

**City of Hemet
Park Commission Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 28, 2005
Brubaker Park - Snack Bar Conference Room**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

EXCUSE ABSENT COMMISSIONERS

The regular meeting of the City of Hemet Park Commission was called to order at 4:01 PM by Commissioner Neales, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Commissioner Bob Craig
Commissioner Janet Neales
Chairperson Joe Rojas
Mayor Roger Meadows

Members Absent: Commissioner Taryn Hoehne
Commissioner Joel Silva

Commissioner Neales moved to excuse Commissioners Hoehne and Silva. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Craig, and carried 3-0.

Also Present: Mike Gow, Deputy Public Works Director
Jimmy Berryhill, Deputy Public Works Director - Operations
Ross Cortz, Parks Supervisor
Maureen Losey, Assistant Planner
Kristen Cannon, Acting Management Assistant

1. **Approval of Minutes of January 31, 2005, Park Commission Meeting.**
Commissioner Neales moved to approve the minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Craig, and carried 3-0.
2. **Park Use Requests:**
 - A. **Park Use Requests -**
 1. **United States Youth Volleyball League (USYVL) - Practice and Games**
April 3rd thru June 11th on Wednesdays 5:30-7:30PM and Saturdays
9:00AM-12:00PM
(Returned for Discussion)
 2. **Jessica Bell - Birthday Party - March 5th, 12:00PM - 5:00PM**
Mary Henley [Large Gazebo by playground]
 3. **Eddie Montes - Birthday Party - March 12th, 12:00PM - 6:00PM**
Gibbel Park [Gazebo]
 4. **Jason Gilbert - Baby Shower - March 19th, 8:00AM - 3:00PM**
Gibbel Park [Gazebo]
 5. **Evelyn Thornton - Professional Medical Mgmt - Retirement BBQ**
April 23rd, 2:00PM - 7:00PM

Gibbel Park [Gazebo]

6. **Marsh Spell - Center Against Sexual Assault (CASA)j - Candlelight Vigil
April 28th, 15 minutes prior to dusk
Welch Green - Center of the Park**
7. **Melanie Beaver - BBQ Party - May 14th, 2:00PM to Dusk
Mary Henley [Large Gazebo]**
8. **Barbara Lowerison - Tarbell Realtors - Barbeque - June 26th 10:00AM -
6:00PM
Gibbel Park [Gazebo]**

Chairperson Rojas opened discussion on Item 2A1 and inquired if any new information had been received from the applicant. Kris Cannon reported information about the installation methods and estimated participation levels from the applicant. Chairperson Rojas suggested that the applicant be encouraged to set up in one general area to accommodate other practicing teams that may be looking to use the park.

Commissioner Neales moved to approve Item 2A2 thru 2A8 as presented, and Item 2A1 with the provision that the applicant will accommodate the space needs of other practicing teams. Motion seconded by Commissioner Craig, and carried 3-0.

Gow informed the Commission that a last minute Park Use Request had been received.

Commissioner Neales moved to add HVAA- Diamond Valley Arts Council as Item 2A9 to the agenda as an urgency item. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Craig and carried 3-0.

9. **HVAA/Diamond Valley Arts Council - Richard Leitz - April 9th, 10th, 16th,
17th, 23rd and 24th - 10:00AM to 5:00PM
Weston Park [Need entire park, electricity]**

Gow reported on the specifics of this item and stated that the event would run concurrent with the Ramona Pageant. Mayor Meadows suggested that the applicant be required to obtain security for the event from a private security firm, if security is needed.

Commissioner Craig moved to approve Item 2A9 with the condition that if security is necessary it will be the responsibility of the applicant to hire a private security firm to provide it. Motion seconded by Commissioner Neales, and carried 3-0.

3. Tree Removal and Other Requests from the Public:

- A. **Tree Removal Request - 751 Vista De Loma
(Saul and Elvia Benitez - 751 Vista De Loma)**

Mrs. Benitez stated that the tree in front of her property caused plumbing problems and she had to request plumbing services up to three times a year. She further reported a cracked sidewalk and driveway, and requested that the tree be removed.

Cortz reported that staff recommendation is to deny removal of this tree. Staff had not received any proof of plumbing costs being incurred.

Mrs. Benitez reported faxing over copies of receipts for services rendered by the plumbing company. Chairman Rojas requested that she make hard copies and mail them to Cortz.

Cortz reported that the cracked sidewalk at the area in question had been ground down previously. Discussion ensued regarding potentially root pruning the tree and installing a root barrier.

Further discussion ensued regarding options for removing this tree and planting another in an alternate spot. Cortz reported there were no other right-of-way areas at the address that would accommodate a tree. Mrs. Benitez reiterated that she is requesting that the tree be removed.

Commissioner Neales moved to recommend removal of the tree with no replacement, and replacement of the damaged sidewalk area. Motion seconded by Commissioner Craig, and carried 3-0.

Commissioner Silva arrived at 4:15PM.

**B. Tree Removal Request - 2625 W. Devonshire Ave
(Robert C. Raugust, Sr. - Hemet Joslyn Lawn Bowls Club President)**

Mr. Raugust introduced himself as the President of the Hemet Joslyn Lawn Bowls Club. He reported that there are four ash trees that are causing problems at the Lawn Bowls Club greens. He stated the trees have been a problem since 1995, and previous requests to remove them have been denied. He stated two of the club's lanes are unusable because shade from the trees is killing the grass. He further reported on attempts to re-sod the lanes, fungus in the soil, and expense incurred due to the problems.

Discussion ensued regarding soil content at the lanes.

Mr. Raugust further commented on the type of hybrid grass required and sunlight needs of the hybrid grass. He requested that the trees be trimmed back, at minimum.

Discussion continued regarding hours of sunlight on the lanes, trimming schedules for the trees and soil fungus. Commissioner Silva suggested any overhanging limbs be trimmed now, and yearly trimming of the trees be scheduled.

Fred Bertsch, 1360 Brentwood

Mr. Bertsch commented that shade was not the only issue. Tree roots were also a problem, as they encroached into the greens.

Commissioner Silva inquired if staff was aware of any disease in the soil. Staff was not aware of any.

Mr. Bertsch requested that two of the four trees be removed.

Mr. Raugust stated that if all four trees were removed, the Lawns Bowls Club would purchase four replacement trees for elsewhere in the park. Discussion ensued regarding replacement of trees by future gazebos.

Commissioner Neales moved to recommend to remove four (4) Ash trees and stipulate that Hemet Joslyn Lawn Bowls Club is to purchase four trees from the City approved tree list to serve as replacement trees to be planted at City determined sites within Gibbel Park. Motion seconded by Commissioner Silva, and carried 3-1.

**C. Tree Removal Request - 1380-1430 Cabrillo Drive
(Donald Palmer and area residents)**

No residents or representatives were present for this item.

Cortz reported that previous requests to remove three trees at 1380, 1410 and 1480 Cabrillo have been denied, but sidewalk repairs have been made. He further stated that problems did not start occurring until the block wall was installed. Liquidambar is on the City Approved Tree List.

Gow noted that the Magnolia at 1430 was leaning on the block wall. Discussion ensued regarding the potential for the tree to ruin the wall, planting the wrong species in the wrong

areas, and replacing potential removals with new evergreens. Cortz reported a problem with planting new trees is that the residents would need to water, which is not likely to happen.

Commissioner Silva moved to approve staff recommendation to deny all three removal requests and schedule trimming for the Liquidambar at 1380 Cabrillo Dr. Motion seconded by Commissioner Neales, and carried 4-0.

D. Tree Removal Request - Elk and Hamilton (between Acacia/Florida)

Cortz reported that two large pine trees were downed in recent winds and another had fallen near a mobile home the year before. Staff recommends removal of all 21 pine trees. He further reported that the mobile home park has been purchased by new owners who want to landscape the area around the park. The remaining Ash trees are not a problem and replacement of the trees would be considered pending a landscaping plan from the new owners.

Discussion regarding removing the pine trees now and waiting for the park landscaping plans.

Commissioner Neales moved to approve staff recommendation to remove all 21 Pine trees with replacement per proposed mobile home park landscaping plan. Commissioner Silva seconded the motion and it was carried 4-0.

4. Zone Change No. 04-5 and Tract Map No. 31970

Location: south of Devonshire/east of Myers/west of Cawston

(Richard Masyczek, Planning Director / Maureen Losey, Assistant Planner)

Commissioner Rojas opened the discussion of this item with possible lot numbers for alternative park sites.

Larry Ford, Reed Springs LLC

Mr. Ford distributed reference material to the Commissioners and discussed the proximity of the newly constructed KaBoom park.

Losey reported the KaBoom park was too small and that there should be one on site, at the development. Valley Wide has no future plans for park development at their nearby property.

Ford commented on perceived problems with the inclusion of a park in such a small development. He further commented that internal parks are usually found in smaller, gated communities only.

Gow stated options for the developer may be using an underground retention basin and using the same site for a park. He further commented on the obligations of maintenance for a basin or park.

Discussion ensued regarding ultimate agency responsibility for any basin. Ford inquired as to who would maintain an underground basin if the developer made the extra effort to construct it. Gow reported that the City would ultimately take on the basin maintenance.

Gow reported another option for the developer to be to pay a Park Development Fee for every lot and not construct a park on site. He further reported that a basin is more difficult than a park, to maintain and staff preference would be construction of an underground retention basin with grass planted above.

Ford stated that the developer would rather pay Park Development Fees and not construct a park onsite.

Discussion ensued regarding options.

Commissioner Silva moved to have a recommendation sent to the Planning

Commission for the following two alternatives, with preference noted for the first alternative:

- 1. No parks to be constructed on site; Developer to contribute Park Development Fees.**
- 2. Developer to construct a combination of an underground retention basin and a park at the northwest corner of the development.**

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Craig and carried 4-0

5. Commission Comments, Reports, and Oral Communications:

A. KaBoom! Park Update

Gow reported that children are already using the new park. He requested input from the Commission on species for approximately two dozen trees to be planted.

Mayor Meadows inquired about the installation of a flag pole at the park. Gow reported staff would add the flag pole installation.

Discussion ensued regarding species of trees, and the Commission deferred the decision for the tree species choice to Commissioner Silva to advise.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:08 and reconvened at 5:15pm at the newly constructed Hemet Youth Baseball fields.

B. Brubaker Park

**1. Remaining Property Usage
(Chairperson Rojas)**

Commissioner Rojas opened discussion on this item. Discussion included potential sports activities to be encouraged, a potential dog park, possible hiking and gazebos on the hill, and future vehicle parking and access. The Commission requested that staff prepare a preliminary study of uses for the remaining flat area.

C. Action Items List

No Discussion.

6. Communications from the Public

No communications.

7. Adjournment: *The meeting was adjourned at 5:35pm.*

The next regularly scheduled Park Commission meeting will be held Monday March 28, 2005, at 4:00PM in City Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

**Kris Cannon
Management Assistant**