

City of Hemet
Park Commission Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 28, 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 PM by Chairperson Rojas, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Members Absent: Commissioner Taryn Hoehne
Motion to excuse Commissioner Hoehne was made by Commissioner Neales, seconded by Commissioner Silva, and carried 4-0.

Also Present: Mike Gow, Deputy Public Works Director
Mike Goar, Acting Parks Maintenance Supervisor
Richard Masyczek, Planning Director
Marilyn Hampton, Park Commission Secretary

1. **Approval of Minutes of:**
May 24th Park Commission Meeting.
Motion was made by Commissioner Neales to accept the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Silva, and carried 4-0.

2. **Park Use Requests:**
- A. Chelsey Hernandez - Birthday Party, July 3rd, 4:00-7:00 PM
Mary Henley Park [Picnic tables with cover, large area]
 - B. Brian Crater - Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times - Lunch for children with cancer, July 6th, 11:00-2:00 PM
Gibbel Park [Gazebo area and tables]
 - C. Shari Swaner - Birthday Party, July 11th, 8:00-5:00 PM
Mary Henley Park [Gazebo area]
 - D. DeAndre Collins - Believer's Bible Church, Picnic, July 11th, 9:00-5:00 PM
Gibbel Park [Gazebo at entrance]
 - E. Richard Smith/Maria Romero - Family Reunion, July 17th, All Day
Gibbel Park [Under trees]
 - F. Renee Mayorga - Family Reunion, July 17th, 10:00 thru dusk
G. Roger Brubaker Park [Near sports areas]

- G. Yanuci Castorena - Oseguera - Birthday Party, July 18th, 12:00-8:00 PM
Mary Henley Park [Big gazebo]**
- H. Brian Crater - Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times - Lunch for
Children with Cancer, July 18th, 11:00-2:00 PM
Gibbel Park [Gazebo area and tables]**
- I. Tina Poutous - Birthday Party, July 24th, 4:00 PM til closing
Gibbel Park [Shelter/Picnic area]**
- J. Brian Crater - Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times - Lunch for
Children with Cancer, July 30th, 11:00-2:00 PM
Gibbel Park [Gazebo area and tables]**
- K. Regina Parra - Birthday Party, July 31st - 3:00 PM
Gibbel Park [Gazebo] [Light, electrical outlet]**
- L. DeAndre Collins - Believer's Bible Church, Picnic, August 8th, 9:00-5:00 PM
Gibbel Park [Gazebo at entrance]**
- M. Brian Crater - Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times - Lunch for
Children with Cancer, August 12th, 11:00-2:00 PM
Gibbel Park [Gazebo area and tables]**
- N. Margie Arambula - Birthday Party, August 14th - 8:00-4:00 PM
Mary Henley Park [Big section]**
- O. Brian Crater - Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times - Lunch for
Children with Cancer, August 25th, 11:00-2:00 PM
Gibbel Park [Gazebo area and tables]**
- P. Brian Crater - Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times - Lunch for
Children with Cancer, Sept. 2nd, 11:00-2:00 PM
Gibbel Park [Gazebo area and tables]**
- Q. James A. Pomeroy, Jr. - Pomeroy Family - 90th Birthday Party
September 11th, 10:00-3:00 PM
Gibbel Park [Group picnic area]**
- R. Johnny Miles - Shekinah M.B.C. - Outreach for community
September 11th, 6:00-4:00PM
Mary Henley Park [Large Gazebo]**

- S. DeAndre Collins - Believer's Bible Church, Picnic, Sept. 12th, 9:00-5:00 PM
Gibbel Park [Gazebo at entrance]
- T. Mike McCarthy - Computer Connection Club, Picnic, Sept. 18th, 9:00-2:00 PM
Gibbel Park [Gazebo] [Power and BBQ's]
- U. Ray Patterson - District 7 Hemet Shuffleboard, Annual Kickoff - October 1st,
10:00-4:00 PM
Weston Park [Basketball Court]

Motion was made by Commissioner Craig to approve Park Use Requests A-U with the reminder on K that the park closes at dusk, seconded by Commissioner Silva, and carried 4-0.

3. *Tree Removal and Other Requests from the Public:*

- A. Tree Removal Request (3) - 571 S. Carmalita
(Debbie Hostutler - 571 S. Carmalita, Hemet)

Debbie Hostutler, 571 S. Carmalita, reported on the severely termite-infested condition of the trees and concerns that branches may fall and damage vehicles and property. Staff recommends removal of three trees and replacement of one tree.

Motion was made by Commissioner Silva to approve staff recommendation to remove all three trees, replacing only one with a City-approved species, seconded by Commissioner Neales, and carried 4-0.

- B. Tree Removal Request (2) - 1117 Checkerberry Ct.
(Jo Ann Mayhew - 1117 Checkerberry Ct., Hemet)

Tree roots from the northernmost of two trees have destroyed the brick planter, lifted the rocks, and are heading toward the foundation and water meter. Staff recommends removing the northernmost tree to relieve root problem and no replacement.

Motion was made by Commissioner Neales to approve staff recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Silva, and carried 4-0.

- C. Tree Removal Request - 1253 Val Monte Dr.
(Lois Hicks - 1253 Val Monte Dr., Hemet)

Staff recommends removal of the termite-infested tree and replacement with a City-approved species.

Motion was made by Commissioner Neales to approve staff recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Neales, and carried 4-0.

- D. Tree Removal Request (2) - 1252 Val Monte Dr.
(Janet Rathbun - 1252 Val Monte Dr., Hemet)

Staff recommends removal of the termite-infested trees and replacement of only one tree with a City-approved species.

Motion was made by Commissioner Neales to approve staff recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Neales, and carried 4-0.

4. Commission Comments, Reports, and Oral Communications:

**A. June 22nd Council Action on Commission Recommendations from May 24th.
Council approved all recommendations.**

**B. Discussion of Initiative Approved by the Voters.
(Richard Masyczek, Planning Director)**

Mr. Masyczek led discussion and answered questions. The item will be returned to the City Council on July 21st with a report from each Commission. He stated the Council has the option of either approving the Initiative on 7/21 or placing it on a special election or general election ballot. After discussion, it was decided that Mr. Masyczek will prepare a summary report of the Commission's comments for Council for Chairman Rojas's review and signature.

**C. Update on Permanent Memorial for Veterans from All Wars - Gibbel Park.
(Gerri Engelhart - Engineering Department)**

Mr. Gow stated Ms. Engelhart met with a manufacturer and will bring more detailed features of the memorial to the next meeting. It is felt that there should be an option for adding names to the memorial as they are discovered. The item will be placed on the July 26th agenda. It is anticipated that a decision regarding the memorial will be made at that time. The Commissioners will visit the park site during the last phase of the July 26th meeting.

D. Removal of old Baseball Backstop and old Horseshoe Pits - Gibbel Park.
Mike Goar, Acting Parks Supervisor, stated the 30-year-old backstop has been welded several times, is rusted and is falling apart. He recommended removing it. He felt that the bases and pitching mound could be removed. After discussion, the Commission felt that the old backstop, bases, and pitching mound should be removed and replaced with grass. Observation will be made as to how the new area develops and is used before determining if and where a new backstop should be placed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Craig to remove the old baseball backstop, bases, pitching mound, and the old horseshoe pits and replace them with grass, seconded by Commissioner Neales, and carried 4-0.

E. Chambers Landscaping, State to Gilbert.

Mr. Gow stated that Chambers was improved between State and Gilbert with curb, gutters, sidewalk, and a block wall on the north side at the Chambers Middle School. Followup landscaping improvements are recommended similar to those which City crews installed in front of Harmony Elementary on the east side of Cawston.

Motion was made by Commissioner Neales to recommend to Council that African Sumac trees be planted every 40 feet, as well as shrubs every 8 feet, similar to those in front of Harmony Elementary, and wood chips for ground cover, seconded by Silva, and carried 4-0.

**F. Action Items List.
Informational only.**

5. *Communications from the Public:*

Mr. Gow reported that staff has been directed to prepare a plan for a park at Thornton and Cawston beneath the Edison power lines. The area is approximately 3 acres, 1,000 feet long, 200 feet deep, and 3/4 mile from Brubaker Park. Plans include a grassy area on the perimeter, sidewalk, walking area, two full basketball courts, tot lot, and gazebo. Commissioner Silva felt the plan would be a nice use of the land. Power poles run through the middle of the area and a drainage ditch is next to it which keeps the area from flooding.

Preliminary comments will be on the July agenda.

Homeowner Susan Davis, 1365 Beckett Court, stated she is a homeowner on the other side of the wall. She is a member of Valley Beautiful and encouraged the Commission to approve drought-tolerant plants.

Mr. Gow stated the land acquisition is not included in the \$300,000 proposed cost. Grant funds are available. The remnant parcel is owned by the developer of the adjacent homes. Gow stated the cost does not include the retention basin on Cawston which needs to be protected with new fencing. The elimination of the basin on the east and north side is currently planned.

Mr. Gow stated a meeting was held with the State's grant representative for a park at Devonshire and Cawston behind the new fire station, resulting in positive comments.

Commissioner Silva stated there are pads for more benches at Mary Henley Park. The Commission discussed the possibility of fencing the park in to eliminate vehicles from driving onto the grass and to keep children from running out onto Kirby. Council Member Meadows suggested creating an indentation on the west side specifically for loading and unloading. He stated there is graffiti on the bench near the sidewalk on the southeast corner of the park.

The item will be placed on the July agenda.

6. *Adjournment:*

At 5:04 PM, the meeting was adjourned. The next regularly-scheduled Park Commission meeting will be held Monday, July 26th at 4:00 PM in City Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Hampton
Park Commission Secretary