

**The TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
February 5, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice-Chairman Lyons called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission of the Town of Apple Valley to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with the following members present: Vice-Chairman Patrick Lyons, Commissioners Michael Hinkle, Michael Martin and Richard Turnbull.

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Michael Hinkle

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

MJ Tate, president of So Cal Rush Soccer Club, stated that the organization would like to develop recreational and competitive youth soccer programs and bring tournaments and revenue to Apple Valley. He requested the Commission's support with the overall operation of their league in Apple Valley.

Vice-Chairman Lyons inquired about the name of the minor league that So Cal Rush is moving into this year. Mr. Tate stated that the league is called WSPL and it is a minor league for collegiate players to participate in during the summer in order to stay fit or be drafted.

Vice-Chairman Lyons asked whether or not fields would be needed for games, practices or both. Mr. Tate said that he is working with Victor Valley College for a venue location and So Cal Rush would need fields in Apple Valley to train on.

Commissioner Hinkle stressed the importance of providing youth programs and discussed how playing competitive soccer can lead to college scholarship opportunities. He commended Mr. Tate in providing more youth programs.

Joseph Ramos, Recreation Supervisor, spoke on behalf of Jessica St. Pierra of the Apple Valley Soccer Club. He presented a letter to the Commission that discussed the success of a recent soccer tournament held at Brewster Park and addressed concerns with the dirt perimeter parking around the park.

Vice-Chairman Lyons stated the alternative location for hosting a state cup tournament is approximately 30 minutes north of Bakersfield. He discussed how the Brewster Park is a better venue for Southern California participants and how hosting tournaments is a great opportunity for the park and the Town.

Commissioner Hinkle mentioned that paving the perimeter parking area is included in the Master Plan of Park and Recreation Services and suggested that it be included in the next fiscal year's budget.

Installation of Newly Elected Commission Member

Yvonne Rivera, Deputy Town Clerk, performed the Administration of Oath to newly appointed Commission Member Raghada Khoury.

1. Selection of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

CHAIRPERSON

Motion by Commissioner Hinkle, seconded by Commissioner Turnbull to nominate Vice-Chairman Lyons for Chairman. Motion carried by a 4-0-0-1 vote. Vice-Chairman Lyons abstained.

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Motion by Commissioner Martin, seconded by seconded by Chairman Lyons to nominate Commissioner Hinkle for Vice-Chairman. Motion carried by a 5-0-0-0 vote.

1A. Request to Name a Ballfield at James Woody Park after Mr. Don Ferrarese

Chairman Lyons stated that based on the following a need has arose to take action on an agenda item that occurred after the agenda was posted. Based on this information, a need to take immediate action on an agenda item has occurred after the posting of the agenda.

The item proposed is agenda item number 1A, a request by Councilman Bob Sagona to consider naming a ballfield at James Woody Park after Mr. Don Ferrarese, former Major League Baseball Player and resident of the Town of Apple Valley, prior to the beginning of the Little League Baseball Season.

Because the meetings are bi-monthly, action would need to take place at this meeting in order to meet the requested deadline.

Motion by Chairman Lyons, seconded by Vice-Chairman Hinkle to add item 1A to the agenda. Motion carried by a 5-0-0-0 vote.

Councilman Bog Sagona presented the request to the Commission to name a ball field at James Woody Park after Don Ferrarese. Councilman Sagona discussed the naming committee that originally selected and recommended naming a park after Don Ferrarese and reminded the Commission that the park had since been closed. He also provided some information regarding Mr. Ferrarese's career and the fact that his family has lived in the area for years. He asked the Commission to perpetuate his name by naming a ball field after him.

The Commission agreed that naming of a field after Mr. Don Ferrarese is fitting.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Hinkle, seconded by Chairman Lyons to re-name Field 1 at James Woody Park to Don Ferrarese Field with staff placing signage as they see appropriate." Motion carried by a 5-0-0-0 vote.

2. Approval of Minutes for Park and Recreation Commission Meeting

Motion by Vice-Chairman Hinkle, seconded by Commissioner Martin to approve the minutes for the meeting of December 4, 2008. Motion carried by a 5-0-0-0 vote.

3. Approval of Parks and Recreation Division Monthly Report

Vice-Chairman Hinkle asked about why the ballfield usage at James Woody Park has decreased from the prior year. Ralph Wright, Community Services Manager stated that Little League's participation numbers are not significantly down. He mentioned that program start dates being different from the year prior can have an affect on the usage figures.

Chairman Lyons asked if any programs have been affected by the state of the economy. Mr. Wright stated that the economy has caused participation to decrease in some programs however other programs continue to grow.

Motion by Chairman Lyons, seconded by Vice-Chairman Hinkle to approve the monthly report for November and December 2008. Motion carried by a 5-0-0-0 vote.

4. Request Members to take part in Ad Hoc Skate/BMX Park Committee

Mr. Wright stated that the Town Council has designated an Ad Hoc Committee to discuss the possibility of developing a new skate/BMX park in the Town. The Council has recommended that two Commissioners participate on the Committee.

It was the consensus of the Commission to select Commissioner Khoury and Commissioner Turnbull to participate on the Committee. Chairman Lyons will participate as an alternate.

5. Presentation – Department Update

Joseph Ramos, Recreation Supervisor discussed the Youth Track Meet, adult sports programs such as the new Kickball League, Apple Valley Idol and soccer tournaments held at Brewster Park.

Chairman Lyons stated that he might have some Olympic athletes that could assist with the Youth Track Meet and asked Mr. Ramos to meet with him at a later time to discuss.

Vice-Chairman Hinkle commended Mr. Ramos on the soccer tournament participation at Brewster Park.

Kelly Lindenberg, Recreation Supervisor discussed the Apple Valley WAVE recreational swim program and the Aquacise water aerobics program for individuals with disabilities. She also discussed contract classes such as the Road to Creativity writing class and Fitness Boot Camp.

Chairman Lyons commended Ms. Lindenberg on the increased participation in aquatics programs.

Lena Quinonez, Recreation Supervisor discussed the Special Apples therapeutic recreation program for individuals with disabilities, the After School Program, the Easter Eggstravaganza and the new Swing the Town event.

Mr. Wright stated that the diversity of programs offered by the department continues to increase and commended the Recreation Supervisors for their efforts.

COMMUNITY SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Wright updated the Commission on a six to seven year project of the Parks Department to develop the soil base on the fields at Brewster Park. He also discussed the new fiber that was put in the playgrounds at Corwin Park, Mendel Park and Brewster Park and mentioned that there is no longer a caretaker living at Brewster Park.

Vice-Chairman Hinkle asked if a new caretaker will be placed at Brewster Park. Dennis Cron, Assistant Town Manager stated that there are no plans to have another caretaker placed at the facility.

Chairman Lyons inquired about what provisions are being made to prevent the copper wiring in the ballfield lights from being stolen. Mr. Cron stated that all facilities are at risk and unfortunately there is no guarantee that such incidences will not occur again. He did mention that new laws among scrapping yards will hopefully help with prevention.

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Martin thanked the Recreation Supervisors for their presentation and commended them for their passion, commitment and drive with providing their programs.

Vice-Chairman Hinkle asked about whether or not the Apple Valley Country Club Golf Course will be operated by the Park and Recreation Department. Mr. Cron stated that the golf course will most likely be operated by the Public Services or Municipal Services Department.

Vice-Chairman Hinkle expressed concern about the enforcement of the dress code and etiquette at the golf course. He stated that getting input from golfers who use the facility would be beneficial.

Commissioner Khoury also commended the Recreation Supervisors for their efforts and concurred with Vice-Chairman Hinkle's concern about the golf course dress code and etiquette.

Commissioner Turnbull commended the Recreation Supervisors and thanked Councilman Sagona for attending the meeting.

Chairman Lyons also commended the Recreation Supervisors.

SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Vice-Chairman Hinkle, seconded by Chairman Lyons and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

TOWN CLERK