

**City of Hemet  
Park Commission Meeting Minutes  
Monday, April 25, 2005**

**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 Chairperson Rojas, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present:** Commissioner Bob Craig  
Commissioner Taryn Hoehne  
Commissioner Janet Neales  
Chairperson Joe Rojas  
Commissioner Joel Silva  
Mayor Roger Meadows

**Members Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Mike Gow, Deputy Public Works Director  
Ross Cortz, Parks Supervisor  
Kristen Cannon, Acting Management Assistant

1. Approval of Minutes of March 28, 2005, Park Commission Meeting.  
*Commissioner Craig moved to approve the minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hoehne, and carried 5-0.*
2. Park Use Requests:
  - A. Park Use Requests -
    1. Sylvia Pimentel - Birthday Party - April 30<sup>th</sup>, 12:00PM - 7:00PM  
Gibbel Park [Shaded Tree Area]
    2. Craig Combs/For the Kids - Picnic with Live Bands - April 30<sup>th</sup>,  
12:00PM - 7:00PM  
Weston Park [Center park area/110 Electrical Hookup]
    3. Mary Esparza - Family Reunion - April 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:00AM - 6:00PM  
Gibbel Park [Large Gazebo/Horseshoe Area]
    4. Stormy Liston/Valle Vista Assembly of God - National Day of Prayer -  
May 5<sup>th</sup>, 10AM - 2PM  
Weston Park [Electric]
    5. Shawna Wilcox/Victory Outreach Singles - Rally/Live Band -  
May 7<sup>th</sup>, 3PM - Dusk  
Weston Park [Middle area to playground]
    6. Gary & Marylou Stephens - Birthday Party - May 14<sup>th</sup>, 11AM - 5PM  
Gibbel Park [Large Gazebo]
    7. Bobby Miller/Hemet Numismatists - Picnic - May 18<sup>th</sup>, 9AM - 3PM

**Gibbel Park [ Gazebo/Electricity]**

8. **Sarah Greenwood - Birthday Party - May 21<sup>st</sup>, 11AM - 5PM  
Mary Henley [Small Gazebo near side walk]**
9. **Michelle Johnson - Birthday Party - May 21<sup>st</sup>, 11AM - 5PM  
Mary Henley Park [Large Gazebo by playground]**
10. **Julio Reyes/Inter Cities Soccer League - Soccer Games -  
May 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> , 8AM - 4PM  
Gibbel Park [Open grassy area by softball diamond]**
11. **Sharon Albano - Party - May 28<sup>th</sup>, 1:00PM - 7:00PM  
Gibbel Park [Gazebo]**
12. **Inez Lewellyn - Birthday - May 29<sup>th</sup>, 1PM - 7PM  
Gibbel Park [Gazebo]**
13. **Barbara Gifford/Spirit of Joy - Picnic - May 30<sup>th</sup>, 6AM - 6PM  
Mary Henley Park [Large Gazebo]**
14. **Bonnie Travis/Shekinah M.B. Church - Church Speaker -  
June 11<sup>th</sup>, 10AM - 1:30PM  
Gibbel Park [ Gazebo]**
15. **Lisa Franke/WVHS Alumni Class of 1995 - Picnic -  
August 7<sup>th</sup>, 11AM - 4PM  
Gibbel Park [Large Gazebo]**
16. **Tim Hults/Hemet Juventus Soccer Club - Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> thru Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>  
continuous Saturday use from 8:30AM to 4:30PM  
Gibbel Park [Open turf to north and west of ball diamond]**

Discussion ensued regarding Item 2A3 and the times requested.

Chairperson Rojas opened Item 2A10 and Item 2A16 for discussion. Gow reported that the applicants for both of these items are soccer leagues; one is an adult league and one is a children's league.

Chairperson Rojas reviewed the specifics of the requests and commented on the frequency of use and multiple month reservation. Discussion ensued regarding the intended purpose of the park and the potential impacts of heavy use by these leagues. Discussion continued regarding possible alternative locations and options for limiting park use frequency in relation to both of these items.

***Commissioner Neales moved to approve Item 2A1 through 2A9 and Items 2A11 through 2A15. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hoehne, and carried 5-0.***

***Commissioner Silva moved to deny Item 2A10 & Item 2A16. Motion seconded by Commissioner Craig and carried 5-0.***

3. **Tree Removal and Other Requests from the Public:**
  - A. **Tree Removal Request - 1030 Bluebell Way  
(Mary Ann Steele - 1030 Bluebell Way)**

Cortz reported that this tree does have root problems, but is otherwise healthy. Staff recommendation is to deny the removal request and instead schedule root pruning, installation of a root barrier, and schedule grinding for the raised sidewalk.

**Mary Ann Steele, 1030 Blue Bell Way - Hemet**

Mrs. Steele stated that the tree roots have caused problems for the last three years. She reports the roots are located by the fire hydrant, water meter and sprinkler system. Discussion ensued regarding the locations the roots are affecting.

Cortz reported that this is the first time that he has been to this location on a tree related problem.

Mrs. Steele reported roots in her yard, beyond the water meter.

Chairperson Rojas explained that City policy is to save the tree if at all possible.

Cortz requested that root pruning and barrier work be done first. If the root problems continue, the item may be returned for review at a later date.

***Commissioner Hoehne moved to approve staff recommendation to root prune tree, install a root barrier, and grind the raised sidewalk. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Neales, and carried 5-0.***

**4. Commission Comments, Reports, and Oral Communications:**

**A. April 12, 2005, Council Action on Park Commission Recommendations of March 28, 2005 Parks Commission Meeting**

Gow reported all items approved.

**B. Tree City USA - Arbor Day Celebration and Tree Planting - Update**

Chairperson Rojas reported that the event went well. Discussion ensued regarding flying the Tree City USA flag at the library. *The Park Commission agreed unanimously that the Tree City USA flag should be flown on the fifth flag pole at the library.*

**C. Cawston/Devonshire Park**

**1. Park Name Selection - Update**

Gow reported that Council requested additional time to consider park names.

**D. Gibbel Park**

**1. Tennis Court Net Replacement**

Cortz reported that regular nets necessitate annual replacement at a cost of approximately \$300 per net. He is requesting the Commission's input on replacing future worn nets with metal mesh nets. The metal nets are more durable, do not sag, and last longer than standard nets. Cortz reported the cost of metal nets at approximately \$500 each.

Mayor Meadow inquired if staff was aware of any group or club that regularly use the courts. Cortz reported making the same inquiry and receiving no responses.

Cortz reported benefits of metal nets to be that they do not dry out or sag like the regular nets, and they do not need annual replacement. Discussion ensued regarding use of metal nets. *The consensus of the Park Commission is to use a metal net on one court and evaluate its effectiveness.*

**2. Tree Project by PAL**

Gow reported that the Police Activities League (PAL) has \$340 in grant funding to perform work

at a park and they are seeking input on a project. He further commented that trees are needed at the horseshoe pits at Gibbel Park, which may be an appropriate project for PAL.

Chairperson Rojas inquired about the trees at the second gazebo at Gibbel Park. Gow displayed a map of Gibbel park, confirmed that trees are already scheduled to be planted by the gazebo, and identified the area where PAL could consider planting trees.

*The Park Commission, through consensus, agreed that PAL should plant trees near the horseshoe area at Gibbel Park.*

#### **E. Proposed Dog Park Options**

Gow reported that the question of dog park placement came up at a recent Council meeting. He further stated there were concerns with locating a dog park near heavily used sports fields. An alternative location to consider is an undeveloped two acre property on the north side of Menlo, east of Kirby.

Discussion ensued regarding the impact on nearby residents, fencing the property, parking lot establishment, and turf possibilities. Chairperson Rojas suggested that staff return to the Commission with various alternatives for location and or design.

Discussion ensued regarding the existence of trees on the Menlo property. Cortz reported trees would be planted near the tot lot at Mary Henley and that number signs would be install on the new gazebos as soon as the contractor has removed the fencing and painted the underside of the roof structures.

#### **F. Action Items List**

Mayor Meadows suggested that gazebo #1 at Mary Henley Park be designated for parties who intend to set up jolly jumpers for children. Gow commented that this would not be a problem once the gazebo is open for use.

Discussion ensued regarding the health of the trees planted by the auto mall.  
Discussion continued regarding the effects of transporting trees dry.

#### **6. Communications from the Public:**

*Mrs. Steele, 1030 Blue Bell Way*

Mrs. Steele inquired about the possible installation of permanent restrooms at Mary Henley Park.

Commissioner Silva requested that staff visit Durango Park in San Jacinto for an example of a ½ acre interior park and return the item to a future agenda.

Mayor Meadows reported that the is also a ½ acre interior park in the Heartland housing track that is going to be dedicated.

#### **7. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 4:53 PM.**

**The next regularly scheduled Park Commission meeting will be held Monday, May 23, 2005, at 4:00PM in the City Council Chambers.**

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Kristen Cannon  
Management Assistant**