CITY OF FULLERTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION FINAL MINUTES

City Council Chamber 303 W Commonwealth Avenue Monday, February 10, 2020 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wehn called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

FLAG SALUTE

Vice Chair Macias led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Erik Wehn, Vice Chair Enrique Macias, Commissioner Michael Savage, Commissioner Gretchen Cox, Commissioner Ayesha Hussaini

Absent:

Staff: Director Hugo Curiel, Parks Project Specialist Douglas Pickard, Manager Amanda Arbiso, Supervisor Ricardo Veloz

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED

CONSENT ITEMS (Items 1 and 2)

- 1. MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING JANUARY 13, 2020
- 2. PUBLIC WORKS MONTHLY REPORTS FOR JANUARY 2020

Commissioner Savage MADE A MOTION to approve the consent items, SECONDED by Commissioner Cox.

VOTE:

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

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

The MOTION PASSED 5-0

REGULAR BUSINESS (Item 3)

3. PEARL PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Discussion:

Parks Project Specialist Douglas Pickard gave a PowerPoint presentation about Pearl Park. Parks Project Specialist Pickard gave facts about the Pearl Park land throughout the presentation. The park will be next to the Garnet Center and will be a great amenity for the community and neighborhood center. The City is in the process of purchasing the lot from 33 undivided interests. In the 90's, the lot became an issue and the City took it over.

In 2018 a majority of the owners modified their CCR to have the ability to sell their part of the land. Currently, there are only two purchases in escrow and all others have now closed. The City applied for a State grant and had five community meetings. In August, a grant application was submitted to build a park on the lot. In November there was a site visit from the State.

The Pearl Park lot is currently being used by the neighborhood residents as a parking lot. As well as homeless encampments.

The current concept includes maximum play space, basketball courts, play structure, green space and picnic sites. There will be fencing installed to keep balls from going in the alleys and keep park users safe.

Commissioner Savage: Will the park be secured?

Director Curiel: The Park has not been intended to be locked at night and would encourage creating a secure environment by ownership and use.

Commissioner Cox: Where is the parking for this park?

Parks Project Specialist Pickard: There is not a parking lot other than one handicap spot. The park will be used by the residents that can walk to the park.

Director Curiel: The granting agency was not keen on having a parking lot and would rather have green space.

Commission Cox: Has the community seen this proposal?

Parks Project Specialist Pickard: The proposal was sent out and were notified of Commission meeting and was also show at the Garnet Center.

Chair Wehn: Has the soil been tested since it has been used as a parking lot and will be turned into a park?

Director Curiel: It's not believed that the land is contaminated.

Director Curiel: The City is trying to reach full ownership of the lot. There are a total of 33 owners, 31 have been closed, one is in process, and the last owner has been hard to reach.

Parks Project Specialist Pickard: We have majority ownership of the lot

Commissioner Cox: Do the owners own a specific area of the lot?

Parks Project Specialist Pickard: they do not own a specific area.

Commissioner Wehn: What is the plan if the grant is not awarded?

Director Curiel: During budget season we will budget one million dollars in case the grant doesn't go through and looking into other grants as well.

Commissioner Cox MADE A MOTION to approve the Pearl Park Improvements, SECONDED by Commissioner Savage.

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

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

The MOTION PASSED 5-0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Walter Clarke commented that the 18 parked cars will be upset that their parking is being removed.

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED.

COMMISSION/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Director's Comments:

- Registration for the Fishing Derby opens April 4th
- FitClub Challenge has started
- 6th annual Wedding Show taking place March 1st

- Tax assistance program taking place at the Fullerton Community Center for seniors

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wehn MADE A MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Director Curiel, Secretary