



SAN BENITO COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK COMMISSION

Jesse Garza	Jaimie DelaCruz	Richard Wagoner	Fred Paganan	Reb Monaco
VFW	Chair Board of Sup.	American Legion	Vice-Chair San Juan Bautista VFW	Board of Sup.

San Benito County Board Chamber - 481 4th Street, Hollister, CA 95023

REGULAR MEETING Action Minutes Monday, November 2, 2009

1. Call To Order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman De La Cruz.

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Monaco.

1.2 Roll Call: Commissioners present were: Jaime De La Cruz, Reb Monaco, and Richard Wagoner. Fred Paganan and Jesse Garza were absent.

Staff Present were: Steve Wittry, Public Works Administrator; Mike Hodges, Staff Analyst; and Kathy McShane, Secretary I.

1.3 Acknowledge Certificate of Posting:

The agenda was posted on Thursday, October 29, 2009 by 5:00 p.m. at the San Benito County Courthouse and the lobby of the Administration Building.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Monaco and seconded by Commissioner Wagoner, the Certificate of Posting was unanimously approved.

2. Public Comment: None

3. Consent Agenda: Approval of minutes of October 5, 2009

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Wagoner and seconded by Commissioner Monaco, the minutes of October 5, 2009, were unanimously approved.

4. Staff Announcements - information only:

Steve Wittry said the City of Hollister wants to know where the Commission stands on the Marne Drive access issue. This item will be placed on the next agenda for additional discussion.

5. Commission Announcements, Introductions, and Presentations - information only:
None

6. Regular Agenda:

6.1 Berm Project Update

Mike Hodges reported that this project was approved during the last meeting, and Public Works is in the process of scheduling the work to remove the berm.

Steve Ferranti, President of Babe Ruth, said they have a clinic starting on January 30 and league tryouts on February 6. He asked if the berm could possibly be removed before January. Mike stated that every effort would be made to accommodate the Babe Ruth in keeping the construction distraction to a minimum.

6.2 Playground Safety Barrier Update

Mike said the County is in the process of purchasing the chain link fencing for this barrier, and he will continue to update the Commission on the progress.

6.3 Park Water Supply Update

Mike said staff had made contact with the City of Hollister on this subject, and a preliminary meeting will be scheduled. He said the meeting would center around metering and installing some type of water meters.

Chairman De La Cruz asked Tina Garza, from the City of Hollister Parks & Recreation, if the City charges the softball leagues for water; Tina said no, and the adult co-ed program through Kiwanis does not get charged either.

Steve Wittry said there could be a pass-through clause in the use contract to have the charge for water passed on to the users of the park. He also said water costs have been escalating, and the 10-year contract between the county and city has lapsed and will need to be re-negotiated. The water is costing the City \$50,000 per year, and the City wants to make some type of changes.

Commissioner Wagoner asked if this was a pressing matter, and if the Commission does not meet for two months, if the process would be slowed down. Steve said no, that it is not a top priority right now but will be soon.

The public hearing was opened.

Veronica Flournoy said she hopes the user groups are invited to participate in the water discussions and be included in any conversations about costs.

The public hearing was closed.

6.4 Park Naming Policy Update

Mike said the policy went to the Board of Supervisors on October 27 and was approved.

6.5 Lights and Basketball Court Update

Mike said the County is scheduling the installation of lights at the basketball court, and will continue to update the Commission on the progress.

The public hearing was opened.

Tina Garza asked if the pavement would be leveled. Mike said right now that was not in the current plans. Tina said street ball and 3-on-3 basketball currently use Rancho's courts and additional lighted courts at Vet's Park would be appreciated. Mike said surfacing was part of the original project and he would update Tina on this issue.

6.6 League Master Schedule

Mike said staff has only received two schedules so far, and needs Commission direction into how much detail to compare the end user's schedules. If staff is going to monitor all park user schedules then a new software system is recommended that would cost \$30,000.

Commissioner Monaco said it is not the intent of the Commission to monitor league schedules, but to avoid conflict between leagues. He said he hopes the leagues can come to agreement on field use themselves, because they would not want this Commission to have to do it for them. Commissioner Wagoner said that using an Excel spreadsheet should work; Steve said the City uses a program called "Rec Track, which is very complicated and very expensive. He said we should get all the schedules and then show them to the other leagues to be sure there are no conflicts.

Chairman De La Cruz said the Veteran's Park Commission has the final say on schedules, but will only get involved if absolutely necessary. Commissioner Monaco agreed, and said if the Commission got involved it would gum up the process.

The public hearing was opened.

Veronica Flournoy said the leagues can manage the scheduling themselves, and it was public knowledge that it is Babe Ruth and the Little League that have the conflict. Steve said there were conflicts between other leagues also. Veronica said she appreciates the Use Agreement Babe Ruth has with Veterans Park, and wants it to continue. She said if approached by anyone wanting to use the Babe Ruth field, they will accommodate them if at all possible, but communication is the only way to solve issues and that everyone has to compromise.

Steve Ferranti handed out the Babe Ruth schedule for 2010. He said there is a conflict in the user agreement, as their season starts on January 1 and ends on October 30. They are fixing the field the other two months, and the schedule does not show the use of the field for practices.

The public hearing was closed.

7. Adjournment

There was a motion by Commissioner Monaco and a second by Commissioner Wagoner to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman De La Cruz said the December and January meetings are cancelled. The next regular meeting will be on February 1, 2010.