REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PARKS, RECREATION AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

March 18, 2015
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Stuart called the meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission to order at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Chair Laura Stuart
Vice Chair Scott Zeidman
Commissioner Scott Garland
Commissioner Kay Heineman
Commissioner Kelly Kent Marin

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda

Chair Stuart invited public participation.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Action Items

Item A-1

(1) Invitation to the Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Commission from the City Council to Provide Comment during the City's Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Budget Process; and (2) (If Desired) Comment on the PRCS Department Budget and Work Plans

Dan Hernandez, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director, introduced the item and discussed procedures.

Chair Stuart reported drafting a proposed letter emphasizing the fact that programs do not happen without staff; she noted the need to ask the City Council to make the department more of a priority; she expressed concern with staff reductions; discussed the importance of including a grant writer in the budget; the need to review the MOU's for heavy users; fee schedules; and maintenance costs.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding paring down to essential items; depth of the need; the modified budget process; creating an opportunity for Commission input; demographics; the Senior part of the budget; staffing at the Senior Center; the remodel; security for the Pool Room; the need for a trained social worker at the Senior Center; grant funding; a suggestion to have City staff and the Senior Center get together to discuss improvements; money allocated; identifying the most pressing and possible needs for the next year; the split with outside contractors; AYSO and Culver City Little League; the Major League Soccer contract; creating revenue; making sure that fees are more in-line with adjacent cities; maintenance costs; and translating what has been discussed in the meeting to a written document.

Vice Chair Zeidman indicated that he wanted to see language on page 2 changed to delete "baseball and AYSO Leagues" and he felt that the fees should be more in line with the typical 70/30 spilt with accommodation for any work done by individual organizations on the field.

Commissioner Garland commented that the lack of money is a City issue; he agreed with taking the letter to the City Council: he wanted to see items prioritized; and he felt that grant writing should be the first priority on page 1.

The Commission agreed that grant writing should be the number one priority under Operations with Community Gardens listed as the first priority under Projects.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding assisting the Senior Center to create a partnership for a part time social counselor; expanding the after school program; additional identified positions; and offset costs.

Commissioner Garland discussed his flag football proposal; the outside contractor; and he clarified that the project would be self-funded.

Chair Stuart indicated that since the program was self-funded it would not need to be sent to the City Council as part of the budget.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding Commission purview; ad hoc Committee discussions; location of the practices for the flag football program; a suggestion by Commissioner Marin to reallocate unused baseball diamonds for soccer use; budget impact; and agreement to support the letter from Chair Stuart as modified.

Chair Stuart clarified the agreed upon changes including: changing item 1, on page 1 to become item 2; under Operations at the top of page 2, item 2 would become item 1; under Contracts and MOU'S eliminate the third line down in the sentence "an excellent example is the baseball and AYSO Leagues: and add "and to be more in line with the previous City 70/30 split for other organizations"; under Projects move Community Gardens to number 1 and everything else down appropriately; add the remodeling at the Senior Center and interfacing; and add "Assist Senior Center to create partnership for a part time social counselor."

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HEINEMAN, SECONDED BY CHAIR STUART AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION: RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL THE SUGGESTED ANNOTATIONS OUTLINED IN THE STAFF REPORT AND ADDITIONAL COMMENTS MADE AT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING.

Patricia Mooney, Senior Administrative Analyst, received clarification that the next agenda should contain an item regarding the Youth Advisory ad hoc subcommittee with their recommendations as discussed and with the potential dissolution of the subcommittee.

Discussion ensued between Commissioners regarding whether to liquidate the ad hoc subcommittee; feedback from attendees of the National Parks and Recreation Conference; and a suggestion to agendize a budget discussion each January, February and March to allow for proper feedback.

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Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda

Chair Stuart invited public input.

No speakers came forward and no cards were received.

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Receipt of Correspondence

None.

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Items From Staff

None.

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Items From Commissioners

Vice Chair Zeidman wanted to see the non-passive parks become more athletically diverse and more active; more organized sports activities for Culver City youth; he noted that the City provided space for Adult Softball, Adult Basketball, and Adult Kickball but none for children; he felt that youth should have the opportunity to try out different sports in the City; he discussed Senior Recreation Leaders in the City; he wanted to see more arts and crafts available for children; he wanted to see a more open attitude toward trying to make things work; he discussed his efforts with Commissioner Garland to create a Basketball League; and costs for a league for children vs. a league for adults.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding the importance of diversity in sports; whether to dissolve the Youth Sports ad hoc subcommittee; creating City run programs vs. contract programs; the description of the Youth Sports Advisory ad hoc subcommittee; and agendizing a discussion of the subcommittee and potential member changes.

Commissioner Garland reported discussion with the Community College District regarding land for community gardens; a joint venture with the; and he clarified that land was not available for a community garden.

John Nachbar, City Manager, clarified that the City was collaborating with the Community College District in developing a site to create revenue for the College while meeting the mission of the school.

Chair Stuart received Commission consensus that the discussion of community gardens be agendized for the April meeting and she asked that the word urban be added to the description.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 7:53 P.M., the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission adjourned to the next regular meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2015.

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Patricia A. Mooney
ATTENDING SECRETARY of the Parks, Recreation

and Community Services Commission

APPROVED ____________________

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Laura Stuart
CHAIR of the PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
Culver City, California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that, on the date below written, these minutes were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, Culver City, California and constitute the Official Minutes of said meeting.

_________________________ _________________________
Martin R. Cole Date
CITY CLERK