

CITY OF BISHOP

Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

December 7, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: The Parks and Recreation Commission met on December 7, 2011, the meeting was called to order at 5:15 pm in the City Council Chambers, 301 W. Line St. Bishop, CA.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMISSIONERS Cheryl McDermott-Stanford, Kellie Hallenbeck, John Weatherford, Barry Simpson and Lee Cox

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Community Services Director, Keith Caldwell, Karey Poole, Recording Secretary, Dan McElroy, Parks Supervisor, and Waylon Cleland, Parks Facility Maintenance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Commissioner Cox to approve the minutes for October 19, 2011. 2nd by Commissioner McDermott, approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Trevor Murphy and his parents were in attendance. Trevor had written a letter of interest in seeing a Skating Rink built in the future. He shared his ideas regarding vacant buildings that might be able to house the rink. The Commissioners were interested in hearing more from Trevor Murphy and requested Staff to have him return to the next Commission Meeting for further discussion.

Randy Gillespie, Community member and local business owner, came to discuss the Adventure Trails project. He stated that when discussion began the staging area was originally requested to be where the Dog Park is now being placed, the group would now like to propose the staging area to be placed on the corner of Spruce and Hanby. He explained that staging areas are simply a place for those coming to ride our local dirt roads to park their vehicles and trailers while they go enjoy the trails. Commissioner McDermott asked if this would be a year round staging area. Mr. Gillespie said that it would. Commissioner Hallenbeck had some concerns regarding security of the vehicles being parked away from the entrance to the trails system, though understanding that it would give them easier access to town. Mr. Gillespie felt that it was safer in a more central area close to town than out in the desert where there would be no one around.

CORRESPONDENCE: Correspondence in response to the RC Track request was submitted from local community members who have concerns with noise and dust from the track, this correspondence will also be presented to the City Council and gives the group the opportunity to mitigate the challenges presented

OLD BUSINESS: RC Track-
Discussion went to the correspondence presented to the Commissioners. Commissioner Hallenbeck asked if there would be another public hearing. Keith said there would when the Environmental Impact Report would be presented. Keith said if the Commissioners were inclined he would like to move forward with the mitigation challenges ahead.

Randy Gillespie asked to speak and was granted. He is in favor of seeing the track move to the park. It's very busy. There are a lot of kids coming to the current track and he believes it has a lot of value for the community. He has the first track built on his business parking lot, which is against highway 395. He feels the traffic noise is much louder than the cars racing on the dirt track. He would like to at least see a pilot program on a trial basis to give a better idea, possibly three years, to allow it to prove itself. He feels this community needs this type of activity. Commissioner asked how many cars were on his track at a given time. He said he could have up to eight cars at one time. A recommendation was to rerun the decibel levels by an outside group, possibly Bureau of Land Management. Commissioner Hallenbeck asked Mr. Gillespie if the proposed track area was the same area he was suggesting for staging for his off road project. He said that it would work out, it was really the same user group for both programs.

Tim Pomykata asked to speak and was granted. He explained that he currently lived on Elm Street behind the park and has been a resident for twenty six years. He has concerns about the noise levels and disagrees with some of the comparisons in the Environmental Impact Report. He feels that depending on the burm size, it may not be affective enough and the point that no height measurements were announced. He also had concerns regarding the emissions that the gas powered motors would put out and the effect that would have on the seniors that go to the Senior Center. He requests the Commissioners review the current park usage and the Mission of the Commission for the park.

Dog Park-
Waylon explained that there is a full fundraising Committee that is out at every event they can be. They have currently raised \$5,039 and are moving forward with the EIR report to Gary Schley. They hope to be able to be able to move forward with phase one and signage. Commissioner McDermott said that they have been very active and are hopeful to begin phase one in the spring. Waylon shared that they are budgeting phase one to cost roughly \$9,000.

NEW BUSINESS: None

STAFF REPORT:

Programs –

Trunk or Treat –

Waylon wanted to thank the Commissioners who were able to participate in the event. It was very successful

Holiday Craft Extravaganza-

Staff was currently in the last week of this program to assist children in making homemade gifts for the holidays. The program was filled.

Tennis Socials-

Last Saturday they had 21 attendees. Its for ages 14-17years, they had another 16 that were no shows. If someone comes to play and hasn't signed up for the full program, they can pay a drop in of \$4.

Kids Night Out-

We have again scheduled these nights to allow parents to get ready for the holidays on December 9th and 16th from 6-8pm. Cost is \$5 and staff will be ready with movies, crafts and games to keep the kids busy.

Basketball-

Open Gym has been scheduled for the 8th and 13th with league play beginning January 2nd. Six teams are expected to register.

Open Gymnastics-

This activity will start back up with new instructor Francisco Santana, \$3 per child with times from 8-10am

Football Camp-

The BUHS staff has scheduled this camp on Field 5 January 3rd-6th.

Volleyball-

Open Gym has been scheduled beginning January 5th and will be held on Thursdays and Sundays. They will continue through February 19th.

Kung Fu-

This program is scheduled to begin again in January.

Gymnastics-

Spring Gymnastics and Cheer classes are scheduled to begin with instructor Beth McKitrick in January.

Ski Program-

This program is scheduled to begin January 10th depending on the weather.

Program Evaluations-

Waylon pointed out these forms that were given to the Commissioners. He invited them to review them and give staff feedback they may have. Commissioner Hallenbeck asked if they would be available online. Waylon said they would eventually be on the website and that he would also like to start an email database in attempt to get them out there and

give parents the opportunity to give their feedback on the programs they and their children participate in.

Facilities –

Dan thanked the Commissioners who participated in the Street of Lights celebration. There were a lot of people in attendance. A big thanks to Waylon and Seneca for working the ornament table for the Children's Tree, The Chamber for their hard work, Southern California Edison and Department of Water and Power for lights and the CDF crew for assistance with cleanup. Commissioner Hallenbeck commented on how nice the lights looked this year.

Community Garden-

The group has set up time for a volunteer work group to clean up the old plots while trying to keep it as organic as possible. Public Works came to help find a buried valve that was needed. The group is now working on constructing common areas and getting a new sign for the north end which will be the home of the Demonstration Garden.

Ball Fields-

Little League has funded work to be done on Fields 3 and 4 in hopes to have new clay mixture laid down in January. Fields 1, 4 & 5 are currently being used by Mammoth and Bishop High school teams as well as another club soccer group that is continuing into the winter season. In the spring, AYSO is going to assist with the cost of over seeding the fields.

Pool-

The diving board is due to go in for resurfacing. The baby pool filters are also due for new sand.

Tree Committee-

The group is coming back together with a meeting to be held January 4th at 1pm in the conference room. Commissioner Hallenbeck asked how the current trees have held up with the high winds. Dan said very well, they found a partial branch in the Dog Park area. Commissioner Hallenbeck asked how it has been for parking in this same area, Dan said that it really hasn't been used much lately.

Commission Restructuring-

Keith brought back the restructuring to the table. When taken to Council it was split and thus requested to bring back to the commission before the meeting coming this Monday. Discussion ensued and an informal vote was brought by Commissioner Simpson, with most in favor of keeping the group as it is. Commissioner Hallenbeck suggested inviting outside groups to come and give a presentation to allow for new ideas to come to the table

COMMISSION:

Commissioner Weatherford wanted to check with staff regarding the status of current equipment. Dan shared that at this time they are maintaining regularly and have had no major repairs. Commissioner Weatherford asked if there was any kind of replacement schedule in place. Dan said that there is not at this point. Commissioner Weatherford made the statement that he doesn't want to see that slip with the financial issues that are arising.

Commissioner McDermott went back to the RC Track discussion regarding the third party metering of the decibel levels and the possibility of a three year probationary period. Sam Vargas from the RC group stated that they are currently at the Fairgrounds every Saturday and welcomes the Commissioners and the public, especially those with concerns, to come and get a better idea of the dust and noise levels. They are willing to put as many cars on the track that is needed for a third party study. Currently the noise doesn't seem to be a disturbance, they have had no complaints from the nearby Veterinarian Office. Other Commissioners agree to a third party decibel study and a pilot program should the Council agree they can set the time frame. Keith said he will share their input with the Council. Commissioner Simpson said he likes the idea but doesn't want it to be a disturbance. Commissioner Cox asked if it would be used everyday. Sam Vargas explained that it would still be able to be access by any public for use. Further discussion ensued regarding enforcement of rules and day use times. Sam said there would be signage regarding the rules of use and times allowed as well as other directions for the use of the track. It was further discussed that the park is only open for public use from dawn till dusk but particular hours for the track would be suggested.

ADJOURMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:20pm. It was requested to move the next meeting from January 25th to the 18th. The Commission is has been rescheduled to reconvene Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at 5:15pm in the City Council Chambers.

Kellie Hallenbeck, Chair
Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Karey Poole, Comm. Serv.