

**City of Hemet
Park Commission Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 24, 2004**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL
EXCUSE ABSENT COMMISSIONERS**

The regular meeting of the City of Hemet Park Commission was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairperson Rojas, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present:
**Commissioner Bob Craig
Commissioner Taryn Hoehne
Commissioner Janet Neales
Commissioner Joe Rojas
Commissioner Joel Silva
City Council Liaison Roger Meadows**

Also Present:
**Ross Cortz, Parks Maintenance Supervisor
Gerri Engelhart, Management Assistant
Anita Gonzales, Acting Park Commission Secretary
Duane Burke, Homeowner**

- 1. Approval of Minutes of:
April 26th Park Commission Meeting.
Motion was made by Commissioner Neales to approve the Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Craig; motion carried.**

- 2. Park Use Requests:**
 - A. Rose King - Family Fitness Center - Picnic
Gibbel Park (gazebo) - June 3rd - 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

 - B. Nydia Fernandez - Baby Shower
Mary Henley Park (large gazebo) - June 5th - 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

 - C. Claudia Venegas - Family Birthday Party
Mary Henley Park (gazebo) - June 19th - 2:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

 - D. Maria Cisneros - Birthday Party
Gibbel Park (gazebo) - June 26th - 2:00 p.m.**

 - E. Linda Walker - Hemet Valley Recovery - Picnic
Gibbel Park (pavilion) - July 17th - 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

 - F. Minister Edward LaCoste - When the Program Doesn't Work - Gathering
Gibbel Park (entrance & surrounding area to tables) - August 14th -
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

G. Blythe Brown - End of Year Potluck

Mary Henley Park (covered picnic area) - June 11th - 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hoehne to approve Park Use Requests A - G.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Neales; motion carried.

3. Tree Removal and Other Requests from the Public:

A. Tree Removal Request - 520 S. Carmalita St.

(Raymond A. Berkley - Hemet)

Ash trees (2) are allegedly infested with beetle boar and termites .

Mr. Cortz reported that at this time these trees show no sign of bug infestation and appear to be healthy.

Motion was made by Commissioner Neales to accept staff recommendation not to remove trees; schedule for light trim and remove all dead wood. Seconded by Commissioner Craig; motion carried.

B. Tree Removal Request - 451 Stockholm Ct.

(Duane Burk - Hemet)

Ash tree roots have damaged sidewalk, driveway, and irrigation.

Mr. Cortz reported that the tree roots have indeed damaged these areas. The resident, Mr. Burk was present and stated that he would like to replace his driveway, but not until the trees are removed. He also stated that he was willing to have a tree replanted (one with roots that don't spread out). Commissioner Rojas appealed to Mr. Burk to allow the root pruning/barrier method first before actually having to remove the tree. If it doesn't improve the situation, the Commission would again consider the removal request. Mr. Meadows suggested that we also shape-up the tree.

Motion was made by Commissioner Craig to accept staff recommendation not to remove tree, root prune, remove & replace damaged sidewalk, and shape-up tree. Seconded by Commissioner Hoehne; motion carried.

C. Tree Removal Request - 722 Robert Dr.

(Shandra Villasenor - Hemet)

Magnolia trees (3)- cannot plant grass because of thick spreading tree roots.

Mr. Cortz reported all three Magnolias have major root exposure above ground. This has caused damage to the driveway. After some discussion, the Commissioners agreed that the tree closest to the driveway should be removed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Neales to remove the tree closest to the driveway; root prune the two remaining trees; schedule the removal of all exposed roots on City and private property; remove & replace raised section of driveway. Seconded by Commissioner Silva; motion carried.

4. Commission Comments, Reports, and Oral Communications:

A. May 11th Council Action on Park Commission Recommendations heard April 26th .

B. General Plan Changes regarding Parks.

Councilman Meadows stated that the City Council had approved \$875,000 to re-do the Master Plan. A letter will soon be sent to all Commissions requesting one member from each to participate in the upcoming discussions.

C. Review of Park Use Requests (including review of Code Section 50-2).

Mr. Cortz stated that this information had been included for Park Commissioners to read & review per Mr. Gow. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Rojas stated that everything seemed to be okay, no changes necessary.

D. Alternative Type of Concrete Benches for Weston Park.

Mr. Cortz spoke to the Commissioners about selecting a different style bench than the double bolted style that was in the park. It is a style of bench that is frequently damaged and easily pushed over. He had a picture of another style bench, "Palm Style", that he felt would look nice and be more durable. It is a pleasing design with a higher back and the price is the same as the old style. Commissioner Rojas made a motion to recommend this change in bench styles to the City Council. Commissioner Craig seconded; motion carried.

E. Brubaker Park Update.

Mr. Cortz stated that Hemet Youth Baseball has not yet submitted design for the two new ballfields. This item is still pending.

F. The Horseshoe Group, Opening Tournament on August 25th.

The Horseshoe Group has asked to be permitted to have a tournament on August 25th even though the new portion of Gibbel Park has not yet been reopened. Commissioner Neales made a motion to approve their request. Commissioner Hoehne seconded; motion carried.

G. Action Items List.

Gerri Engelhart, Engineering Department, was present to update the Commission on the pending Memorial Monument project at Gibbel Park. She had recently met with a representative of Matthews International and had information to hand out regarding using bronze for the monument. Matthews suggested placing the proposed names horizontally instead of vertically. The cost of each name plate would be approximately \$130. When it was mentioned that seemed to be a high cost, Mr. Cortz added that less expensive materials don't wear as well as the bronze. They are also higher maintenance. The overall cost of the monument will depend on the header, size of the name plates, and the size of the City seal. The month of June has been set to have a Memorial design approved. Commissioner Rojas added that he still favors a book shape or V-shape wall. Currently, through Gerri's research, there is a list of 30 names. It was decided the monument should be large enough to accommodate at least twice that number of names. It was suggested that the plans should include lighting to be installed to help prevent vandalism. Gerri asked the Commissioners to give her an idea of how much money we should spend on this project. After Councilman Meadows assured the Commissioners

money was available in the Parks budget, they agreed that the cost could be anywhere between \$75,000 and \$100,000. Ms. Engelhart thanked the Commissioners for their time and stated she would be taking their ideas to the next Council meeting.

5. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Gonzales

Acting Commission Secretary