give more details.

But this gives you a snap shot of where we are at the four month period. These are just projections as to how we will be looking at the end of the fiscal year. Just as an explanation going from left to right, it is in numerical order. The budget for the Director shows that I have budgeted 4 or 5 staff members included in that section who have various projects and activities. The next section talks about the personal services what we anticipate saving at the end of the fiscal year. M&O stands for Maintenance and Operations, those would be any contracts or services and capital outlets. So as we are going down the various sections are Director, Park Maintenance, Construction and Development, Westside Rec faculties, which is Mr. Turner, Eastside Rec Facilities, which is Mario Smith, City wide Sports, Mr. Henry, Edward Vincent Park which is also Mr. Henry, Cultural which would be under Teresa Estrada, all Recreation sections are under the direction of Sabrina Barnes. Our non-profit that we have set up in anticipation of our mural project and soliciting donations for that. Human Services which are all of Skip's which as Sikizi pointed out Seniors Services. Parking and Special Enforcement which includes Code Enforcement as well as our Parking Enforcement crossing guards is under that section and finally 7090 is the Adobe, which is basically maintenance for the Adobe. So this is a snap shot of the budget and our budget process. Further down that is for general funds. Let me just clarify this. The top portion is for general funding, underneath is 7023 which is the street landscaping section which our tree trimming and things like that. That is Mark Martinez's crew. We have other assessments which fall under street maintenance. At the bottom portion are our grant programs.

#### Commissioner Smith asked what is Mr. Martinez's first name?

**Kevin Hawkins** stated Mark Martinez, which is our Tree Trimming Supervisor who is under the direction of Rita.

From 7051-7064 on the bottom section are all grant programs, so we separate from general fund, assessments and grant programs. Basically besides two of Skip's section everything else is grant funded and those would be from county transportation funds and some from our nutrition programs. We also get a CDBG allocation that we need to thank you for. Up until this point, what the CDBG process was is that you have non-profit go to Council and make their pitch and the Councilmember's would grant them various funding for their activities. Like other non-profits, we treat it the same way. We stake our success with our programs with anyone else. I talked about the spoken word which is really what this is funding. If you want to look at deliverables or successes stories, look inside before you start looking outside because we need those funds. So you talking to your Council folks, by the minutes we have been submitting as a result of these meetings, they do read them. Administration definitely reads them. So when we bring these things up and you do make motions, it does make a difference and that is how we got these funds. So those are some of the programs we are dealing with and that is kind of a breakdown of our budget.

On the general funds section on this point we are on track with over \$200,000 savings that's incredible given the amount that we do. We are still committed to fiscal control and giving something back to help the city's over all outlook. And then with our grants not a lot of savings there, but you are not supposed to have a lot of savings your are suppose to spend your grant money. All in all the budget review always goes well. We are commended for what we accomplish with the resources we have, we can always use more than what we have.

**Commissioner Smith** asked Kevin what did you say M & O was again?

**Kevin Hawkins** stated maintenance and operations. For example contract services or special expenses. Contracts with a particular vendor to provide maintenance for our computers or for any activities or operations that would be special expenses that go toward that.

Commissioner Giardina stated I'll just make it real quick. I would just like to say I am immensely gratified to see tree crew five reinstated. It looks like we managed to juggle the funds and really be very creative in how we are able to bring more resources back. I just wanted to ask Kevin with all of the construction and building on Century, are there any outlines for tree maintenance and tree landscaping that are available for us to review. Because I know that most of the renovations that are done in other cities, especially if you look at Gardena and Lennox, they are just so dramatically improved by the landscaping. I was just wondering if we had some sort of master plan on the landscaping to dress the newly constructed businesses there.

Kevin Hawkins stated good questions as always. The development you see on Century is part of the Hagen development. When there is a new development that has any type of impact it goes through the city for various sign offs for example fire, police department, public works, planning and then our section for any trees. We won't retain a copy of that, but we would sign off on that. So as it relates to overall street plans for that, it will fall in with the funds we recently received from LAX. Part of the funding that is being appropriated is for the development of Century. So that's been promised. The city is looking at environmental requirements and a general plan for the city and that is one of the elements that is going to be looked at. So once that gets further along, there's going to be a component in there when we talk about the streetscape and the landscaping and once I get a copy, I'll get that to you.

**Commissioner Giardina** stated I'd love to be a part of that. Thank you.

**Commissioner Smith** asked is that the end of your report?

**Kevin Hawkins** stated I was told that was the end.

Commissioner Smith stated I would like to adjourn this meeting.

**Commissioner Agee** asked are you adjourning the meeting?

**Commissioner Smith** stated I'm sorry I should ask if there is any new business?

**Commissioner Agee** stated I don't have any new business.

### **New Business**

None.

#### **Unfinished Business**

Commissioner Agee stated at Darby Park there was lady who took care of the cats but she is no longer taking care of the cats. Some of the cats are injured and I don't know who is responsible for picking the cats up, but someone needs to give a little attention to that because there is one particular cat that is running around with its side messed up and it looks really bad. Some of the people that walk up there complain about it.

**Commissioner Smith** asked is that in your neighborhood?

**Commissioner Agee** stated it's at Darby Park.

**Commissioner Smith** stated I guess you need to talk to the park supervisor and have them call animal control.

**Commissioner Agee** stated I've already talked to people at Darby Park, but they are still there.

One other thing I'd like to share. I don't know if you know about it but today was reading day at school and I had the privilege to read to 6 and 7 year old kids at Woodworth Elementary School and that was one of the greatest things I've done this year. I felt good after that. When you look at those kids you see how dedicated they are. It's amazing how the school system has turned around in the last year and a half. I don't know what happened but it's a pleasure to walk through the schools now and see their performance. I suggested to the principal that I would like to come back some time just to sit and talk to the kids about where I came from and where I grew up. It's the black kids who are being completely neglected by the black males and that should be changed.

**Commissioner Smith** stated thank you for your comments Commissioner Agee. You should be commended for spending time with our children.

**Commissioner Smith** asked Commissioner Giardina do you have any unfinished business or comments?

**Commissioner Giardina** stated I'd just like to thank everybody for their hard work and continue to stay well and we appreciate you.

**Commissioner Agee** stated I'm so happy the way Parks and Recreation is being run today. When I go into the parks, I feel good. The progress I see in the parks makes me feel good. All I can say is keep up the good work. Work a little bit harder if you can.

Commissioner Smith stated thank you Commissioner Agee.

**Commissioner Agee** stated I haven't finished with Martin Luther King's birthday yet, but I will.

**Commissioner Smith** stated I would like to adjourn this meeting in the memory of Commissioner Giardina's brother, Jarvis Adams. If we can take a moment of silence for Commissioner Giardina and her family.

Meeting adjourned 7:03 p.m.

# **UPCOMING DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

#### **PARKS**

- 1. Capital Improvement Update
- 2. Park Maintenance North/South
- 3. Park Construction
- 4. Tree Maintenance/Street Landscaping

#### RECREATION

- 1. April Skate Extravaganza
- 2. "All Star" Sports Camp
- 3. Health, College and Career and Earth Day Celebration
- 4. Grandpa's Truth

#### **HUMAN SERVICES**

- 1. Senior Center Temporary Relocation Update
- 2. Bids for Catered Meals
- 3. Taxi Company Meet and Greet
- 4. Multidisciplinary Team (Care Management)
- 5. Computer Classes
- 6. College Fair

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

- 1. Parking Fines Increase
- 2. New Parking Citation Books
- 3. Residential Permit Parking
- 4. Commercial Enforcement