



CITY OF HEMET
Park Commission Minutes
Monday, October 30, 2006
4:00 PM

City Council Chambers
450 E. Latham Avenue
Hemet, CA 92543

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

Members Present: Commissioner Taryn Hoehne
Chairperson Janet Neales
Commissioner Frank Souther
Commissioner Gabriel Vigil
Vice-Chairperson Jan Wright
Council Member Roger Meadows

Members Absent: *All members present*

Staff Present: Mike Gow, Public Works Director/City Engineer; Jimmy Berryhill, Public Works Operations Director; Ross Cortz, Parks Supervisor; Perry Hewitt, Park Ranger; Kris Cannon, Management Assistant

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL
EXCUSE ABSENT COMMISSIONERS

1. Approval of Minutes of September 25, 2006, Park Commission Meeting.
Commissioner Hoehne moved to approve minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Wright and carried 5-0.

Move to item 5.

2. Park Use Requests:
 - A. Tony Carrillo - Birthday Party - November 4th, 1pm-6pm *Dusk*
Mary Henley [Gazebo #1 / Jumper]
 - B. Mary Williams - Birthday party - November 5th, 12pm - 4pm
Mary Henley [Gazebo #1 / Jumper]
 - C. Kim Long - Birthday Party - November 11th, 9:30am - 5:30pm *Dusk*
Mary Henley [Gazebo #1 / Jumper]
 - D. Stephanie Ward - Birthday Party - November 18th, 10am - 6pm *Dusk*
Mary Henley [Gazebo #1 / Jumper]
Commissioner Hoehne moved to approve Items 2A thru 2D with the following notations: Items 2A, 2C, and 2D, change end time of event to Dusk. Motion seconded by Commissioner Souther, and carried 5-0.

- E. "12 Hours of Southern California" mountain bike series - January 2007

Simpson Park - (Update)

Hewitt updated the Commission on additional requests made by Jason Ranoa of "12 Hours of Southern California" (Item 2E). These requests included providing authorization for limited campers, access to service roads if necessary for medical response, and permission to park a recreational vehicle overnight the night before the race. According to Hewitt, Mr. Ranoa expects that there will be 150-250 entrants to the race and six to seven vendors representing an additional 50 people. Mr. Ranoa has also committed to supplying portable restrooms for use if the volume of entrants and participants exceeds the 200 people per day volume of the existing restroom facilities. Hewitt further reported that Mr. Ranoa maintains a medical insurance plan for participants and will have one ambulance on site during the event. Hewitt reported that use of electricity was requested but is not available at the park, so the use of generators would need to be considered. He also reiterated that if camping is approved there will need to be enforcement of no campfires and that reminders to park campers that once the gate is locked for the night at Simpson, the only way to exit the park is on foot.

Discussion ensued regarding alternatives to camping at Simpson park, authorization to keep to park a recreational vehicle overnight, and parking for the event.

Berryhill reported that staff will contact Mr. Ranoa and solidify the details of the event as well as discuss alternatives to camping at the park. He will update the Commission at the next regular meeting on those details.

It is the consensus of the Park Commission to allow the "12 Hours of Southern California" event promoter to park one recreation vehicle over night at Simpson Park the night before the race.

Commissioner Vigil moved to add urgency items F and G to the agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Wright and carried 5-0.

**F. Angelica Vasquez - Birthday Party - November 5th, 12pm - Dusk
Gibbel [Gazebo #2 / Jumper]**

**G. Dianne Watson - Birthday Party - November 11th, 7am - 5pm
Mary Henley [Gazebo #3]**

Commissioner Wright moved to approve Items 2F and 2G. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hoehne, and carried 5-0.

Commissioner Wright moved to add Item 2H, Simpson Park Park Use Request, to the agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hoehne and carried 5-0.

**H. Tom Seibel/Dartmouth Middle School - Cross Country Meet - November 1st,
Simpson Park**

Commissioner Vigil moved to approve Item 2H. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hoehne and carried 5-0.

3. Tree Removal and Other Requests from the Public:

**A. Tree Removal Request - 149 S. Harvard St.
(Rochelle Becker - Hemet)**

Cortz reported that these are city trees on the palm tree trimming schedule that were last trimmed in 2005. Staff recommendation is to deny removal request and monitor the tree to remove fronds and maintain trimming on existing three-year schedule.

Discussion ensued regarding the tree causing drain issues for this item.

Commissioner Wright moved to approve staff recommendation to deny removal, maintain current trimming schedule, and monitor the tree for frond removal. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hoehne and carried 5-0.

**B. Tree Removal Request - Eldorado/Gilbert
(Brenda Trout - Hemet)**

Cortz reported that this tree has a large skirt on it that has not been trimmed. It was annexed from the county and into the City Street Tree Maintenance area without being added to the palm tree trimming schedule. Staff recommendation is to deny removal request, schedule tree for immediate trimming and add it to the three-year palm tree trimming rotation schedule.

Commissioner Souther moved to approve staff recommendation to deny removal request, schedule the tree for trimming and add it to the three year trimming rotation schedule. Motion seconded by Commissioner Vigil and carried 5-0.

**C. Palm Tree Removal Request - Kimball / Buena Vista
(Referred from Public Works Committee)**

Cortz reported that the Mayor has received concerns about palm fronds and dates falling from these trees. Staff has visited the site and determined that these trees are not currently in need of trimming. Due to the number of trees and health of the trees staff recommends denying removal request and trimming, and instead monitor trees for frond removal as needed.

Commissioner Hoehne moved to approve staff recommendation to deny removal request and monitor trees to remove loose fronds as needed. Motion seconded by Commissioner Souther and carried 5-0.

**D. Palm Tree Removal Policy -
(Referred from Public Works Committee for discussion)**

Berryhill reported that the issue addressed in Item C prompted additional discussion about the potential need for the City to develop a policy on palm tree removal. He further reported that certain species of palms grow to extreme heights, becoming difficult and expensive to trim and maintain. He further commented on aspects of palm tree aesthetics, maintenance and area appropriateness that might be considered in developing a palm tree removal policy.

Commissioner Hoehne reported that there are several species of palms that do not grow to excessive heights and require minimal maintenance. She suggests considering low growing palms as possible replacements when higher growing palms are removed.

It is the consensus of the Park Commission that staff should research palm tree removal policies and return the item to a future agenda.

4. Commission Comments, Reports, and Oral Communications:

A. October 10th, 2006, Council Action on Park Commission Recommendations of September 25th, 2006

Gow reported all items were approved.

B. POW/MIA Memorial - Update

Gow updated the Commission on the progress of the monument, reported changes to the original structure, and displayed pictures of the monument. The monument is to be dedicated on Saturday, November 11, at 10:00a.m. at Gibbel Park.

C. Drought Tolerant Garden Proposal

Berryhill reported that staff visited a potential drought tolerant demonstration garden site in Seven Hills with a representative from Valley Beautiful. Valley Beautiful is not interested in this site at this time.

Commissioner Hoehne suggested creation of a drought tolerant plant list for use by City staff and contractors.

D. Regal Cinemas Landscaping on West of Building

Discussion ensued regarding addressing landscaping needs for this property. Staff reported that the commercial center was set to receive improvements once the new commercial owner began improvements on the property. Item tabled pending possible improvements by commercial owner.

E. 2007 Park Commission Meeting Schedule

The Park Commission reviewed the tentative schedule of meetings for 2007. All meeting dates proposed were determined to be adequate. The December 2007 meeting will be held Monday, December 17th to avoid scheduling on Christmas or New Year's Eve.

F. Action Items List

No Discussion.

5. Communications from the Public:

Anyone who wishes to address the Commission regarding items not on the agenda may do so at this time. Presentations are limited to three (3) minutes in consideration of others who are here for Agenda items. When you are recognized, please give your name, spelling of last name, an address for accurate recording in the minutes.

Meadows introduced Adam Miller and reported that Mr. Miller is interested in requesting that the City of Hemet build a park for skateboarding.

Adam Miller 3907 Cougar Canyon Road

Mr. Miller is requesting that City Staff work with local skate enthusiasts to develop a community skateboard park in Hemet. He presented the Commission with a petition, signatures from the public, and possible skate park designs to create a skate park in Hemet. He commented about the lack of activities for children in the valley, outside of competitive sports.

Gow provided Mr. Miller with his contact information for follow up.

Return to Item 2.

Meadows reported on positive comments he received about the Park Crews for the work done at the horseshoe pits at Gibbel park.

Nancy Austin, 2197 W Fruitvale

Mrs. Austin reported that she is a member of Valley Beautiful and had visited a potential site for a demonstration garden at Seven Hills. Valley Beautiful is still interested in planting a demonstration garden, but is looking for a smaller, more visible location.

6. Future Agenda Items:

A. 12 Hours of Southern California - Update

B. Palm Tree Removal Policy

7. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 5:07pm.

The next regularly scheduled Park Commission meeting will be held Monday, November 27th, 2006, at 4:00PM in the City Council Chambers.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Kristen Cannon
Management Assistant**