The monthly meeting of the Inglewood Parks and Recreation Commission was convened on Tuesday, April 3, 2007, in the City Council Chambers located on the 9th floor of Inglewood City Hall. Commissioner Norma Smith presiding called the meeting to order at 6:01 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 Commissioner Henry Brown – District IV

Absent:

Commissioner Raena Banks-Neal - District III

Staff:

Kevin Hawkins, Director Sandra Green-Hilliard, Administrative Secretary Alma Bryant, Code Enforcement Manager Rita Gardner, Parks Administration Superintendent James Henry, Recreation Supervisor Trina Tyson, Human Services Program Specialist

Approval of the Minutes

Specific changes on page 6, one of my copies should be specific instead of explicit.

Commissioner Smith stated Commissioner Agee's phone rang twice during the meeting and she doesn't have a recording of the meeting and requested a tape recording copy for herself.

Commissioner Brown made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Giardina with some corrections, specific instead of explicit. Motion Carried.

Public Comments

Diane Sambrano stated she is thrilled there is an agenda that shows what is to be discussed and glad that item D (IV) has been addressed which shows that there will be enforcement in the area in need of attention.

Director's Report

Kevin Hawkins stated good evening commissioners. Before we get started, I wanted to introduce someone from our Legal Department, one of our attorneys, Mr. Jeffrey Lewis. Mr. Lewis can you please stand; he is assigned to provide assistance to several departments of which Parks, Recreation and Community Services, is one. Did you have any comments before we got started?

Jeffrey Lewis stated no I don't.

Kevin Hawkins stated ok. I want to thank Mr. Lewis as well as some of the members of the public for some of the comments regarding the agenda. I just want to be really clear that the agendas are meant to inform and actually the commissioners had made several comments about the format of the agenda and corrections were in the works. I have to thank Mr. Lewis because to be quite honest, as a lot of folks know, we've had a lot of changes in the City Attorney's Office and with each change all agendas were sent up to the new city attorney for review. So this isn't something that we arbitrarily did. We did check with the City Attorney's Office, now if they did a cursory review, that's up to them to say. But each time it would come back and we'd represent that. After some comments from members of the public, I have to thank Mr. Lewis for actually taking the time to listen to some of the concerns and making the necessary changes. As a result, what you see is that! So with that, as usual, we've laid out operational issues and deliverables through each section of the department. Beginning with our Parks Section, I'll start with our Parks Administration Superintendent, Mrs. Rita Gardner.

Rita Gardner stated I wanted to start off with Capital Improvement Projects.

Capital improvement Projects

- Ashwood Park Tree Removal/Replacement Project According to what we have set on going is the Ashwood Park Tree Removal/Replacement Project which consisted of the trees being removed all along the parkway. There were a total of 39 trees that we removed because it was breaking up the asphalt and creating a safety hazard. We removed those trees and replanted with Golden Rain trees. Public Works agreed to help us repair the sidewalk that had been raised by these trees. So that project is almost complete, we're just waiting for the grass to grow. We are irrigating it on a daily basis, and its coming along really well.
- Vincent Park Restroom Construction Project The other Capital Improvement Project that we have ongoing is the Vincent Park Restroom Construction Project. If you have driven by, you will see that the walls are up; we have the plumbing and the sewer complete and so it's going to be

a matter of maybe by mid-May or probably the end of May that the project will be complete. Bearing that we don't have bad weather!

• Circle Park Water Feature Installation Project – We have a preliminary cost estimate for the Circle Park Water Feature. We contracted a pool guy who has had experience in installing water features and he gave us a cost estimate based on our preliminary drawings and that is something that we would like to bring before you. It is very, very preliminary, it might be about \$200,000 with contingency fees designed, construction, labor and everything. When we have a formal copy, then I can come back and present it to you. Hopefully within the next two weeks we will get something formal.

Park Maintenance North/South

- The multipurpose field at Darby was reopened on March 3rd. What we did was we renovated the soccer field and it was very successful.
- Currently we are renovating Field A at Vincent Park, we just restarted this week and we are anticipating to re-open that field for play mid-May, if the weather cooperates with us and it stays warm. If not then perhaps the first part of June.

Tree Section

We have a tree trimming schedule, unfortunately we don't have it on the website. We are asking for an update of it and I can tell you where we are today. Our tree crew worked today in District I. We were in the 9100 block of 4th Avenue. In District II we were on Hyde Park/Welton Way; District III on Maple/88th Street and District IV on 101st Street between Eighth/Fifth Avenue.

Commissioner Giardina stated could you elaborate a little more on the pool guy and the renditions, the original ones? I tried to contact Goren a couple of times, I left messages and have gotten no reply. So what I was really looking forward to, I thought there was a possibility to have a newly designed rendition and I was just interested to share that with our commission.

Rita Gardner stated we gave the contractor the original rendition that was presented to you during the initial meeting and discussion that we had and we also gave him a copy of what their architects could come up with. It was a very elaborate plan, so he sort of took measurements and looked at the schematics and again came up with a very, very preliminary cost estimate. The cost estimate that I have includes furnishing of all concrete materials and labor to complete the above projects. He took the measurements and some of the drawings that we could lend him so they can be scaled down. It doesn't necessarily have to be that elaborate drawing that we lend him. Again we gave him 2 or 3 different

schematics, so he compared in each the measurements the simplest thick drawing that we could lend him to the most elaborate one.

Commissioner Giardina stated ok. Thank you. After the meeting may you just share that information.

Commissioner Smith stated thank you Rita.

Kevin Hawkins stated this project has obviously been slow in development and actually we had a request at a presentation from Public Works to provide you with an update. Here is what we know, there are a lot of projects that are pending and there are some resource shortages from Public Works but overall they're the project managers, we are the one to provide some logistical support. At this point, Public Works is developing a Capital Improvement Plan that has that particular project as well as the other city projects included in it. According to the Public Works Director, he either has or is in the process of submitting a plan to the Administrative Officers for their review and that's included in there. Apparently until that's submitted, we are not going to see any movement in any of our projects and that's unfortunate but that's the reality of it. So once this is submitted and we try to nail him down on when that actually is going to be, so we can see some movements. It is to occur soon, once that's submitted then we will have a better idea. But we are like you, we know that this has been dragging on; we know that it's out there. Once the CIP's or the Capital Improvement Projects are approved, which that will be one of them, we'll be better able to report out and then also get some folks to come up here to give us an idea of where we are with the project. As Mrs. Gardner reported out with the restrooms, for example, over at Vincent, we've gone and they've been delayed as you know now for over almost a year now. A May date is pushing it, ok, now we've been guaranteed that it's going to be done by the Jazz Festival, assuming that the jazz festival occurs again. So that's kind of the target date, so that's what we are holding on too. But keeping in mind, and the reason I report out in this fashion, is we are also consumers and users of it too. This is impacting our ability to provide park facilities for our park patrons, so we are a little frustrated also. But the reality is that we went with that particular plan and that particular model, the preengineered if you recall, with your blessing in order to expedite the process. I don't see much of it expediting in the process, so we're a little frustrated also; but again we know that they're working hard and they're trying. But at this point, we too are pretty frustrated with it; but May is pushing it and as we get updates that's actually better than what I reported out last because we were told initially, probably August. So we're pushing them for May, and that's where we are with those projects.

Commissioner Agee stated what is the possibility to get Circle Park done in house?

Kevin Hawkins stated in order to do it in-house, we would have to bypass every other project that's pending and take crews off of that and dedicate resources in order to do it, and we don't have the available resources to do it. We are trying to prioritize our projects, but at this point, if we were to use in-house staff, it would have to be a combination where we were looking at getting a contractor to do it and if there were some minor landscaping that we could do in-house staff then we would look at it. But in order to do the entire project, I wouldn't recommend that because, again, what you would be talking about is taking away from Parks Maintenance in all districts in order to employ that and that's not a good allocation of resources.

Commissioner Brown stated what was the cost of Circle Park when it was first brought to the Commission?

Kevin Hawkins stated Mrs. Gardner may have some idea but just keep in mind, when this originally started, Commissioner Giardina knows very well; she presented a proposal really to keep the cost down. It's pretty simple in its original concept; that kind of escalated to a promenade, to be quite honest, in which ballooned to over a million dollars I think from those estimates. It was downsized from which it was originally proposed to about \$200,000 we can get figures and we would have to rely on Public Works, but again depending on construction cost and things like that and materials. But really the cost should be stable if we were told 6 months ago that the cost was \$200,000 the cost should be \$200,000. It's just the matter of agreeing upon the scope of project, sticking to it and getting it done.

Commissioner Giardina stated I'm a little confused. I thought we had the money set aside for the project.

Rita Gardner stated it's a reimbursement process, so the city has to pay it and once we receive the new funds, then they reimburse the city. But nothing has been spent yet and nothing has been given to the city. It's a reimbursement process.

Kevin Hawkins stated as we just pointed out, there is an allocation from the state and once they approve then we commence the work. Once we complete the work then we submit invoices, and that's the process.

Commissioner Smith stated any further questions?

Kevin Hawkins stated our next section is Recreation and Cultural. We have Mr. James Henry to give the report on that section.

James Henry stated good evening. Presenting the community events for March and April for our recreation section, which is kind of extensive. We will try to condense them under the following categories:

- Cesar Chavez
- Inglewood Idol
- Skate Jam II
- Spring Tennis Tournament
- SMAF Tournament
- Health Fair/Fitness Bowl/Earth Day

Plays, readings, workshops and related activities coming to the Inglewood Playhouse at Vincent Park will be presenting, "He Comes Not to Destroy" by Nine Mills, playing April 6 – May 6 and Thursday, April 5th is preview night. Admission is free if you show your postcard. It is a very fictitious artistic depiction of the return of Christ. Preview of the Summer Recreational and Cultural Programs and Activities held in our very recreational centers will be Summer Day Camps and Digital Video Camp.

Summer Day Camp

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department is offering four exciting Summer Day Camp experiences for youth ages 5 and up. Each camp this year will be an exciting recreational and educational all-day program for the children. Kids investigate a different theme in each session as well as participate in periods of arts & crafts, exercise, dance and more. In conjunction with the hands-on explorations of the various themes includes: "That's Entertainment," "Wide World of Sports," Exploration Station," and "Be My Guest". Children also will enjoy swimming, supervised outdoor activities and field trips which are held two per session. Summer Day Camp is offered in two 4-week sessions with an extended day program offered before and after camp. Session 1 will begin June 25th to July 20th and Session 2 will be July 23rd to August 17th. Camp hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. The Extended Day Program is 7:00 to 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The cost of the Day Camp includes camp fee, field trips and a t-shirt is \$200 for Inglewood residents and \$216 for nonresidents. The Before and After Care s \$49 for Residents and \$56 for nonresidents and as I reported earlier, each camp session will include two field trips. Registration for these activities will begin May 7 for Inglewood residents and May 14 for nonresidents. As usual visit recreational departments for applications and information.

Digital Video Camp

This year the Digital Video and Television Production Training offered for our High School Students by the Inglewood Community Television and the City of Inglewood will offer a Digital Video and Television Production Training Series for youth, ages 13 thru 18. Students will receive "hands-on" training in broadcast camera operations from a staff of veteran and retired television professionals. Students will receive instruction on Filming for Television (Session I) and Editing

in Final Cut Pro (Session II). As part of the learning experience, students will film our Performing Arts Camp performance at the Amphitheater at the end of our Session II. Session I will begin July 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Inglewood Playhouse. The address is 714 Warren Lane located at the center of Edward Vincent Park. Session II will be offered August 4, 11, 18 & 25. The Inglewood Library will be the site for the 2nd session next door to City Hall.

Cesar Chavez Celebration

On Saturday, March 24, the City of Inglewood in conjunction with the Inglewood Unified School District held its Annual Cesar Chavez Day Celebration. The event began at 10:00 a.m. with a Unity March at Hollywood Park. This year the City was honored to have Maria Elena Chavez, the niece of the late Cesar Chavez, to serve as the Keynote speaker for the event. After Ms. Chavez delivered her thunderous and moving address, she then led the marchers to Darby Park where the Recognition Ceremony and Celebration continued. Carlos Amezcua from KTLA Channel 5 Morning News served as Master of Ceremonies for the event. Highlighting this year's celebration were special performances by Santos de Los Angeles, Mariachi Divas and El Venadito Estrada. Other activities included interactive and carnival style games, face painting, arts & crafts and exhibitors. The event also included a soccer tournament – featuring the 4th Annual Cesar Chavez Day Cup. More than 1400 residents, families and friends participated in the day's activities.

Health, College, Career and Earth Day Celebration

Final plans are being made for the City's Annual Health, College, Career and Earth Day Celebration taking place on Saturday, April 21, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Rogers Park. Highlighting this year's event will be the First Annual Fitness bowl. The bowl was birthed to mitigate the growing number of childhood obesity cases as well as promote the importance of daily exercise. Youth and adults will go through a small regimen of exercises under the watchful eye of certified trainers. The individual or team who finishes the regimen in the fastest time will be determined the winner. A theme "Healthy Life, Healthy Living," the entire event is designed to encourage healthy lifestyles and bring awareness to issues that impact quality of life, including physical health, education and environmental awareness. This event is co-produced by Inglewood's Parks, Recreation and Community Services, in addition the Public Works Departments.

Inglewood Idol IV

On Friday, March 31, 2007 the Rogers Park Boys and Girls Club hosted the Fourth Annual Inglewood Idol competition. The event was a huge success, nine participants from Inglewood showcased a variety of talent for over 150 guest. A variety of special guest also performed to make Inglewood Idol IV a huge

success. The 2007 Inglewood Idol first, second and third place winners were: $1^{\rm st}$ Fantasia Dance Ensemble, $2^{\rm nd}$ MVA and $3^{\rm rd}$ Ms. Judy.

Fitness Bowl

The First Annual Fitness bowl, as I reported earlier, will be held on April 21, 2007 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Fitness Bowl is a small exercise competition for all ages. But particularly for the youth, the competition is designed to educate the youth on the importance of exercise offered to decrease the number of childhood obesity cases in our community.

SCMAF TOURNAMENT

The City of Inglewood won the boys Divisions A, B and C. We also won the Girls Division B and were Runner's up in the Girls C Division. All teams qualified to participate in the CHAMPIONSHIP of Southern California being held March 31 and April 1, 2007. The Bay-Area Basketball Tournament is a prerequisite to being invited to the Southern California Tournament, in which we call the SCMAF Tournament.

SCMAF CHAMPIONSHIPS: The City of Inglewood was victorious in the Boys and Girls "B" Divisions. We were Runner's up in the Boys "A" Division and Girls "C" Division. Congratulations go out to all staff, coaches and the teams for a job well done.

The City of Inglewood Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department and the Police Athletic League sponsored the First Annual Basketball Showcase for the Inglewood Middle Schools. In this tournament, which was held at Rogers Park on March 31st, Monroe Jr. High won the tournament. We didn't have participation for the girls this year, but we are looking forward to including them next year.

Second Annual Inglewood Games

Darby Park will be hosting its Second Annual Inglewood Games on April 14, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There will be live music presented by Swing House Records and food, vendors, giveaways and a day full of fun. We expect skaters from all over the South Bay Area, the Inland Empire, and Malibu to attend this tournament. This is the tournament that we have at the Skate Park, it was very well represented last year and they're looking for bigger and better things this year at Darby Park.

Commissioner Smith stated jokingly, ok. Thank you for that long report.

James Henry stated jokingly, well at least you know we're busy right here.

Commissioner Smith stated Commissioner Agee.

Commissioner Agee stated jokingly, that was a long report.

Commissioner Smith stated Commissioner Giardina.

Commissioner Giardina stated you all are very busy.

Commissioner Smith stated thank you. Kevin over to you.

Kevin Hawkins stated jokingly, thank you and goodnight. Thanks to the concise report from our Human Services section. That's Ms. Trina Tyson. Trina take it away.

Trina Tyson stated good evening commissioners.

Mural Update

The second pour of concrete for the mural wall was held on March 26. Inglewood Cable TV filmed it as a segment of a TV series to be aired on the mural restoration project. Re-hanging of panels is expected to begin in mid-April. The Mural Committee will set the date for the Dedication event sometime this summer.

Senior Center

Many of the basic repairs to the Vets building have been completed. We are waiting for Public Works to hire a Project Manager so the major upgrades, such as electric power and heating/air conditioning can be done. Staff is ready to recommend terminating the contract of the current caterer and spending more money on a better one. Staff continues to work on a reorganization based on the myriad locations of staff and programs.

Family and Youth Programs

Many of our clients for Partnership for Families and Family Support Grant Programs are homeless. This is a growing problem.

The first field trip, to the Long Beach Aquarium, for the Mentors Program (seniors mentor foster, youth thru DCFS) was held on Sunday, March 25th.

We are working on a contract with the Inglewood School District to furnish the meals for the Free Summer Lunch and After School Program. The quality and

quantity of the food should improve. The summer lunches will be offered at 5 sites from June 25th thru August 31, 2007

Commission Brown stated when are they going to start on the Senior Center.

Kevin Hawkins stated we are waiting as well.

Commission Brown stated is it going to be a residential center?

Kevin Hawkins stated it is going to be a mix. The center has been gated and leveled, and there has been no ground breaking.

Food Service

There is nothing like being able to cook your own food. The Food Service now has been very inconsistent. We even sent Technical assistance to them to help speed up the process, and there is still no improvement. So we talked about discontinuing their use and bringing in another caterer; well the food has improved a little, but still is not consistent. So rather then go out and get a new vendor and cut this one out or wait until July when the contract ends is the issue.

Commission Brown stated what is the biggest complaint?

Kevin Hawkins stated they are not consistent, and something is missing.

Commissioner Giardina stated we should be in search of a new vendor. I would like to have the new vendor come in on a trial basis. To make sure we don't get stuck again.

Kevin Hawkins stated we are in a trial basis with the caterers they are going to propose. They must be innovative and creative. They have to be on a County Approval list. Our issue is we picked the best of that lot, which turned out to not be the best. We asked the county to change the criteria. Last thing I want to hear is that I didn't get a large enough serving.

Alma Bryant stated because of numerous complaints of violations at Center Park, Code Enforcement, along with Traffic Control and PD will conduct a task force on April 11, 2007. Our focus will be on enforcing parks, parking and business license violations. The hours will be 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Final Report

Kevin Hawkins stated this will be my last Parks, Recreation and Commission meeting effective April 20th. I will be leaving for the City of San Bernardino. I

thank all of you for the support you showed in me and being a compassionate commission.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Smith stated you could have waited for the end to do that!

Commissioner Agee stated I hate to see you go. Best of luck!

Commission Brown stated what clearly is to think back, it has been 4 years. You set a standard.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.