



ACTION AGENDA SPECIAL MEETING

Joint Work Session Visalia City Council & Parks and Recreation Commission
Visalia Convention Center, 303 E. Acequia, Visalia, CA
Monday, March 30, 2009 - 5:00 p.m.

City Council

Mayor: Jesus J. Gamboa - *absent*
Vice Mayor: Bob Link – present (*presiding*)
Council Member: Greg Collins - *present*
Council Member: Donald K. Landers - *absent*
Council Member: Amy Shuklian - *present*

Parks & Recreation Commission

Chairperson: Robert Majors - *present*
Vice-Chairperson: Lesa Mann - *present*
Commissioner: Carla Calhoun - *present*
Commissioner: Russ Desch - *present*
Commissioner: Jeff Boswell – *present*
Alternate: Travis Griffith - *present*

5:05 p.m. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Track 1 **INTRODUCTIONS**

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION

Roland Soltesz, AYSO Assistant Regional Commissioner, presented the Visalia AYSO soccer team for boys 10 and under who recently won the state soccer championship. Vice-Mayor Link and the Council congratulated the boys for representing the City.

CITIZENS REQUESTS – This is the time for members of the public to comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Visalia City Council or the Visalia Parks and Recreation Commission. The Council and Commissioners ask that you keep your comments brief and positive. Creative criticism, presented with appropriate courtesy, is welcome. The Council/Commissioners cannot legally discuss or take official action on citizen request items that are introduced today. In fairness to all who wish to speak, each speaker from the public will be allowed three minutes. Please begin your comments by stating and spelling your name and providing your street name and city.

Matt Glasgow, Birch Lane, Regional Commissioner AYSO, thanked the Council for the Sports Park facility and indicated that over 2000 kids are participating in Visalia's AYSO program.

Track 2

WORK SESSION

1. The role of the Parks & Recreation Commission. Presentation by Robert Mijares, Chairman.
 - a. Annual Letter of Transmittal
 - b. 2008 Annual Report
 - c. 2008-10 Goals of the Commission
 - d. 2008 Attendance Record (14 public meetings)

Chairman Mijares reviewed the annual report, goals, and attendance for the Commission. Mijares indicated that the Commission is in support of closing the old Soroptimist Park in an effort to cut costs for the city and is taking a second look at fees. Mijares commented on the energy and commitment of the Committee.

Commissioners each reviewed their goals for the Committee: Carla Calhoun – collaboration with the City Council and other Committees; Russ Desch – revitalization of Oval Park; Jeff Boswell – Working on General Plan Update Committee and with the Parks and Recreation Foundation; Lisa Mann – advocate for healthy lifestyles; Travis Griffith – outreach to diverse organizations.

Track 3

2. Status report on Active Projects for Parks and Waterways for fiscal Year 2008-10. Presentation by Vincent Elizondo, Director of Parks and Recreation.

Vince Elizondo, Director of Parks & Recreation, reviewed the active projects for 2008-10: New

Soroptimist Park at Linwood/Prospect – grand opening June 2009; Visalia Riverway Sports Park Phase II – grand opening Spring 2010; Village Park/Wittman Center renovation – grand re-opening August 2009.

Elizondo also reviewed four projects that are ready to bid and reviewed projects that were completed in 2008 and 2009.

Council Member Shuklian asked when the Goshen Trail will be improved. Paul Shepard responded that it is included in the 2009/10 CIP budget for Measure R Funds.

Track 4

3. Overview of Recreation Programs for 2008-09. Presentation by Jeannie Greenwood, Recreation Manager.

Jeannie Greenwood Recreation Manager, indicated that the Parks & Recreation Department is celebrating 70 years. Greenwood reviewed the Recreation division goals and new and current programs that are offered in the Youth, Teens Aquatics, and Senior programs. Greenwood reviewed that attendance keeps expanding for special events and programs in spite of the recession.

Track 5

4. Overview of Organized Youth & Adult Sports Programs in Visalia. Presentation by Jason Glick, Recreation Supervisor.

Jason Glick, Recreation Supervisor discussed Youth & Adult Sports Programs and the comparison of the number of teams from 2006 to 2009.

5. Review of Riverway Sports Park Activity for 2008. Presentation by Jason Glick, Recreation Supervisor.

Jason Glick, Recreation Supervisor reviewed the Riverway Sports Park overall park usage and tournament usage. Glick indicated that AYSO is looking at Visalia for their 2010 tournament.

Council members discussed other large annual sporting events that could be retained for the Sports Park or for the Convention Center.

Track 6

6. Park Usage/Facility Management for 2008-09. Presentation by John Bradley, Recreation Supervisor.

John Bradley, Recreation Supervisor reviewed park usage from 2004 to 2008. Bradley indicated that Riverway Sports Park is the top park rental.

There was a general discussion of the fee waiver process and alcohol usage at parks and facilities.

Track 7

7. Overview of City-Wide Special Events. Presentation by John Bradley, Recreation Supervisor.

John Bradley discussed the Special Events Committee activities and compared the number of events from 2006 to 2009. There was a general discussion of a special event application fee. There is no fee at this time.

Tracks
8 & 9

Council and Commissioners gave their closing comments on the importance of continuing these programs in challenging times.

6:35 p.m. Adjourn

Upcoming Council Meetings

- Monday, April 6, 2009, Work Session 4:00 p.m.; Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers 707 W. Acequia
- Monday, April 20, 2009, Work Session 4:00 p.m.; Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers 707 W. Acequia
- Monday, April 27, 2009, 5:00 p.m., Joint Meeting with the Planning Commission, Convention Center, 303 E. Acequia.

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