

**CITY OF LOS BANOS  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 20, 2009**

***ACTION MINUTES – These minutes are prepared to depict action taken for agenda items presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission.***

**CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Neu called the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Lilledahl led the pledge of allegiance.

**ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE TO APPOINTED OFFICIALS:** Assistant City Clerk/HR Technician Sousa administered the oath of office to Airport Advisory Commission Members John D. Castillo, Don Goin, and Dionysious L.J. Lilledahl.

**ROLL CALL – MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION PRESENT:** Castillo, Goin, Herrera, Lilledahl, Neu; Skinner excused.

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Interim Public Works Director/City Engineer Fachin, Parks & Recreation Operations Manager Cardoza, Office Manager Hogan, Recreation Supervisor Baker, Parks Foreman O'Brien, Assistant City Clerk/HR Technician Sousa.

**NOMINATION AND SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR 2009:** Motion by Herrera, seconded by Goin to nominate Neu to serve as Chairperson for 2009; Motion by Castillo, seconded by Goin to nominate Herrera to serve as Vice-Chairperson for 2009. The motions carried by the affirmative vote of all Parks and Recreation Commission Members present; Skinner excused.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion by Herrera, seconded by Goin to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all Parks and Recreation Commission Members present; Skinner absent.

**PUBLIC FORUM: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON ANY ITEM OF PUBLIC INTEREST THAT IS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE CITY; INCLUDES AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS. NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS. SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO A FIVE (5) MINUTE PRESENTATION. DETAILED GUIDELINES ARE POSTED ON THE COUNCIL CHAMBER INFORMATION TABLE.** No one came forward to speak and the public forum was closed.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA.** Motion by Goin, seconded by Herrera to approve the consent agenda as follows: Minutes for the October 21, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting; Minutes for the October 28, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting; Acceptance of Recreational Program Monthly Report. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all Parks and Recreation Commission Members present; Skinner excused.

**PARKS AND RECREATION OPERATIONS MANAGERS REPORT.** Staff welcomed the new Commissioners; last Saturday the basketball program started; commended the School District and maintenance crew for making sure everything ran smoothly; Commissioner Lilledahl inquired as to how many teams and volunteers, and the cost for the kids to participate; staff reported 44 teams this year, ages 3-13 and approximately 40 volunteer coaches; cost is \$48.00 for ages 5-13, and \$43.00 for ages 3-4; the cost was publicized in the Recreation Guide, and will be adjusted for next year; scholarship funds are also available for families; Commissioner Castillo asked if any kids are turned away due to a capacity limit, and if the facilities are adequate; staff explained that a deadline date is set up for signups and then a waiting list is established; two gym facilities are being utilized on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Commissioner Herrera asked about the scholarship fund; staff explained that with the scholarship fund the City pays for 40% of the cost of the program and the participant pays for 60%; anyone can donate to the scholarship fund and the scholarships help support the programs; Commissioner Goin stated that a lot more individual support from the community would greatly help to support the activities.

**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/CITY ENGINEER REPORT.** Staff welcomed the new Commissioners and thanked John Spevak and Diana Ingram for their service to the community; informed the Commission that the City Council, at their meeting on January 7<sup>th</sup>, adopted a revised budget for FY 2008-09, which included reduction of full time staff; staff's direction for future recreation programs is to have the programs pay for themselves and overhead; staff is working with Little League and PAL to give direct fairness to every group; the revised budget may have an impact with a little less response time in some issues; aquatics program has been eliminated; the pool is owned by the School District, but the City has been maintaining the pool; at the end of January, the City will end their maintenance of the pool, and will be helping the School District with the transition; the Tiger Sharks will schedule their events and programs through the School District; the open pool and swim lessons have been eliminated; the School District may continue a swim program; development of new parks is slow; staff will keep the Commission informed of the new budget as we go along; Commissioner Neu asked staff to explain to the new Commission members the maintenance of the parks; staff explained that there are two types of parks: the parks that are in new subdivisions are in Lighting and Landscape Districts, and the taxes pay for the maintenance of those facilities; the older parks did not have a Lighting and Landscape District set up, and funds from the General Fund pay for the maintenance in those parks; the City currently contracts out with two

landscapers, and both landscapers are performing bi-weekly service now, instead of weekly service; the current contract will expire the end of June and the City will be going out with a request for qualifications for landscape services to bid on a new contract; staff explained that the parks division does not have the type of equipment and labor to do the landscaping service in-house, but the landscaping in the smaller areas, the City is maintaining; supplies to restrooms and garbage clean-up have been cut back; Commissioner Neu asked about the feasibility of volunteers doing park maintenance; staff explained it presents a liability to the City; Commissioner Castillo expressed his concern that the pool would not be open in the summer; staff explained that the aquatics program is the largest negative output in our fund; staff suggested talking to the School District, the owners of the pool, with regards to an open swim program for the summer; Commissioner Castillo inquired about adult softball; staff is working on new fees for adult softball, with two seasons instead of three.

### **COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS.**

**CASTILLO:** Introduced himself to the Commission; looking to give to the community whatever he can in these difficult times; hates to see any recreation programs let go; is looking forward to working with everyone, and getting creative in supporting programs that won't be costly.

**GOIN:** Introduced himself to the Commission; is a School Board representative, serving on the Commission for a second time and looking forward to it; important to give the kids everything we can, and to keep them busy.

**HERRERA:** Introduced himself to the new Commissioners; thanked the Commission for nominating him as vice-chair; is important we help out and keep the kids busy and occupied and out of trouble; inquired about the cost that was published in the newspaper to maintain the parks; staff advised it was not a correct figure; asked why a certain tractor is always flailing and not mowing; staff stated that piece of equipment will not be allowed in the RFP.

**LILLEDAHL:** Introduced herself to the Commission; twenty years of experience in the field of recreation; currently Director of the STAR program; with her experience and educational background, would like to give back to the community.

**NEU:** Introduced himself to the new Commissioners; has a background in recreation; was a Little League umpire for many years; has volunteered 15 years with the Recreation Department; one of two County representatives serving on the Commission; there will be a great loss with losing two top recreation people because of the budget cutbacks and layoffs; sad to see Peggy Stanfill go after 28 years; Megan Goin Soares has been with the Recreation Department five years and has done an outstanding job; both have given a lot to the department, and commend both of them.

**SKINNER:** Excused.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at the hour of 7:13 p.m.

APPROVED:

/ s / Michael Neu  
Michael Neu, Chairperson

ATTEST:

/ s / Sharon Hogan  
Sharon Hogan, Secretary