

Lemoore Parks & Recreation Commission

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Keel called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Keel; Vice-Chairperson Hernandez; Commissioners: Daley, Harper, and Rossiter.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND INQUIRIES: None.

APPROVAL MINUTES:

The minutes for October 9, 2007 were unanimously approved, following a motion by Commissioner Rossiter and a second by Commissioner Daley.

AGENDA ADDITIONS: None

YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION:

Recreation Supervisor Nelson reported that YAC has held its last meeting for 2007 and new applicants are still being sought and have until January 11, 2008 to apply. Interviews will be held the middle of January. Two of the current members are returning and two applications have been received. The YAC at Your Service Certificate was purchased for \$500 at the Downtown Merchants Evening Under the Stars event. The certificate offers 6 YAC Members for 4 hours of service to the purchaser for an assigned task. Some of the Teen Center students and the YAC members went together and gleaned a walnut grove of limbs as their service task on Saturday, November 17, 2007.

TEEN CENTER REPORT:

The Teen Center Holiday Hours for Thanksgiving and Christmas have been set. The Teen Center will be closed Thanksgiving -Thursday and Friday; Christmas – Monday & Tuesday; New Years – Monday & Tuesday and open during Christmas Break (December 24 – January 11) from 1:00 - 5:00 pm each day. The Teen Center students celebrated Veterans Day with the American Legion members holding a mock meeting in the Vets Hall. The students were encouraged to ask questions and they learned some of the members have been in the wars of Vietnam, Gulf Storm and Iraq. The Veterans were thanked for having served their country and making America a safer place to live.

Ray & Sonya Moore of Foster's Freeze presented a check to the Teen Center in the amount of \$400 from Cruise Nights' fundraiser. From April - October Cruise Nights hold a 50/50 drawing and 50% of the money raised is collected and presented to the Teen Center. Next year the Cruise Nights may be held the last Saturday of the month instead of twice a month on Thursdays. The donated money will be used to recover the pool table and in the past has helped pay for a bike rack, refrigerator, games, ping pong table and recovering the pool tables.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION - REQUEST FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VETERANS MEMORIAL - AMERICAN LEGION POST 100 LEMOORE:

Post Commander Roy Rowell noted the American Legion meets the first Wednesday of the month and the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. and presented a request to construct a Memorial in City Park along Bush Street west of the Flag Pole and will honor all the branches of the Military Service. City Manager Britz, Parks & Recreation Director Hernandez and Post Commander Rowell previously met and determined the overall size would be 30 ft. x 30 ft. and each memorial would have six feet of space between the pedestals for wheelchair access. Lou Ann Pike, wife of Dennis Pike, Vietnam M.I.A. Veteran has given permission to move the existing P.O.W. / M.I.A. Memorial tree and plaque from its current position to the new Memorial. The existing tree has struggled in its current position and a new one would be selected from the Tree Committee's list and planted near the memorial. Commander Rowell introduced Committee Chairman Jeff Green who has been in Lemoore for four years and noted there were no memorial for Veterans. When he returned from Iraq this past April a memorial meant much more. There will be room for the P.O.W. Flag monument, reflection benches, and a spot light mounted on an existing school caution light to light the flags at night. The concrete and construction would be done by the Navy Seabees at no cost to the City. All construction and maintenance of the facility would be done by the American Legion Post as well as cost of the flags. The American Legion would have pavers for sell (Bronze - \$25.00; Silver - \$35.00; Gold - \$50.00) as one of their fundraisers and the pavers will be used in the five foot wide sidewalk from the street to the monument area. The sprinkler system affected by the memorial would be moved by City staff and reset accordingly. The official name would be "American Legion, Lemoore, Armed Forces Memorial" and the dedication plaque would read "Dedicated to Lemoore Veterans, Past, Present and Future".

It was motioned by Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Rossiter and Commissioners unanimously approved the request by the American Legion Post 100 Lemoore for construction of a Veterans Memorial to be located at City and recommended staff submit request to City Council for final approval.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION - DEVELOPMENT OF DOG PARK AT 19TH AVENUE PARK:

Parks and Recreation Director Hernandez reported that Commissioners Harper, Rossiter, City Staff Jane Johnson and Community Member Russell Otto have met to discuss feasibility of a dog park in Lemoore and concluded 19th Avenue Park would be a good site. The dog area would be on the east side of the park with access from Tammy Lane and have minimum impact on the neighborhood. The access from Tammy Lane will need the current pole removed and could be made handicap accessible with very little cost. The enclosed memo from Superintendent Simonson shows the breakdown of cost to build the park. All of the amenities could be moved at a later date if this is not the permanent home. Commissioner Harper spoke to several people and will have good support from the community. The park will have three gates for security purposes. The first gate you come in with your dog on a leash and release them to greet the other dogs in the other gated areas and once all dogs have settled you may smoothly transition them into their area. A meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 19th at 6:00 pm. The money would be funded from the Capital Improvement Project Budget monies and the maintenance cost would be minimal to the General Fund monies.

It was motioned by Commissioner Hernandez, seconded by Commissioner Rossiter and unanimously approved for development of a dog park at 19th Avenue Park and recommended staff submit to City Council for final approval.

SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER ACTIVITIES UPDATE - COMMISSIONER DART:

Recreation Supervisor Nelson noted that Jamison High Students were out on Monday, October 29th for a Halloween Party and will again be at the Senior Center on Monday, November 19th for Thanksgiving. The Seniors enjoy having Jamison High Students and look forward their events. On Tuesday, December 11th the Seniors will be taken by Tony Torres' church bus to Marie Callanders for dinner and to Clovis to see the Fantasy Lane Christmas Lights.

TERMS OF SERVICE EXPIRING - DECEMBER 31, 2007.

Parks and Recreation Commissioners Daley, Hernandez and Keel have all requested they be reappointed for two more years. The Mayor will make his recommendations and City Council will vote at the December 4th City Council Meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Activity Recap

- The Fresno Falcon Community Night held on Friday, October 19th at the Save Mart Center had 25 participants buy tickets and recognized on the Jumbo Tron.
- On Saturday, October 20, 2007 the Lemoore & Parlier Lions Clubs, Parlier's Lions Youth Group and some Boy Scouts helped City Parks Staff plant 210 trees at Lions Park. There were over 40 people in attendance. New restrooms and a small pavilion are planned for the upcoming year.
- The annual Red Ribbon Walk began at the Sports Complex this year with the route going south on 19th to Bush, east to Fox, north to "D" and west to 19th Avenue. Cinnamon School had the most spirit with Meadow Lane School having the most participants.
- The Teen Center Halloween Carnival is struggling with 200 people and has served it purpose. When the Carnival began over 15 years ago there were no other alternatives for safe Halloween fun. In recent years other entities (churches and organizations) have provided safe Halloween events. Recreation Supervisor Nelson noted she has spoken to the Police Department about working together to provide a haunted drug awareness house in conjunction with Red Ribbon and Halloween. Commissioners were asked to provide any ideas they may have.
- The Club Live event for 5th & 6th grade students was held last Friday, November 9th with 263 students in attendance. A new group of chaperones from Vault (young adult group) had nine members help. The next dance will be held in January with one more try in February for the 7th and 8th grade age group of students, to see if there is any interest in this type of activity.

Upcoming Events

- Staff puts on the Volunteer Dinner to thank all of those in the community that help staff our programs and is scheduled for Wednesday, November 14th in the Civic Auditorium at 6:30 pm. Thank you cards do not mean as much and they can also see others that help in other areas that they may know and do not realize volunteer also.
- Parks and Recreation Director Hernandez's Retirement Happy Hour will be on Thursday, November 29th at Teri's Front Street Grill with finger food from 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- The Chamber's Christmas Parade is on Saturday, December 1st at 6:00 pm if you are interested in being in the parade, please let staff know.
- Breakfast with Santa is a fundraiser for those in need of help to participate in Recreation programs and is put on by the Lemoore Lions Club. It is held in the Civic Auditorium from 8:00 am – 12:00 noon on Sunday, December 2nd.

Other

- There will be no meeting in December

- Tom's last day at work will be on Friday, December 14th and technically retired on December 28, 2007.
- The annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner started by Walt Kendall will be held at the Senior Citizen's Center on November 22nd and is for anyone in the community no matter what their income. If you are interested in volunteering or making a donation, please contact Mr. Kendall, Jane Dart or Carolyn Arcino and they can direct you to the appropriate person.
- The brochure provided by Bob Murray and Associates describing the Parks and Recreation Director's job was distributed to the Commissioners. One or two members of the Commission are being asked to serve on the oral board panel. Please contact Tom if you are interested.

COMMISSION REPORTS AND REQUEST:

- Commissioner Keel noted Bright Light Church will be giving out Thanksgiving Baskets and asked if anyone knows of someone needing help to please call him.
- The Parks and Recreation Commissioners presented Parks and Recreation Director Hernandez with a plaque thanking him for his 20 years of service to the Commissioners and staff.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.