

**BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
September 23, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

Santa Ana Central Library
26 Civic Center Plaza
Santa Ana, CA 92701
5:37 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

J. Stroud

ROLL CALL

**BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS
MEMBERS/STUDENT REPS PRESENT**
Frank Acosta, Tish Leon, Max Madrid, Ken
Nguyen, David Orea, Julie Stroud, Wendy
Tobiska, Jonathan Espinoza, Student
Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Gerardo Mouet, Executive Director
Ron Ono, Administrative Services Manager
Heather Folmar, Library Services
Mike Lopez, Parks Superintendent
Kent Yamaguchi, Zoo Manager
Jose Perez (for Jenny Rios)
Athena Martinez, Board Secretary

PRESENTATIONS

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – OCTOBER, 2009

Richard Ortiz was present to accept this award.

D. Orea arrived at 5:40 p.m.

SPECIAL SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY – SEPTEMBER, 2009

Chicanos/Latinos for Community Medicine were present to accept this award.

SPECIAL BOARD PRESENTATION made to Recording Secretary for her service to the Board.
CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION: W. Tobiska **SECOND:** K. Nguyen
VOTE: **AYES:** Acosta, Leon, Madrid, Nguyen, Orea, Stroud, Tobiska (7)
 NOES: None (0)
ABSENT: *(at voting)* Hills (1)

1. MINUTES

Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting held on August 26, 2009.

2. ABSENCES

Excused: Jerry Hills

**** END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ****

BUSINESS CALENDAR

NEW BUSINESS

1. COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY SERVICES UPDATE

Library Ad Hoc committee met on September 16, 2009 to discuss the development of a Library Committee due to the elimination of the Library Board.

- Topics for committee will be sustainability of the tutoring program, purchase of new books and resources, creation of new programs, and the like.
- The committee's structure will be similar to the Committee on Field Use (CoFU) in that there will be a primary staff liaison (Heather Folmar), representation from the Board, and will be open to community members.
- Committee will meet eight times per year, and will be dark during the summer (June/July/August) and in December.

2. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Updates provided on the Youth and Family Master Plan, a proposed 2010 summer youth program called Health and Social Responsibility, and various avenues in which communicating City services are being explored.

3. NOMINATIONS FOR SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD TO THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY OF SANTA ANA

October recipient has already been designated. Ideas for future nominees:

- Shade Tree Nursery for years of tree donations.
- A Girl Scout from Sage High School for her work on the Butterfly Garden at the Zoo.
- Docents for the Zoo and Library.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Calendars for October and November, 2009 were reviewed and discussed. Events of special note:

- Oct 11: Youth Expo at Hector Godinez High School in Centennial Park, organized by Kermes.
- Oct 15: Prop 84 Technical Assistance Workshop in the morning, a community forum in the evening.
- Oct 21: Agency Potluck at the Library.

STATUS/UPDATES

1. COMMITTEE ON FIELD USE (CoFU) – Met today after two months of being dark – happy to report no violations in those two months. Committee is reviewing the policies and procedures manual for changes and updates. Any recommendations will be brought to the Board in November for review.

2. COMMUNITY CONTACT REPORTS AND UPDATES – Discussion ensued regarding issues at Thornton Park.

3. PENDING ITEMS/ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- County Update on Santa Ana River Trails (October)
- Establish and Define Role of Library Committee (future)

COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

STAFF/CONSULTANT COMMENTS

G. Mouet

- Council Work Study Session on Youth and Family Master Plan Phase I postponed to October 19.
- Agency programs that will benefit from this year's employee Giving Campaign will be the Tutoring Program (Library Services) and Catalina Campout (Recreation Services).

A. Martinez

- Thank you to the Board for the special recognition. Greatly appreciated.

R. Ono

- Recently served on the Guidelines Committee for the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
- Received a call from California Parks and Recreation Society to serve on a review committee.

K. Yamaguchi

- Rhea chicks recently shipped in are doing well. Getting another shipment within a few days.
- Boo at the Zoo is coming at the end of October. A great "merry, not scary" community event.
- Tierra de Las Pampas construction is 75% complete. Plants have been planted and the grasslands will be hydroseeded. Will need about three months for landscaping to establish. Anteaters will be moved into their new exhibit area once the contractor turns the buildings over, and the grand opening will occur in April, 2010.

H. Folmar

- Librarians in the Youth Services section conduct daily story times, workshops and activities and are doing a great job. There is always something available for kids in the Library.

J. Perez

- CoFU working closely with the Reservations Administration staff on revisions to the Facility Use Policies and Procedures document. Will need about another month to finalize.
- With school back in session and football season in full swing, all facilities are very busy right now. Some facilities being closed down due to turf renovations.

BOARD/STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS

J. Stroud

- Inquired if Catalina Campout will occur in 2010 due to budget situation. Staff indicated that it is still a go, as of now. Julie would like line item budget for campout in writing. Was successful in raising \$3,200 for the 2009 campout, and already have donation commitments for 2010.

M. Madrid

- Toys for Tots has secured Building 360 at the former El Toro base. There will be mandatory meetings October 1 and 8 at St. Joe's.
- Senator Correa will be doing Santa at the Zoo on December 5th.

W. Tobiska

- Thespian Troop will be doing "Trick or Treat so Kids Can Eat" in October, collecting canned food and not candy. There will be bins at OCHSA to collect donations.
- Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society will be doing their annual tour of Fairhaven Cemetery on October 17. Theme for this year is "What's in a Name?"

K. Nguyen

- Working with Councilman Sarmiento to identify open lots in the denser areas of the City which can be developed as open space/playgrounds. A lot at McFadden and Standard has been identified and the owner is willing to fence and allow a playground to be installed. A non-profit group will manage the site.

T. Leon

- Attended a film presentation at Tustin City Hall on the marine hangars at El Toro. Very interesting.
- There will be an Open House at the Old County Courthouse.
- Please submit any agenda items to Recording Secretary.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, October 28, 2009 at El Salvador Recreation Center, located at 1825 W. Civic Center Drive, Santa Ana, CA, 92703.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:58 P.M.

Athena Martinez
Recording Secretary