

**The TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
August 4, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Raghada Khoury called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission of the Town of Apple Valley to order at 6:01 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL:

Roll call was taken with the following members present: Chairperson Raghada Khoury, Vice-Chairman Donald Tatera, Commissioners Michael Hinkle, Michael Martin and Jiles Smith.

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Jiles Smith

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

1. Approval of Minutes for Park and Recreation Commission Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Hinkle, seconded by Vice-Chairman Tatera to approve the minutes for the meeting of April 7, 2011. Motion carried by a 5-0-0-0 vote.

2. Approval of Parks and Recreation Division Monthly Report

Motion by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Hinkle to approve the monthly reports for March, April, May and June 2011. Motion carried by a 5-0-0-0 vote.

3. Presentation on Safety and Security at James Woody Park

Captain Bart Belknap of the Apple Valley Police Department discussed the safety and security at James Woody Park including the police sub-station, security camera system and the Police Activities League.

Sergeant Shawn Henry discussed juvenile crime at James Woody Park along with the Police Department and Gang Unit's efforts to deter crime.

Chairperson Khoury asked if there has been a reduction in crime at James Woody Park since the sub-station was established. Sergeant Henry stated that it's too early to compare the statistics since the sub-station was recently established.

Commissioner Smith asked about the juvenile crime statistics over the past three years. Sergeant Henry stated that 2008 had the highest number of arrests which have declined since 2009.

Commissioner Hinkle inquired about what the Town can do as a policy procedure to deter and reduce crime at the park. Sergeant Henry discussed their efforts with the Town

including adjusting sprinkler times, lighting, trimming trees and bushes, renovating the dugouts and establishing a sub-station.

Discussion ensued about the skate park and the compliance and enforcement issues the Town has had. There was also discussion of enforcing and limiting the sale of single consumption alcohol containers at the local liquor stores surrounding James Woody Park.

Ralph Wright, Parks and Recreation Manager provided an update on the security camera system stating that as soon as the location of the cameras are determined, staff will begin the bid process which will hopefully be by the end of the year.

4. Assisted Groups Coaches Training and Code of Conduct Requirements

Joseph Ramos, Recreation Supervisor updated the Commission on staff's research of the local sports groups' policies and procedures for background checks and managing coaches.

Chairperson Khoury asked how often a background check is performed on coaches. Mr. Ramos stated that the groups do a background check every season.

She also asked why some groups require that both parents and coaches sign a code of conduct, while others do not. Mr. Ramos stated that each group is different and writes their own code of conduct. He stated that the department's code of conduct will be distributed to the user groups at the bi-annual meeting and it will be their responsibility to distribute to parents.

Commissioner Smith asked about the possibility of staff randomly auditing the sports groups to ensure that the proper background check is being done. Mr. Ramos stated that staff could only follow up if all background checks were done through the department.

It was the consensus of the Commission to table this item for further discussion.

5. Discussion on Possible Improvements to Horsemen's Center

Mr. Wright discussed proposed improvements at Horsemen's Center by the Equestrian Advisory Committee (EAC). The proposed improvements would be funded through fundraisers the EAC manages or private funding. Mr. Wright requested the Commission's approval for the EAC to move forward with the improvements.

Commissioner Martin asked if the labor would be performed by outside contractors or staff and volunteers. Mr. Wright stated that the labor would be determined by the available funding and would be done by the department's standards.

Commissioner Smith asked if the proceeds were sent to the Town's General Fund. Mr. Wright stated that the funds are deposited in the Apple Valley Community Resource Foundation account.

Vice-Chairman Tatera inquired about the cost for the proposed improvements. Mr. Wright stated that he can send that information to the Commission via email.

Motion by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Hinkle to approve the additional improvements at Horsemen's Center provided funding is secured through fundraisers or donations. Motion carried by a 5-0-0-0 vote.

6. Update on Civic Center Park Aquatic Center Programming

Andy Shoup, Recreation Coordinator updated the Commission on the Summer 2011 programming at the Civic Center Park Aquatic Center including swim lessons, Water Festival, Open Recreation Swim and the Apple Valley WAVE.

Commissioner Martin asked if there are any crime incidents that happen at the pool. Mr. Shoup stated that there are rarely any incidents at the pool.

Commissioner Smith commended the staff at the pool for their professionalism during summer swim lessons.

7. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

Mr. Wright discussed the Parks and Recreation Master Plan including the implementation survey and then finalizing and completing the plan.

8. Update on the Parks Budget

Mr. Wright updated the Commission on the proposed budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. He discussed the operating budgets for the Parks, Facilities and Recreation Divisions.

Vice-Chairman Tatera asked about the status of the proposed water reclamation facility at the Lenny Brewster Sports Center. Mr. Wright stated that the Town Council approved the project and is currently in the Planning Department stages. There will be a significant decrease in expenditures for water once the facility is operational.

Discussion ensued about outsourcing the maintenance of parks.

9. Selection of Two Commissioners to Participate on Sub-Committee on Parks and Recreation Budget

Chairperson Khoury nominated Commissioner Hinkle and Commissioner Smith to participate in the sub-committee on the Parks and Recreation Budget.

It was the consensus of the Commission to select Commissioner Hinkle and Commissioner Smith for the sub-committee on the Parks and Recreation Budget.

10. Discussion on Possible Uses with PAL Youth Center

Mr. Wright opened the discussion on possible uses of the former Police Activities League (PAL) Youth Center Building. Discussion ensued about the logistics of using the facility as a racquetball court.

It was the consensus of the Commission to use the facility as a racquetball court if feasible since that was the original function of the building.

11. Donation and Installation of a Plaque in Honor of Jane Dollar at Future Dog Park in Civic Center Park

Mr. Wright presented a request to dedicate a bench at the future dog park at Civic Center Park in honor of Jane Dollar, the founder of Pet Partners, Inc. He stated that Pet Partners,

Inc. secured a donation of \$1,000 for the project in 2002 and they are interested in donating additional funding for another bench.

Motion by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Vice-Chairman Tatera to accept the donation and approve the installation of the bench once the dog park is completed. Motion carried by a 5-0-0-0 vote.

PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Wright discussed summer Day Camp moving to the Town Hall Recreation Center, the Apple Valley WAVE, the upcoming Movie in the Park event, the PAL program moving to the Ward Room and the increased graffiti incidents at all the parks.

Mr. Wright commended Lena Quinonez, Recreation Supervisor for all of her efforts with the Healthy Apple Valley program and informed the Commission that she was selected as Employee of the Quarter.

Mr. Wright informed the Commission that the Apple Valley Knights football league will not be operating during the fall season.

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Vice-Chairman Tatera suggested that Mr. Wright attend an upcoming Chamber of Commerce luncheon and provide an update of Parks and Recreation services in Apple Valley. Mr. Wright stated that he is coordinating the presentation with Janice Moore of the Apple Valley Chamber of Commerce.

SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Hinkle seconded by Vice-Chairman Tatera and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

TOWN CLERK