

6. Discussion Items

6.1 Eagle Scout Project Update

Mike Hodges updated the Commission with pictures of the finished project. There was an article on Benito Link regarding Andrew's project at the skate park. Andrew Pearson wants to thanks the Commission for the opportunity to do his project at the skate park.

6.2 Softball Field Activity

Commissioner De La Cruz introduced Andrew Barragan with the Blackjacks Fast Pitch Softball Organization. Mr. Barragan is looking to partner with the City of Hollister to utilize the small women's softball field. The Blackjack's are willing to do needed renovations in order to use the facility. Commissioner Muenzer asked why the City of Hollister hasn't come to the Commission regarding upgrades and why/when permission was given to put up locked gates and wants clarification on who actually owns the baseball/softball/soccer fields? Mike Hodges stated the City can budget for upgrades but would have to address the Commission once upgrades were going to happen. The locked gates were presented to the Commission approximately 1 ½ years ago. The County of San Benito does own the fields therefore the Commission would have final approval on who would be using any fields. Hollister Heat, Babe Ruth, Hollister Little League, Tremors and the City of Hollister have a contract for specific fields to use, maintain and keep in good working order and at no net cost to the County. Certain topics need to be addressed and Commissioner Muenzer would like this agendized for the next meeting. There are three scenarios in regards to the Blackjack's use of the small field. One, the Blackjack's asking the Veteran's Park Commission for a Memorandum of Understanding. Two, The Blackjack's get tied into the Memorandum of Understanding that exists with the City of Hollister. Three, two separate Memorandum of Understanding for two different time periods, one with the City of Hollister and the other with the Blackjack's.

6.3 Park Operations Update

Mike Hodges spoke regarding the Veteran's Memorial Park BBQ areas. The rentals for the BBQ areas are doing great for Saturday events but are now slowing down on Sunday's. The Bertha Briggs Building is at 93%. Again, doing great on Saturday's and Sunday's are slowing down. The crew is working diligently on locating, identifying and fixing any water main breaks. There have been no reports of vandalism or graffiti since the last meeting. We are still trying to keep the lawns looking good. There have been no customer complaints. We are still waiting on AT&T regarding the cell tower. There are still two solar powered test lights in the parking lot. If all goes well with them more will be purchased and installed. New staffing hours are in effect, the parks and Bertha Briggs Building are staffed by a county employee 8 hours a day, 7 days a week. Commissioner Hawkins has concerns regarding water issues such as broken sprinklers and water main breaks. Mike stated that a call to the non-emergency number after regular business hours would be the process to follow. They in turn have a call list of the after hour on call person. Commissioner Gallagher wanted an update on the skateboard ramp issue from the last meeting. Mike Hodges stated that the problem has been rectified. Commissioner Gallagher also brought up that any issues with the skate park should sent to the City of Hollister as it is part of their Memorandum of Understanding.

6.4 Park Water Supply Update

Jake Hubbell reported they are trying to find a solution with pressure tanks and to rectify future breaks in the future. A mechanical engineer will be looking at the issue as well. The well is possibly drawing sand into the pipes and this issue needs to be addressed. Commissioner Muenzer asked for an update

regarding invoicing users for water usage. Mike Hodges stated meters have been installed and are recording usage. Invoices have not been sent out however by the next meeting invoices will go out to users.

6.5 FY 15/16 Capital Improvement Projects

Mike Hodges presented the Commission with photos of the new completed roof at the Bertha Briggs Building. Rentals of the building were not affected by the construction. Rental revenue, 1st quarter 24%, services and supplies 27%, salaries and benefits 55% (there is a problem with the inside financial system), total expenses 22%. Mike will be looking closer at the salaries and benefits issue. The budget for the 1st quarter is looking good. There are five capital projects within the parks that are approved for this year. The Veteran's Memorial Park BBQ Pits to be refurbished. Veteran's Memorial Park sewer connection which is part of the agreement with the City of Hollister. Currently the restrooms at VMP and the Bertha Briggs Building are on septic. We are working on getting sewer connections for all facilities. The parking lot lights project. Veteran's Memorial Park irrigation line, the well is functioning however it is not a complete well system until all irrigation lines are installed. The Veteran's Memorial Park improvement for the restrooms will be happening this year as well. One restroom needs to be completely replaced and another needs help. Commissioner Hawkins asked about the standing of the ADA improvements at the Bertha Briggs Building and Veteran's Memorial Park. Mike Hodges stated that we are ADA compliant with regards to prior project implementations.

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 7:50 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Hawkins. Motion passed 4-0.

The next regular meeting of the Veterans Memorial Park Commission will be held on Monday, February 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

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