

**CITY OF FULLERTON
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
FINAL MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Monday, Jun 24, 2019
6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cox called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Hussaini led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Gretchen Cox, Commissioner Michael Savage, Commissioner Ayesha Hussaini, Vice Chair Erik When

Absent: Commissioner Enrique Macias

Staff: Parks and Recreation Director Hugo Curiel, Supervisor John Clements, Coordinator Carol Whitaker, Parks Project Specialist Douglas Pickard

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED

CONSENT ITEMS (Items 1 and 2)

1. MINUTES IF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIN MEETING APRIL 8, 2019
2. PUBLIC WORKS MONTHLY REPORTS FOR APRIL AND MAY 2019

Commissioner Wehn MADE A MOTION to approve the consent items, SECOND by Commissioner Hussaini

VOTE:

AYES: Commissioner Savage, Chair Cox, Commissioner Hussaini, Vice Chair Wehn

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Commissioner Macias

The MOTION PASSED

Regular Business (Items 3 and 4)

Chair Cox requested to change the order of items 3 and 4.

3. KNAPP MEMORIAL BENCH

Parks Project Specialist Pickard gave a PowerPoint presentation in regards to allowing a memorial bench to be put in place supported by a City program that allows families to donate a bench. The Knapp family has requested to place a bench at Hillcrest Park. The bench is on the Lemon St side overlooking the Recreation Building on a concrete path. Director Curiel and Park Project Specialist Pickard have verified that it will not interfere with public park use. The Knapp family has changed the original bench selection due to it being backordered for a couple of months.

DISCUSSION:

No discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED

Commissioner Savage MADE A MOTION to approve the Knapp Memorial Bench, SECONDED by Commissioner Hussaini

VOTE:

AYES: Commissioner Savage, Chair Cox, Commissioner Hussaini, Vice Chair Erik Wehn

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Commissioner Macias

The MOTION PASSED

4. ATHLETIC FIELD USE AND ALLOCATION POLICY

Director Curiel introduced the Athletic Field Use and Allocation Policy and its goals to provide field use in a safe and equitable way. This is the third version of the Policy that has been used in the past.

Parks and Recreation Supervisor John Clements gave a PowerPoint presentation in regards to the Athletic Field Use and Allocation Policy. The previous policy was put in place about 9 years ago but only explained and defined the groups. This new policy has details and definitions. This policy will help partner groups keep their status by defining the different groups that are using the fields. The document is also for volunteers to be able to reference if needed. The youth groups have grown in club and competitive play and this document is also aimed to help them succeed and meet their needs. Supervisor Clements explained the process of how the policy has come together and the steps taken to present the policy to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Supervisor Clements brought up issues with field use and allocation issues and the way this information was used to form the policy. He explained the documents that are accessible on the City website to request field use along with information that allows users to know what group they fall in and how the allocations will take place. The document also includes a compliance process for the teams to encourage users to comply. To meet the request of competitive play field use there has been a new group created which will have a second priority status. The rest of the document includes rules and regulations that have already been in place in the past as well as some that are new. Also, code of conduct has been added that is based on respect.

Chair Cox requested to allow Public Comment before discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Munish Bharpdwaja – Understands policies need to have equity. Supports competitive play for kids that do not want to travel out of the City. Asks City to verify groups are Fullerton Nonprofit, not franchise, and make sure board members are volunteers and not paid.

Tom Conner – Asks the City to reconsider and allow to use paid staff to assist with Recreation play.

Robin Fichtelberg – Is questioning allocation because she sees open fields while driving through the City while City says there is no availability. Hopes the Rangers are able to continue to run as they have been.

Brandon Myers – Chose the Fullerton Rangers as the best option for his daughter to play competitively and hopes his son has the same opportunity.

Kelly Castaneda – As a director of Recreation play in the Rangers she needs to have paid staff to run efficiently.

Kyle Kim – Wanted to point out the importance of paid staff. Also, wants clarification on how the allocations will affect the Competitive programs.

Lorena Velez – Wants to thank the Rangers for the opportunity to allow children to play.
Jamie Rocha - Has seen her children grow in the team and her son believes playing in the Rangers is a great opportunity and their goal is to play at a professional level.

Maria Noria – Her daughter received a scholarship and want to thank the Rangers for helping her receive her scholarship. Wants support for other children to have the same opportunity.

James Lira – Wants to allow the Rangers to continue to grow.

Christopher Blashaw – His son started to play in Recreation but was not always playing and is now a lot happier playing in Competitive play. Recreation and Competitive play need each other to exist. Wants to encourage players to come from other cities not just Fullerton.

Michael Mendoza – Questions why the way Rangers has been run needs to change and mentions other surrounding cities allow their Competitive teams to use City fields.

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED

DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Hussaini: Wanted clarification if there is no priority for Fullerton teams.

Supervisor Clements: This new policy splits Recreation and Competitive teams into Group 1 and Group 2 with different priority status.

Commissioner Savage: Wants to clarify to Kyle Kim that the Competitive play is second priority and during their prime season time there is no competition for the fields.

Commissioner Savage: Answering Robin's question in regards to driving by empty fields.

Supervisor Clements: Depends on the field's amenities and season of the year because some fields have no lighting. During Spring fields are being used heavily and during summer months fields are not being used as often or could be due to field maintenance.

Robin Fichtelberg: Questioned about MOU with school district and noticed most of the fields at schools are the ones not being used.

Commissioner Savage: There is no MOU with high schools and assures there are permits on all other fields.

Commissioner Savage: Explains how large organizations go through growing pains and believes volunteers can cover the needs of the teams.

Commissioner Savage: Answered to Chris' question about separating Recreation and Competitive play and explains the new group was created for Fullerton Rangers. City wants the Rangers to stay in Fullerton and wants to help them comply so others wanting to come use City fields or want to be partners cannot say they are more compliant than the Rangers.

Chair Cox: Explains why City cannot allow Rangers to have paid staff. With having so many children in the organization Rangers have a larger pool of volunteers. The issue with having paid staff is the City is subsidizing field fees so that means the City is helping you pay for staff and that is not the Department's priority but to help Fullerton nonprofit partners and teams succeed.

Chair Cox: Before taking the policy to council there should be some changes made and wants to remind everyone there are some changes that will take a couple of years to be made.

- Review field use fees and maximizing to bring in revenue
- Make sure rules are being tighten in particular banners, signs, and advertisements
- List of infractions or violations/ noncompliance
- Stronger language in regards to proposed deadlines
- If a league who has a history of violating rules requests to be a partner the request should go to the Commission to know what their history has been
- Group two should commit to give free training the coaches in the Recreation Side.

VOTE:

Motion to move the approval to a future meeting. Ayesha **SECONDED**

AYES: Commissioner Savage, Chair Cox, Commissioner Hussaini, Vice Chair When

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Macias

The **MOTION PASSED 4-0**

COMMISSION/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Director's Comments:

Director Curiel's updates:

- Day of Music on Friday, June 21st was successful
- The City's Fourth of July event 5:00pm-9:00pm with firework show starting at 9:00pm at the Fullerton High School field
- 5th Annual Health Fair in August 10th from 10am-1pm
- Spray pool have been opened

- Summer programs and Camp Hillcrest have began
- Summer concert series will have three concerts at the Fullerton Sports Complex and three at Hillcrest Park

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

- No questions or discussion from Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wehn MADE A MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm,
SECONDED by Commissioner Hussaini

VOTE:

AYES: Commissioner Savage, Chair Cox, Commissioner Hussaini, Vice Chair Wehn

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Macias

Commissioner Wehn MADE A MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm,
SECONDED by Commissioner Hussaini

Respectfully submitted,



Director Curiel, Secretary