

**MINUTES
PARK AND ACTIVITIES COMMISSION
APRIL 21, 2009**

A regular meeting of the Park and Activities Commission of the City of Rolling Hills Estates was called to order at 7:32 p.m., in the City Hall Council Chambers, 4045 Palos Verdes Drive North, by CHAIRWOMAN DAVIS.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Allen, Boyd, Clewis, Davis, Pagliano, Persichina, Schmitz

STAFF PRESENT: Andy Clark, Community Services Director

PARK AND ACTIVITIES COMMISSION MINUTES, FEBRUARY 3, 2009

COMMISSIONER PAGLIANO moved, seconded by COMMISSIONER PERSICHINA

TO APPROVE THE PARK AND ACTIVITIES COMMISSION MINUTES OF
FEBRUARY 3, 2009, AS PRESENTED.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, CHAIRWOMAN DAVIS SO ORDERED.

AUDIENCE ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

CITY STREET TREE REMOVAL APPLICATIONS

The Community Services Director reviewed the staff report per written agenda material. He indicated that the street tree removal at 4826 Kingspine Road was a small Magnolia tree which has been a constant source of sewer line root problems for the homeowner. While the applicant requested the replacement street tree to be an Ornamental (Purple) Plum, staff disagreed with the species selection and recommended an Evergreen Pear tree species to be more consistent with similar street trees on Kingspine Road.

The Community Services Director indicated that the Ficus street tree removal from the parkway on the side of 5107 Willow Wood Road not only had potential root problems for the sidewalk, curb, gutter, and street, but that the removal would benefit scenic view restoration for several nearby neighbors. The Evergreen Pear street tree species was agreeable to the applicant to replace this street.

In answer to Commissioners' inquiries about the Evergreen Pear street tree, the Community Services Director stated that this species was low-growing, had small root systems, was considered a "break-away tree" by Cal Trans due to its small size at maturity, and would be installed as 15-gallon trees of about 6-feet in height.

COMMISSIONER ALLEN moved, seconded by COMMISSIONER CLEWIS

TO APPROVE THE APPLICATIONS FOR REMOVAL OF A MAGNOLIA CITY
STREET AT 4826 KINSPINE ROAD AND A FICUS STREET TREE ON THE
SIDE PARKWAY AT 5107 WILLOW WOOD ROAD, WITH BOTH STREET
TREE BEING REPLACED WITH THE EVERGREEN PEAR TREE SPECIES AT
THE APPLICANTS' COST.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, CHAIRWOMAN DAVIS SO ORDERED.

VACANT COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FENCING AND LANDSCAPING PLAN

The Community Services Director reviewed the staff report per written agenda material. He indicated that this is the first of five (5) commercial vacant property fencing and landscaping plans that would be coming before the Commission.

It was noted that this vacant property was unique in that it already had a wrought iron fence in place near the perimeter of the site and that the landscaping was proposed to go on the inside of the fencing. Property Manager, Joseph Sojka, described in detail for the Commission the proposed landscape plan, including irrigation system, draught tolerant Red Fescue grass species, rolling berms, and boulder placements.

COMMISSIONER ALLEN moved, seconded by COMMISSIONER CLEWIS

TO APPROVE THE FENCE AND LANDSCAPE PLAN FOR THE VACANT COMMERCIAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF CREST AND HIGHRIDGE ROADS.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, CHAIRWOMAN DAVIS SO ORDERED.

RIDGECREST INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 5K RACE UPDATE

The Community Services Director indicated that the school's race event was very successful in attracting 599 runners and raising funds. Race Consultant, Michael Hogue, attended the race and encouraged runners to participate in The Hills Are Alive Race scheduled for August 8, 2009. A large "thank-you" card was circulated to the Commissioners.

PETER WEBER EQUESTRIAN CENTER RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE

The Community Services Director updated the Commission on the progress made by consulting firm, MIG. Plans and specifications are considered 90% complete and are being reviewed by City staff, the Los Angeles County Building and Safety Department, and the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts. Five (5) proposals were received for the replacement of the current on-site caretaker's unit to be re-located on the City's trail site near the Crenshaw Tunnel with a new, "turn-key" manufactured home. CHAIRWOMAN DAVIS and COMMISSIONER ALLEN requested that the Commission review the bid packets, and oversee the ongoing operations, including matters concerning the budget of this entity, as they do with the Tennis Center, prior to approval by COUNCIL.

COMMISSION ITEMS (Verbal Reports)

Silver Spur Little League Opening Day Ceremony - COMMISSIONERS PAGLIANO and SCHMITZ reported that they represented the City at the Opening Day event on February 28, 2009 and threw out the first pitch before an enthusiastic crowd.

Mayor's Breakfast Ride - COMMISSIONER ALLEN encouraged all Commissioners to participate in this annual event scheduled for May 9, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. leaving from Chandler Park. COMMISSIONERS CLEWIS, BOYD, and SCHMITZ indicated that they would ride if the City could provide them horses.

Adopt-A-Park Reports – COMMISSIONER ALLEN reported that an arena post in the Dapplegray Park arena had been repaired and noted that the entire arena fence, along with the Howlett Park dressage arena, were scheduled for replacement utilizing Pepper Tree Foundation funds. COMMISSIONER BOYD noted that the Nature Preserve trail had Nettles and Poison Oak encroaching onto the trail and that there was still some debris to be picked up from the illegal construction demolition debris incident. CHAIRWOMAN DAVIS reported that a Chandler Park arena rail was down. COMMISSIONERS PERSICHINA, CLEWIS, and SCHMITZ reported no issues with their park or facility sites.

DIRECTOR'S ITEMS (Verbal Reports)

Landscaping View Restoration Ordinance Update – The Community Services Director reported that a second draft of the proposed ordinance would be reviewed by City Council on April 28, 2009 and that once it was considered in final form, a Public Hearing would be scheduled.

George F Canyon Brush Clearance Notifications Update – Los Angeles County Fire Department brush clearance crews were reported by the Community Services Director to be ready to bring specific areas of the Nature Preserve into compliance once a bird nesting survey was completed.

DTSC 5-Year Review of Palos Verdes Landfill Public Meeting – Commissioners were notified by the Community Services Director that the Department of Toxic Substance Control would be holding a Public Meeting at the South Coast Botanic Gardens Hall on April 27 at 6:30 p.m. to present their findings on the Palos Verdes Landfill site.

Letter from Epstein Residence – The Community Services Director stated that a letter from Jack and Barbara Epstein was received just prior to the Commission meeting. COMMISSIONER ALLEN disputed many of the statements indicated in the letter. CHAIRWOMAN DAVIS indicated that an on-site Commission meeting should be considered to review the issues described in the letter.

California Contract Cities Association Dinner Meeting – Commissioners were encouraged by the Community Services Director to RSVP and attend the dinner event on April 22, 2009 on the Peninsula Center Library parking deck at 6:00 p.m.

MATTERS OF INFORMATION

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, CHAIRWOMAN DAVIS ORDERED

THE CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS OF FEBRUARY 10, 2009, FEBRUARY 24, 2009, MARCH 10, 2009, AND APRIL 7 2009, RECEIVED AND FILED.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, CHAIRWOMAN DAVIS ORDERED

THE PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2009, FEBRUARY 17, 2009, AND MARCH 2, 2009, RECEIVED AND FILED.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Memorial Plaque Request
- Tree Memorial Request
- Memorial Plaque Policy

ADJOURNMENT

COMMISSIONER CLEWIS moved, seconded by COMMISSIONER PERSICHINA

THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED, THE TIME BEING 8:37 P.M.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, CHAIRWOMAN DAVIS SO ORDERED.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,

Andy Clark
Community Services Director

Douglas R. Prichard
City Clerk