The meeting of the Inglewood Parks and Recreation Commission was convened on May 2, 2013 in the Council Chambers located on the 9th floor in City Hall. Commissioner Willie Agee, presiding called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., followed by the flag salute.

Roll Call

Present:

Commissioner Willie Agee, Chair – Commissioner at Large Commissioner Bill Sanders – District One Commissioner Cynthia McLemore – District Three

Absent:

Commissioner Norma Smith – District Two Vacant – District Four

Staff:

Sabrina Barnes, Director Stephanie Maldonado, Administrative Aide Rita Gardner, Parks Superintendent Michelle Jordan, Care Management Supervisor Arrick Turner, Recreation Supervisor

Approval of the Minutes

Commissioner Sanders made a motion to approve the minutes from March 7, 2013; seconded by Commissioner McLemore. Minutes were approved as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Sanders, Agee, McLemore

Nays: None

Public Comments

Mario Smith requested the endorsement of the Commission to return to his previous position of Recreation Supervisor upon the retirement Mr. James Henry. Commissioner Agee informed Mr. Smith that the Commission does not have the authority to endorse him. Commissioner Agee also stated in his personal opinion - Mr. Smith did a good job previously as a Supervisor.

Director's Report

Sabrina Barnes presented a staff report requesting the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend the Mayor and Council authorize of the submission of the artificial turf field compliance plan to the Department of Urban Development (HUD). Commissioner Agee stated his position remains the same as it was before saying the city needs a football field and it is time for the soccer players to stop destroying our parks. He also stated he is willing to accept CDBG funds to renovate field #2 at Vincent Park and renovate field #1 when the city can afford to fund it. Ms. Barnes asked if she understands that he would like for her to note for the record that the Commission stands by the initial recommendation. Commissioner Agee stated yes, Ms. Barnes stated it would be noted.

Sabrina Barnes presented a receive and file staff report regarding the Sportsman Little League Field Improvements per the Commission's request from March's Commission meeting. Commissioner Agee stated his issue with why Sportsman Little League put so much money into the renovation and North Little League hasn't put any. Ms. Barnes explained that North Little League didn't have to put in any money into renovations of the parks explaining money that was given to Sportsman Little League was used to do an infield at Rogers Park, ball racks and irrigation. Commissioner Agee asked if Sportsman Little League put money into the park why wasn't it explained to them before they invested money into Darby Park (referring to Sportsman only having privilege to the field from January to May). Ms. Barnes explained that the city knows that Sportsman Little League plays during a certain time of the year like North Little League does and we do block out that time for them but we did not commit to blocking the fields all year long for either leagues. It is a public park and at no time did the city agree to them (Sportsman) having exclusive use year-round. We have put in place a process where if Sportsman has complaints or issues they are welcome to talk to myself or the Supervisor. During the March Commission meeting, I understood their representative to say they'd like priority use and we consider priority use when their season takes place but after that it becomes a first come, first serve basis. Commissioner Agee asked if they were informed of this before they invested their money. Ms. Barnes stated, no. The city did not commit to giving them exclusive use and they were never lead to believe that. She went on further to explain Sportsman chose to invest their money in our parks and because it provided for improvements at two parks we welcomed it. They had an opportunity to go elsewhere and were initially looking at school district property. Commissioner Agee asked Ms. Barnes if she negotiated with Sportsman Little League. Ms. Barnes stated she did not negotiate with them; those were conversations happening beyond her. She noted she received direction from the City Manager at the time to move forward. Commissioner Agee asked if this item came to the Commission, Ms. Barnes reiterated that she received direction from the City Manager at the time which did not include bringing it to the Commission. Ms. Barnes went on to tell Commissioner Agee that she understands he has been very passionate about saying it should have come to the Commission and it very well should have but at the time the direction that was provided was to move forward and get it to Council. Commissioner Agee stated he thinks what happened is a disaster because Sportsman spent a lot of money for no reason and had it come to the Commission it never would have happened and doesn't understand why they can't have access to the field #2 exclusively. Ms. Barnes again explained that they are allowed to have use of the field during their season.

Sabrina Barnes presented a staff report and led a discussion recommending the Commission review and provide feedback regarding proposed increase to user fees for recreation programs, activities and facilities. Commissioner McLemore stated it doesn't make sense that the fees in Inglewood are lower than the surrounding cities. Ms. Barnes stated staff's recommendation is to add \$5-\$10 to the proposed sports offerings as well as \$5 to child care, with facility fees to remain the same and suggests changing the fee for the amphitheater for smaller groups who would like to use that venue.

Commissioner McLemore made a motion to approve the proposed increase of fees. The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Sanders, Agee, McLemore

Nays: None

Rita Gardner gave a brief report on the following items: North Park Outdoor Equipment – per Public Works staff, bid is ready to be mailed with the scope of work including the installation of a walking trail, sensor lights, six (6) pads with decomposed granite surfacing and six (6) outdoor fitness equipment; Siminski Park Basketball Court Renovation – project is part of the street improvement project that has been awarded to Black Rock Construction. Renovation will begin mid-May and should be completed by end of May.

Arrick Turner gave a report on the following Recreation Programs: Summer Day Camps will be offered at Rogers, Darby, Lockhaven and Siminski Parks. Registration for Inglewood residents will begin on Monday, May 13 and May 20, 2013 for non-residents. Camp will be held in two-four week sessions, for a total of eight weeks. Session I: June 24 to July 19, 2013 Session II: July 22 to August 16, 2013. The department will also offer a two-week youth basketball fundamentals camp for youth ages 5-14, which will be held the last two weeks in August, 19-30. The Edward Vincent Jr. Park Swim Complex will open up on Wednesday, June 26 and close on Monday, September 2. General swim is Wednesday through Sunday, from 12:30 – 4:00 p.m. The complex will also offer youth and adult swim lessons, parent & me swim classes, adult water aerobics, lap swim and family swim nights. Flyers and brochures for all of the park offerings will be available and distributed at the June commission meeting. The 65th annual Memorial Day Celebration will take place on Monday, May 27, at 11:00 a.m. in front of the Memorial Monument located on the South Mall courtyard area at Inglewood City Hall. Commissioner Agee asked if the Obelisk will be cleaned. Ms. Barnes stated she received an estimate of \$10,000 to clean so she will be meeting with staff from graffiti and it will be an improvement. Commissioner Agee asked if a cover for the monument can be looked into.

Michelle Jordan gave a report regarding the following Human Services Programs: Senior Nutrition Program is in the process of selecting a new Food Services Manager (applications due May 9, 2013) and a new caterer. A committee of seniors has been meeting monthly since September, 2012 to provide input into the construction of a new Senior Center at 111 N. Locust St. The meetings take place on the third Monday of the month in Community Room A at City Hall and are open to the public, who are welcome to voice their opinions and suggestions. The Be Well Program received \$22,000 Kaiser Foundation Hospitals grants through November 2014. The Summer Food Service Program will begin on June 21, 2013 and has expanded to include two additional sites: First Church of God and North Park. The After School Program has partnered with Los Angeles County Fire Department to provide safety information and the "Show Me" curriculum which includes hands on, up close demonstrations of the fire truck, hoses, etc for program participants. The firefighters are scheduled to visit all the after school locations. Sabrina Barnes mentioned to the Commission that a staff report will be going to the Mayor and Council regarding the Summer Lunch Program which the Commission has previously supported for the addition of the two new sites. She also mentioned to the Commission that Relay for Life will be held on June 8 and 9 at Crozier Middle School. She also informed the Commissioners that the Tree Division has been transferred to the Public Works Department.

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Agee stated he understands one of the long time employees (James Henry) is retiring in August and in his opinion it is going to be a great loss to the city because now that he is at Rogers Park it is a totally different park stating he goes there every day and the front of the

park has been cleaned up. He gave Mr. Henry the credit for doing that and wanted to know if he will be receiving a commendation. Ms. Barnes stated absolutely and anticipates some type of gathering for him as well. Commissioner Agee went on to express his concerns about Mr. Henry retiring. Ms. Barnes assured him that Mr. Henry is retiring of his own will. Commissioner Sanders shared his feelings about hating to see Mr. Henry go. Commissioner McLemore thanked everyone for their reports and their hard work.

Public Comments

Alicia Smith stated Mr. Henry did a great job in cleaning Rogers Park up and is looking forward to this years' Relay for Life. She also mentioned the open swim fee for residents and non-residents suggesting it should be a fee that is increased by a few dollars or so. She congratulated the department on the opening of the North Park restroom asking if the locks have been changed and if the cameras have been put up. Ms. Barnes stated yes the locks have been changed. Ms. Barnes also explained that the project was heavily supported by Public Works and that the cameras have not been put up. Ms. Smith recommended providing a venue for football.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.