



GARDEN GROVE

MINUTES
Special Meeting

PARKS, RECREATION AND ARTS COMMISSION

Community Meeting Center
11300 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA 92840

November 29, 2018

5:33 p.m.

- ROLL CALL PRESENT: (4) Commissioners Perez, Pham, Ruiz, Salicos
- ABSENT: (3) Commissioners Baron, Ramirez, Ready

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Vice Chair Pham

- 1. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC: None.
- 2. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None.
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
 - 3.a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 11, 2018.

It was moved by Commissioner Perez, seconded by Commissioner Salicos that:

The minutes from the October 11, 2018 meeting be received and filed.

The motion carried by a 4-0-3 vote as follows:

- Ayes: (4) Perez, Pham, Ruiz, Salicos
- Noes: (0) None
- Absent (3) Baron, Ramirez, Ready

- 4. DISCUSSION ITEMS:
 - 4.a. Discussion on Parks, Recreation and Facilities Master Plan with consultant, Richard Fisher Associates.

Staff introduced Dick Fisher and Sue Leto from Richard Fisher Associates who conducted the interview for this meeting. Dick Fisher provided background information regarding the Parks, Recreation and Facilities Master Plan as well as a brief summary of what the City has accomplished so far and what is yet to be completed.

Mr. Fisher explained that the purpose of this meeting is to collect input and comments from the commissioners on how well the facilities, programs, and services are serving the community as well as what is no longer needed, and what services, programs, and facilities are lacking. They will also evaluate what challenges the City will face in the next 10 – 20 years.

Mr. Fisher explained the importance of this plan and how this document will help decision makers determine what projects are necessary without the political pressures from user groups as it will provide facts.

Commissioner Kenny Pham began the discussion suggesting the following:

- As a frequent user of the Sports and Recreation Center, he sees that the gym is frequently used for volleyball. He would like to see increased availability as well as installing outside (sand or grass) courts in the parks.
- Basketball courts are used very frequently as well.
- There is a need for more trails for walking and jogging similar to those at Haster Basin.
- Restroom improvements should be part of the Master Plan.
- Several park shelters need improvement; some are in deteriorating condition.
- There might be a need for another dog park as well as improving amenities at the current dog park.
- Install artificial turf as an alternative to keep up with the wear and tear due to the high volume use of the fields.
- The parks could use better lighting.
- Installation of shade structures at fields or over picnic benches to encourage additional programming at parks. An example of this is providing social open areas with shade to play chess.
- He has seen an increase of events in the community but would like to see our parks support bigger events such as festivals.
- Would like to see joint use of pools at the schools in the district or build our own aquatic center.
- Add attractions to our parks and facilities such as vertical gardens or light installations displaying art.

Commissioner Erica Ruiz made the following suggestions:

- As a resident who lives by Eastgate Park, where the trail was recently installed, would like to see more trails like that at other parks.
- Many people of her community including her son have expressed a desire for a skate park in Garden Grove.

- The condition of restrooms needs to be addressed. Her son plays Friday Night Lights at Chapman Sports Complex and the restrooms are in poor condition, and when are not open, there are porta potties that are in even worst condition.
- Need more lights in park fields for playing and practicing as schools have little to poor lighting.
- Need more handicap parking spaces at parks that hold special events.
- With the increase of baby boomers, there is a need for additional adult day care and senior programming that encourages socialization.

Commissioner Marisa Salicos suggested the following:

- As a frequent user of parks due to her children's involvement in sports, suggested improvements to restrooms at the parks and facilities. Many are not available to the community or are not in good condition.
- She would like to see a shade structure over play equipment at parks.

Commissioner Andrea Perez suggested the following:

- She conducted her own survey to residents in west and east Garden Grove; the main complaint is the condition/availability of the restrooms.
- The community wants more modernized parks as well as a skate park.
- Need parks or equipment that are geared for individuals with special needs.
- The community feels there is need for more parks or open space.
- More lights in the parks are needed for security purposes.
- Additional splash pads, or an additional pool to offer more swim lessons.

Sue Leto asked Commissioners their thoughts on what are going to be the challenges for the Community Services Department in the next 5 to 20 years to complete the parks and facilities master plan besides funding.

Commissioner Pham stated that community backing will be important; getting the public and followers to push this endeavor.

Commissioners also discussed the possibility of adding user fees to programs and facilities in order to assist with funding to build a new facility in the future. They discussed areas where they feel they may or may not have resistance from the community.

Mr. Fisher encourages commissioners to get the word out about the survey. Results of the survey will be shared with Commissioners at a future meeting.

5. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS:
None.

6. MATTERS FROM STAFF:

6.a. Timeline for Parks, Recreation and Facilities Master Plan Community Survey and Community Meetings.

Staff reported that a soft launch of the web-based survey is planned for Saturday, December 1. Much more extensive marketing such as advertising in the Parks and Recreation Guide, email distributions, postcards, park banners, a promo video, reaching program users, and social media is planned for the coming weeks. February 8 is the deadline to complete survey.

Two Community Meetings will be held in February, one on a Saturday (daytime) and another on a Thursday evening. Staff is looking at the option of having Facebook live for one of the community meetings to make available to those that cannot attend the meeting. Work stations will also be made available at different facilities for those that don't have computers or internet accessibility to fill out the survey.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:50 p.m., the meeting was declared adjourned to Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove.

SUGEIRY REYNOSO
Commission Secretary