

5. Commission Announcements, Introductions and Presentations – Information Only

5.1 Commissioner St. John announced he would be stepping down from his commission seat due to personal issues and introduced the new San Juan Bautista VFW approved representative Bob Picha. Bob will also be accepting the duties of commission vice-chair.

5.1 Commissioner Gallagher provided an update on events and activity associated with the San Benito County Parks and Recreation commission. He noted the planning that occurred during a park retreat, two new student commissioners were appointed, and outreach efforts that are underway.

6. Discussion Items

6.1 Park Sponsorship Policy review

The Public Works Department received a request from the San Benito County Parks and Recreation Commission to have the Veterans Memorial Park Commission review and comment on a newly proposed park sponsorship policy. The Parks & Recreation Commission intends to make a park sponsorship policy recommendation to the Board of Supervisors in the near future in an effort to establish specific guidelines regarding sponsorship interaction with the county. The comments and recommendations made today regarding this topic will be forwarded back to the Parks & Recreation Commission for inclusion into its advisory recommendation. Janelle presented the policy and answered questions the commission raised.

The commission raised a number of questions including location re-naming, ability to have multiple sponsor fund accounts, interfere with current league advertising fundraising, and only naming fields in the park after local U.S. Veterans.

The commission did not want to slow the policy approval process, so direction was given to remove all referenced to the Veterans Memorial Park from the proposed policy prior to Board of Supervisor approval. Once the commission was able to have their concerns addressed at a future meeting, the policy could then be amended to include the Veterans Memorial Park.

6.2 Heat Field Border Update

Mike updated the commission on a prior complaint received by a park neighbor regarding dust and noise from the Hollister Heat field. Contact was made with the Heat and maintenance procedures have been modified to remedy the situation. This update is simply reporting back to the commission a successful solution has been reached.

6.3 Heat / Bulldog field usage contract

The Public Works Department received a request from Roy Iler of the Hollister Black Jacks and George Ramirez of the Hollister Heat regarding a field usage agreement for the Heat fields located in the Veterans Memorial Park. San Benito County Ordinance 167.5 allows the Veterans Park Commission to waive the usage fee to the Hollister Heat organization. This request would allow the Hollister Heat to enter and manage a sub-usage agreement with the Hollister Black Jacks. All stipulations and requirements of the initial Hollister Heat agreement must be included in the sub-usage agreement.

Commissioner De La Cruz commended both Roy and George for their ability to work together to benefit the girls of our community. Commissioner Muenzer wanted to ensure the usage contract was between both ball leagues and the Veterans Memorial Commission. If any issues would arise between the leagues regarding the usage agreement, the Veterans Commission will have the ability to cancel the contract. The goal is for the local girls to have a safe healthy sporting experience.

A motion to approve a joint user agreement between the Veterans Park Commission, Hollister Heat, and Hollister Black Jacks for limited Black Jacks use of Hollister Heat fields use was made by Commissioner Muenzer and seconded by Commissioner Hawkins. Motion passed 5-0.

6.4 Park Operation Update

Mike updated the commission on facility operations and management progress occurring during the last quarter. Rental usage, project accomplishments, planned work schedules, user complaints, vandalism, and financial updates were all discussed.

6.5 Park Water Supply Update

The current capital budget has identified a rollover Park Well project of \$200,000 for the installation of an irrigation well and delivery system connection. Public Works staff has completed a bidding process for the creation of a well and the necessary directional boring to supply utility service to the well head. The County and City have been working together to address the financing aspects of the capital improvement portions of the park water supply. All the park user groups will still receive an increase in utility service expenses to provide water, but it is expected to be quite nominal.

Future actions on this subject will require a MOU between the Veterans Park Commission, the City of Hollister, and the County. Once the agreement is completed, this commission will review and approve. Construction has begun on this project with a well head creation between the Adult Large and Heat #1 fields. Construction pictures were displayed.

6.6 Cell Tower Update

During the February 4th meeting, staff presented a proposal from AT&T to install a new cell phone tower within the park. Direction was given to proceed with the project and provide commission update reports. Currently the AT&T project team has determined site location, foot print size, and basic structure components. This report contains a preliminary lease agreement for review and comments. The commission discussed the possibility of two towers conflicting with each other. The commission wanted this new contract to be competitive with other companies.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Veterans Memorial Park Commission, Commissioner Gallagher made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10p.m., seconded by Commissioner Hawkins. Motion passed 5-0.

The next regular meeting of the Veterans Memorial Park Commission will be held on Monday, February 3, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Hodges, Staff Analyst
San Benito County Veterans Memorial Park Commission