

**Minutes
CITY OF UNION CITY
for the Regular Park & Recreation Commission Meeting
held at 7:00 p.m.
on Wednesday, June 10, 2009
in the Council Chambers
34009 Alvarado-Niles Blvd.
Union City, California**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE at 7:05 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL - Commissioners Dave Acosta, Shawna Curtin, Benjamin Liu, Adam Lopez III, Daniel Rivera and Chairperson Steven Nichols were present. Commissioner William Boylan was excused. Staff in attendance: Manager Jill Stavosky, Superintendent Rick Sealana, Secretary Helia Jackson and Secretary Rosemary Edge.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 13, 2009 Meeting

Commissioner Acosta made a motion seconded by Commissioner Lopez to approve the Minutes as submitted. AYES – 6. The Minutes were approved.

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (3 Minute Limit)

Leslie M. Green, Fremont resident, spoke about the need for lighting in Arroyo Park.

Gwen Dossey, Hayward resident, spoke about the new lighting at Drigon Dog Park. The group continues to raise funds for additional lighting. August 1, 2009 is the date of a “ribbon cutting” for the new lighting.

V. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None

VI. STAFF REPORTS

A. Leisure Services Report

Manager Stavosky reported on current activities including Summer programming, class registration and the Summer Concert Series.

B. Public Works Report

Superintendent Sealana reported on the budget adjustments needed in the Department and the budget workshops being held during the month of June. The needed budget cuts will affect maintenance in City parks. Superintendent Sealana encouraged all to attend the budget meetings. Current activities in the Department include 4th of July preparation, planned repairs to Kennedy Park restrooms, Kennedy Park lighting, the City-wide janitorial contract, new picnic equipment at several City parks, new concrete pads at Drigon Dog Park. Staff is working with Boy Scout volunteers to plant trees in the City. The Alameda County Water District recognized Union City as the 2008 Water Conservation Business of the Year for landscape water efficiency. Willow Park should

be opening on Friday, June 12th. Landscape work continues on Alvarado Blvd. and at 7 Hills Park. The Kennedy Park playground ribbon cutting is tentatively scheduled for June 23rd. June 27th will be the opening and ribbon cutting for the new Fire Station 3 on 7th Street. Superintendent Sealana announced the dedication of Veterans' Memorial Park, previously Hall Ranch Park, on July 4, 2009.

C. Tree and Landscape Review Board

There is nothing new to report on this item.

D. City Council Items Related to Park & Recreation

Manager Stavosky reported on current budget cuts in the Department which include the elimination of the staff training and membership budget. The Activity brochure will be reduced from four times per year to three times per year. The Commission discretionary funds will be eliminated. The community center operating budgets will be cut by 20%. The Sports Center will receive a 50% cut in the marketing budget, all community centers will be closed on "Dark Fridays" and the hours of the part time clerical staff will be reduced. It is proposed that the library's budget will be reduced by 20%. Youth Special Interest funding will be reduced by 100% which means the skatepark will be closed except for lessons and camps. The volunteer program has been eliminated. All special events and fun runs will be eliminated unless grant funds are received. Teen and Youth programs will receive a 75% reduction. The Kennedy Park Teen Center will be closed during the school year and only open during the Summer. The Holly Teen Center will be open during the Summer but the hours will be cut in Fall 2009. Two Parks and Playground sites will be closed. The Teen Workshop operating hours will be reduced by 50%. The LIT (Leaders in Training) Program will see a fee increase of 25%. Summer programs will eliminate the weekly field trips. The Special Needs program will be reduced 75%. The Sports Center's weekend hours will be reduced. There will also be a reduction in Staff at the Sports Center.

VII. COMMISSION MATTERS

A. Sports Center Report

Manager Stavosky reported that membership renewals at the sports center have been slow.

B. Sports Advisory Committee

Chairperson Nichols reported that the June meeting will be held on Thursday, June 18th.

C. Drigon Dog Park

The new lighting will be installed starting the week of June 15, 2009.

D. Adult Sport Leagues

Chairperson Nichols reported that there has been a drop off in the league sign-ups.

E. Future of Parks and Recreation in Union City – Measure WW

Commissioner Acosta suggested using these funds for volleyball courts. Commissioner Curtin asked about using Measure WW funds to pay for security cameras in City parks.

F. Establishment of Non-Profit Group/Fundraising

This item will be continued to a future meeting.

G. Union City 50th Anniversary Update

Manager Stavosky reported on upcoming events including the Interfaith Festival at Kennedy Park and, also at Kennedy Park, the Gathering at the Park.

H. Park Tour

Manager Stavosky suggested June 27th as a possible date for the Park Tour which could then include a stop at the new Fire Station 3. Possible stops on the tour include Veterans' Memorial Park, Drigon Dog Park, Willow Park, Fire Station #3 and the area known as Red Devil.

VIII. ITEM(S) REFERRED BY COUNCIL

None

IX. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (5 Minute Limit)

None

X. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

XI. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Rivera enjoyed the 50th parade.

Commissioner Curtin announced that she will resign from the Commission as she will soon be moving out of Union City. The July 2009 meeting will be her last meeting.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Acosta made a motion seconded by Commissioner Curtin to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. AYES – 6. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Edge, Secretary

