

# PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2008 –6:00 PM  
CITY HALL  
MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Raelene Lyss, Bonnie Peterson, Cynthia White, George Graham, Catherine Bernard, Bonnie Davies, Dawn Chesini, Elizabeth Yerxa, Ellen McGowan, Lucille Imhoff, Abigail Yerxa, Larry Coffman and Administrator Hickel.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Raelene Lyss.

2. **APPROVAL OF JULY 29, 2008 MINUTES**

The minutes of July 29, 2008 were read and approved.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

(No action or discussion may take place on any items brought up, but the items may be placed on next month's agenda for discussion)

There were no comments from the public.

4. **NO SMOKING IN PARKS**

Administrator Hickel introduced Dawn Chesini and Bonnie Davies of the Colusa County Tobacco Education program. They were present to speak to the Commission in regards to their request to designate the City parks as No Smoking areas. Ms. Chesini stated that Tobacco Education would like

the City to adopt an Ordinance stating that No Smoking is allowed in all city parks. She would anticipate that this would be self enforcing, not something that the police would be going out and writing citations for as they have more important concerns. But with a sign present stating No Smoking allowed many people who currently smoke in the parks would not and if it did occur those present who did not want to be exposed to the smoke could point out that it is not allowed.

Commissioner Bernard stated she was not supportive of this request. Smoking is not unlawful, there are more important environmental issues to address then the no smoking. It is one more thing for the government to control. This would be one of those ordinances that is on the books that is never enforced. Currently it is against

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the law to smoke around the play areas and that is adequate control of the smoking issue.

Commissioner Lyss and White both voiced that they felt this would be a valuable way to let children know that smoking is not ok and not be exposed to the second hand smoke. The parks are used by everyone and many children have football, t-ball, softball practices at the parks and there should not be smoking around the children. Commissioner White felt that if there were signs posted that said no smoking the public would feel more comfortable in saying something to someone who was smoking.

Commissioner Peterson and Graham stated they were not in favor of designating the entire park as a no smoking area. Commissioner Graham stated at times there may be a group of people sitting at a picnic table all smoking together as they can not do it at the play area or perhaps the public building across the street. Commissioner Peterson stated that if people are not sensitive enough not to smoke around others in a public place then placing a sign and having no real enforcement is not going to make them change.

Ms. Chesini stated that in Yuba City the police dept was very supportive of designating Gauche Aquatic Park as a No Smoking area as many times the gang members all gather together in the parks and smoke and this enables them to have something on the books to allow them to break up the groups and possibly discourage the gangs from gathering in the parks.

It was moved by Commissioner White and seconded by Lyss to designate the parks Smoke Free Areas. The following vote was taken:

AYES: Lyss, White

NOES: Peterson, Graham, Bernard

ABSENT: None

Administrator Hickel stated that if Ms. Chesini wished to take this matter further to the Council she could request that the item be placed on the next Council agenda and the staff report would reflect the minutes of this meeting. That does not mean that the Council could not over rule the Commission and go forward with designating the parks as No Smoking areas. Ms. Chesini and Ms. Davies stated that they would not be requesting that at this time. They will work on getting more information out to the public on how harmful second hand smoke is, that is against the law to smoke around play areas, etc..

## 5. RECREATION PROGRAM REPORT

- Administrator Hickel reported that mens and womens softball has concluded and that Co-ed League play has started. Games are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings throughout the month of August. Play will conclude the 2<sup>nd</sup> of Sept.
- Sign ups are now being taken for Beginning Dance Classes that will start Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> and will be held on Wednesday evenings from 7-9 pm in the City Hall auditorium/
- Recreation Supervisor Cabral is also going to be contacting Mr. White and setting up another Mature Drivers class.
- Adult Canteen Potluck luncheon has been going well.

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- Last Concert In The Park program will be August 21<sup>st</sup> with the School Jazz Group performing.
- Program reports are being completed on all of the activities that were conducted throughout the summer.

## 6. POOL OPERATIONS

Administrator Hickel reported that the pool has closed as of Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. Staff has gone thru and completed final closing procedures and once all of the current chemicals are used up the facility will be shut down for the year.

## 7. PARK WORK

Administrator Hickel reported that daily maintenance of the parks is continuing. As was reported at the last meeting the project application for the renovation of the irrigation system at City Hall was submitted to the State Parks Dept. as a Prop 40 project. The city received word that unlike previous Park Bond language monies from Prop 40 can not be used to renovate or repair existing park facilities, therefore this project could not be approved. This would also apply to the upgrade of the irrigation system at the Levee Park. Administrator Hickel stated staff will be communicating with an irrigation company and seeking estimates for them to design the new system and approximate cost of materials for the Levee Park project. It is staff's hope that money can be budgeted in the 08-09 budget and staff would install the system this winter.

## 8. CONCEPTUAL PLAN OF POOL

Administrator Hickel introduced Larry Coffman, consultant who is working with staff on the conceptual plan for the pool. Members of Colusa Swim Team were present and a lengthy discussion was held regarding the last drawing that was submitted.

At the first meeting input was given with the facility including a water play area feature with a 2-3 lane pool connecting to the main 8 lane pool that would serve as the competition pool. The entrance of the facility would be moved to Webster Street, include parking and a grass area for patrons to utilize. The 2-3 lane pool connecting to the competition pool would serve as a warm up, cool down area at times that invitationals are held. Swim team stated this would not work well since there are not walls at either end. After much discussion it was decided to remove the 2-3 lane pool and make the competition pool a 10 lane, "L" shape and have it a separate pool from the water play area. Commissioners stated that they would like to see if a beach entry could work at the competition pool instead of stairs. Everyone seemed happy with the water play area.

Discussion was held on how important it was to make the new facility useable by swim team, seniors, lessons, water aerobics, etc.. It appeared from the drawing that there was a lot of concrete and that the facility could be a smaller footprint. Mr. Coffman informed that group that there has to be a 15' area between pools and features. Discussion was held on the proposed grass mound area. Mr. Coffman stated as it is shown it is about 10 feet high. All agreed this is too high and it should be small knolls about 2-3 feet high and not one continuous berm. Concern was expressed about having

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the facility to close to Tenth Street park. As shown on the current drawing the fencing enclosing the facility would be very close to the existing sidewalk on Tenth Street. All felt that was not acceptable and the facility footprint needed to be moved to the east.

It was recommended that the parking configuration as shown needed to be changed. Currently there are 40 designated spaces which was fine but to do it in a rectangular or square lay out not the arching figure as shown. Discussion was held on including an area for a concession.

Mr. Coffman stated that all of this can be included but the cost of the facility continues to climb. The group felt it was important to build a new facility to meet future needs and when it came time to put the project out to bid the bid package could be broken up so one portion of the bid included some items and another portion would not include items.

Mr. Coffman stated he would go back and make the following changes:

- Reconfigure parking area
- Include turf area but not large mounds
- Separate the pools into two pools. Competition pool being 10 lane "L" shape with an attempt of beach entry and one pool being a water play area
- Make the footprint smaller and more of a compact facility
- Competition pool will be 4ft to 6'7" and entry area no more than 3 ft so lessons for beginners can be taught in this area.

9. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned until Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.