

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CARLSBAD PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD HELD AT THE PUBLIC WORKS CONFERENCE ROOM ON OCTOBER 20, 2016 AT 1:30 P.M.

Voting Members Present:	Don Dayton Christy Thomas Jim Grantner John Barry Denton McCullough	Chairperson Co-Chairperson Member Member Member
Visitors:	Dave Gillan	Guest
Members Absent:	Akilah Nosakhere	Member
Ex-Officio Member Absent:	Vacant	City Councilor
Board Secretary Present:	Luis Renteria	Parks & Rec. Superintendent

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Dayton at 1:35 pm.

ITEM 1 – ROLL CALL OF VOTING MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Roll call of those present was taken by Don Dayton. It is determined that a quorum is present.

ITEM 2 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The motion was made by Jim Grantner to approve the Agenda as presented. John Barry seconds the motion.

The vote was as follows: Yes –Mr. Dayton, Mr. Grantner, Mr. Barry, Mr. McCullough. No – None. Absent: Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Nosakhere. The motion carries.

ITEM 3 – APPROVAL OF September 15, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The motion was made by Denton McCullough to approve the minutes from the September 15, 2016 meeting Jim Grantner seconds the motion.

The vote was as follows: Yes –Mr. Dayton, Mr. Grantner, Mr. Barry, Mr. McCullough. No – None. Absent: Mrs. Nosakhere, Mrs. Thomas. The motion carries.

ITEM 4 – OLD BUSINESS

A. Review of approved meeting time

Jim suggested keeping the current time for a couple of months before the board makes a different decision.

B. Park Assignments Update

The members discussed the different parks around town and their location. Jim said the other members should pick the parks according to their daily routine, so they can keep an eye on them. A couple of the members turned in their list of parks they requested or would like to have.

C. Bike Paths striping and signing

John Barry would like to have more bike lanes, so people can make it safely to all the parks. Jim Grantner said he would like to see the bike paths and lanes added to the Parks Master Plan. Luis stated that re-stripping and re-paving can be done, just need to request to do so. Luis said that the Street department has a couple of areas that they are going to work on but Jim recommended that John to call 311 to report the potholes. Denton asked what would be the feasibility to connect the Canal path to Martin Luther King Park and Dark Canyon area, he said that would almost make the whole circle around the City, Luis said for them to write up a letter so he can submit to Tom Carlson, Director of Public Works.

D. Board Member Vacancy, Submission to Mayor & City Council

Don Dayton is hoping that the new board member Paul Johnson will show up to next month's meeting and reviewed his personal information.

Jim did question if there was a way to keep track of absents for the Board Members if they are excused or not, so if the members miss so many meetings they can call and ask if they are still interested in being on the board. Luis stated to ask the Deputy Clerk on how to handle that situation better.

ITEM 5 – NEW BUSINESS

A. Report on meeting with Jason Burns

Jim and Dave Gillan spoke to Jason Burns about the outside area of the Water Park, Jason stated that there was a plan but did not move further with the plan because the lack of money. Jim requested for a couple of members from different committees to move forward and come together to complete the area. Jim said that Jason agreed with his idea and would like to get a sub-committee together.

B. Possible additional Funding source for Parks & Rec

Dave stated that last year he wrote a letter about the Land, Water Conservation Fund and wrote a guest opinion this year, and said that the board needs to keep an eye out since budget was coming up. He said he was in touch with both Senator offices to work with them to restore this.

Letter of guest opinion from Dave Gillan is attached.

ITEM 6 – STANDING REPORTS

Luis Renteria went over the Parks Superintendent Report for October.

1. The Construction department is installing the Space Shuttle Memorial marker by the Rocket Slide.
2. The Parks and Construction departments are in the process of installing new playground equipment at the Carlsbad Veterans Memorial Park.
3. The Electrical and Parks departments will be installing new LED light fixtures in the park restrooms and new LED light poles in the Beach area by the Water Park.
4. Garden Mart has trimmed trees at the Lake Carlsbad Recreation area and Park Drive.
5. Volunteers and the City work crews will resume with the upgrades for the playground on the Pecos on November 17th, 18th, and 19th.

ITEM 7 – COMMENTS

Denton asked how to request a metal park bench for the Millennium Park, Luis said that the board does not have the funding but that there are committees that get donations. Jim requested if there could be a simple form made up for the members to write down the information they want requested so Luis can submit to the different departments.

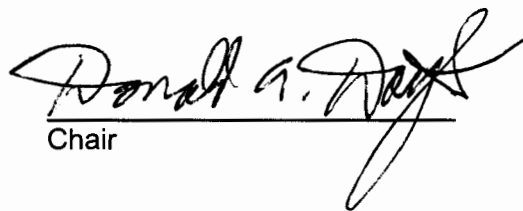
ITEM 9 – SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2016 at 1:30 pm.

ITEM 10 – ADJOURNMENT

The motion was made by Denton McCullough to adjourn the meeting. Christy Thomas seconds the motion.

The motion carries.



Chair

_____ Date

Guest opinion

9/30/14

Land, Water Conservation Fund restoration is good

Good news! The Land and Water Conservation Fund has been restored. A year following the failure of the U.S. Congress to approve the fifty-year-old fund, the LWCF has a new lease on life. Why is that good news for the citizens of Carlsbad and New Mexico?

The fund was created in 1965 and over the years New Mexico has been the beneficiary of millions of dollars from a fund that is derived from offshore drilling royalties. In the year before its year-long hiatus, the fund delivered \$507,000 to New Mexico and over the years families have seen the effects of the fund in familiar locations right here in our city.

When you enjoy the Living Desert, the Sports Complex, the tennis courts, Little League fields, Riverside Park, Spring Park, the West Carlsbad Recreation Area (5th St. Park), Troy Young Park and other recreational facilities right here at our doorstep, you are reaping the benefits of the LWCF.

Following Congress's failure to renew the act last September, our Senator Tom Udall and his staff got to work on finding ways to restore the LWCF, most prominently forging bi-partisan relationships and, in particular, with Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural

Resources. When you enjoy the Living Desert, the Sports Complex, the tennis courts, Little League fields, Riverside Park, Spring Park and other recreational facilities right here at our doorstep, you are reaping the benefits of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Resources. The fund became a rider on the Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2015 which passed the Senate in bipartisan fashion by a vote of 85-12. The Act passed the House by 241-178. Although there is still some reconciling to do, the language of the restored LWCF is not affected. So this is how the Fund has been restored.

In addition to restoring the Fund to its former status, there is now provision for a permanent reauthorization which will avoid the requirement for periodic approval of the fund. There is also a stipulation in the Act which will require the Fund to channel funds only into conservation projects. This translates into approximately \$900 million annually derived from offshore energy leases being distributed to all the states for conservation projects and also for addressing the maintenance backlogs in national parks.

Although not associated with the Fund, the passage of the Energy Policy Modernization Act significantly included further conservation measures sponsored by Senators Martin Heinrich and Tom Udall. Two measures would establish the Cerro del Yuta Wilderness and Rio San Antonio Wilderness, within the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument located northwest of Taos. These two wilderness areas will comprise 21,420 acres.

As delighted as we should be over the restoration and improvement of the LWCF, we should be careful to note the contributions of our senators, Udall and Heinrich to the successful efforts at conservation in our state. We should also thank senators Murkowski and Maria Cantwell for their skillful managing of this major policy bill and for everyone's contributions to the spirit of bipartisanship.

Dave Gillan, Carlsbad