

Mayor
John Murray
Mayor Pro Tem
Mary Hornsby
Council Members
John Plourde
Willard Rodarmel
William Siegel



**Parks & Recreation
Department**

Located at: 435 "C" St.
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Lemoore, CA 93245
Phone (559) 924-6767
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Parks and Recreation Commission

Tuesday, April 14, 2009

7:00 p.m. - Council Chambers - 429 'C' Street

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Public Comments and Inquires**
Items for Commission Consideration and Action
(Commission to receive reports and give direction or take action as appropriate)
- III. Minutes – Tuesday, February 10, 2009**
- IV. Agenda Additions**
- V. Report – KaBOOM Build a Park – Cimarron Park – Sheila Taylor**
- VI. Report / Discuss – Victory Gardens Advantage / Disadvantage**
- VII. Report – CPRS Conference Overview – Randell Harper & Alvin Marquez**
- VIII. Report – Teen Center - Richard Geisbrecht**
- IX. Report – Recreation Supervisor Update**
- X. Commission Comments / Requests for Information**
- XI. Adjourn**

Notice of ADA Compliance: If you or anyone in your party needs reasonable accommodation to attend, or participate in any Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting, please contact the Human Resources Office at City Hall 24 hours prior to the meeting. They may be reached by calling 924-6700 or by mail to 119 Fox Street, Lemoore, CA 93245

Any writing or documents provided to a majority of the Parks and Recreation Commissioners regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the City Clerks Counter at City Hall located at 119 Fox Street, Lemoore, CA during normal business hours. In addition, such documents will be posted on the City's website at www.lemoore.com

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

I, Mellanie Woodcock, Parks & Recreation Department Secretary of the City of Lemoore, do hereby declare that the foregoing agenda for the Lemoore Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting of Tuesday, April 14, 2009, was posted on the outside bulletin board located at City Hall, 119 Fox Street no later than Friday, April 10, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

Mellanie Woodcock, Secretary

Lemoore Parks & Recreation Commission
Tuesday, February 10, 2009
7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Keel called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners: Hernandez, Dart, Daley, Harper.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND INQUIRIES:

None

APPROVAL MINUTES:

The minutes for January 13, 2009 were unanimously approved, following a motion by Commissioner Dart and a second by Commissioner Harper.

AGENDA ADDITIONS: None

REPORT – SARAH MOONEY MUSEUM:

President Carmen Bettancourt expressed the Museum Board Members gratitude for City's annual funding, storage space for their October Rummage to Treasures sale and outlined the Sarah Mooney Museum's long term and short term plans and goals. There were approximately 250 children who visited the museum and participated in many of the hands on learning stations. Most are from area schools, 5th grade and below or home schooled children. The Museum is currently open the first Sunday of the month in the afternoon, during many downtown events, and through request. Training is a requirement for docents and currently there are six young people in training. Many more volunteers are needed for upkeep and tours.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION – SPONSORSHIP REQUEST – LEMOORE AQUA JETS:

Aqua Jets has requested sponsorship for the 2009 Central Valley Recreation Swim League.

Sponsorship for Aqua Jets 2009 Swim Team was unanimously approved for submittal to City Council for final approval, following a motion by Commissioner Dart and a second by Commissioner Harper.

DISCUSSION – FINANCIAL INTEGRITY OF LEMOORE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS:

Parks and Recreation Director Simonson noted many of our local sports and youth organizations raise funds each year and do not provide open accounting. Each year there are school/area foundations, associations or organizations that have problems with accounting for their funds. Some organizations have their non-profit status and others claim to have non-profit. Director asked for ideas and thoughts to keep continued support for these programs. Inviting all youth programs to a meeting to discuss their accounting was suggested. Thoughts and ideas may be sent to Joe or Mellanie.

REPORT – RESEARCH FOR RECRATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CLASSES:

The boxing and wrestling programs are continuing each month. We keep expanding our pee wee (3 – 5 years) programs and currently basketball is in session. The NJB basketball program was a huge success. Kids are getting more exercise. We are looking at unconverted rooms at the Corporation yard for fitness / dance programs in the future. We were offered a playground opportunity and after location possibilities of 19th Avenue Park, the Youth Sports Complex it was approved for Cimarron Park. The per capita requirements were met and the Pedersen family is donating the land along Bell Haven. We are currently working on grants for indoor batting cages, pitching machines and 2 back stops.

DISCUSS – CPRS CONFERENCE – MARCH 3 – 6, 2009:

Commissioner Harper turned in conference planner.

TEEN CENTER REPORT:

Supervisor Nelson reported Richard Griesbrecht (Goose) is at a Kings Christian School Basketball game. The Teen Center is averaging 20 – 25 students and has a Super Bowl party on Friday. Dameane Douglas who played with the Philadelphia Eagles, sat on the sidelines during a super bowl game spoke to the students. The Teen Center is struggling to get students to come to the center. It may be the wrong place for a center. The students can't be outside many days due to funerals and there are no courts or sport activities available. We are looking at maybe using the Corporation Yard facilities

REPORT – RECREATION SUPERVISOR UPDATE:

Recreation Supervisor Nelson noted the upcoming conference is a great working tool for us to learn more of how others are doing programs and events. The Senior Wii Bowling program is going well, On Monday we dropped off the Wii. Hanford Recreation is starting a league and each group will go to the others site to bowl. There are 30 women in the Zumba class. Club Live (4th – 5th grades) had 302 at the January 18th Party. The Club 78 (7-8 grades) will be back at the Teen Center will a maximum of 100 students. The Seniors will paint on Friday's from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm at the Civic Auditorium. The Cheerleaders are practicing at the Civic on Monday and Tuesdays until their competition meet in April. A Tiny Toes (Ballet) class for 3-5 years of age will begin in March and a Hip Hop class set to begin in April. Dameane Douglas is going to provide a Speed and Agility Camp as a conditioner for off season football players and cheerleaders.

Director Simonson discussed his recent trip to a Fresno Lawn Bowling Course. It was a lot of fun. Past Director Hernandez is participating in a group and they are very into their game. He would like to schedule a bus trip for a group of 20 to go and play then have lunch. It is on a 125 x 125 putting green and requires maintenance like a golf course. The course was City built but the Lawn Bowling Club members maintain the grounds.

COMMISSION REPORTS AND REQUEST:

Commissioner Daley inquired about the soccer complex being open to the public and was informed there is no real progress to date. Opening the restrooms is one of the stated problems. They use porta potties for any outside tournaments. During NJB she noted the parking problems she saw and we agreed it was a great problem to have. There were people parking across the street and we have a smaller version of the problem during the week with wrestling and boxing.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

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To: Parks and Recreation Commission
**From: Joe Simonson, Parks & Recreation
Director**
Date: April 6, 2009
Subject: Discussion - Victory Gardens

Discussion:

The Parks & Recreation Department has received a request from a City Council to place this item on the agenda for Commissioners to research advantages, disadvantages, evaluate and assess if there is need for the City to establish Victory Gardens.

Victory Gardens were popular in the United States during World War I and World War II. By 1943 there were 20 million gardens throughout the United States. These gardens reduced the pressure of providing food to the public during war time and were a moral boost to the countrymen waiting for their soldiers to come home. Victory Gardens are making a comeback due to tough economic times. They offer independence from corporate food systems, community involvement, physical activity and they get people closer to the natural environment.

The City of Fresno and the City of Hanford currently have community gardens. Both cities offer citizens 10 by 10 foot plots. Hanford has 30 plots in their location while Fresno has 100. Both cities fence the gardens and give keys to the gardeners. Both cities have drip systems that water the plots. The two cities allow the gardeners to keep their plots for as long as they want. When a plot opens up, they announce it on their website until it is taken over. Both cities have maintenance contracts that the gardeners sign stating that their plots will be weed free and maintained or they will forfeit the site.

Budget Impact:

Dependent upon site size, number of plots and location to water mains.

Recommendation:

For Parks and Recreation Commission to provide staff direction in this matter.