

## CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

### **Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting December 2, 2014 – 6PM**

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#### **1) CONVENE MEETING OF THE PARKS BEACHES & RECREATION COMMISSION TO ORDER – 6:00 PM**

#### **2) ROLL CALL**

Present: Ron Cole, Chair  
Roy Englebrecht, Vice Chair  
Tom Anderson  
Kathy Hamilton  
Laird Hayes  
Walt Howald  
Marie Marston

Staff: Laura Detweiler, Recreation & Senior Services Director  
Mike Pisani, Acting Municipal Operations Co-Director  
Dan Sereno, Landscape Manager  
Teri Craig, Administrative Assistant

#### **3) NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

#### **4) CONSENT CALENDAR**

##### **A. Minutes of the September 2, 2014 meeting.**

*Recommendation: Waive reading of subject minutes, approve and order filed.*

##### **B. Parks & Operations Division Activity Report.**

*Recommendation: Receive/file Activity Report.*

##### **C. Recreation & Seniors Services Activity Report.**

*Recommendation: Receive/file Activity Report of past and upcoming projects and events.*

**Chair Cole opened the public discussion; seeing none the Public Discussion was closed.**

**Motion by Chair Cole** seconded by Vice Chair Englebrecht, to accept items 4A - 4C of the Consent Calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **5) CURRENT / NEW BUSINESS – Staff Report**

##### **A. Denial of Tree Removal Request – 1022 East Balboa Boulevard**

*Recommendation: Staff recommends that the PB&R Commission deny the removal request of William Peterson of a City tree at 1022 East Balboa Boulevard.*

Acting Municipal Operations Co-Director Pisani reported that the homeowner for Item 5A was unable to attend the meeting tonight and asked that the item be pulled from the Agenda and rescheduled.

**B. Ad Hoc Dog Park Committee Appointment**

Recommendation: *Staff recommends that the PB&R Commission appoint two (2) commissioners to serve on the Ad Hoc Dog Park Committee to assist in the review of potential sites for additional dog parks within the City.*

Director Detweiler presented details of the item noting that since the installation of the first dog park at the Civic Center, the public has expressed interest in adding dog parks within the City. Director Detweiler asked the Commission to appoint two Commissioners to an Ad Hoc Committee to help in the review of potential sites for additional dog parks.

Chair Cole asked if any members of the Commission would like to volunteer for the Ad Hoc Committee.

Commissioners Howald and Hayes volunteered.

**Chair Cole opened the Public Discussion; seeing none the Public Discussion was closed.**

In response to Commissioner Englebrecht's inquiry, Director Detweiler reported that Commissioners Howald and Hayes would provide updates on Ad Hoc Committee activities. Once a list of potential locations is established, the matter would go before City Council for a final determination regarding funding, approval of location and would direct staff to move forward with the design phase. Final design would be reviewed by the PB&R Commission. She also noted that public meetings would be noticed as is done in the regular Commission agenda.

**Motion by Chair Cole:** seconded by Vice Chair Englebrecht, to appoint Commissioners Howald and Hayes to the Ad Hoc Dog Park Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Revisions – City Council Policy G-1 – Retention & Removal of City Trees**

Recommendation: *Staff recommends that the PB&R Commission review the final draft of City Council Policy G-1 recommended by the G-1 Policy Ad Hoc Committee; accept comments from the full Commission and public; approve revisions to the draft G-1 Policy, and forward to the City Council for their review and approval.*

Acting Co-Director Pisani provided details of the report addressing background, direction to staff by the PB&R Commission, public outreach, comments received, clarification of the policy, specific changes to the G-1 Policy, CdM Residents Association comments and recommendations.

Discussion followed regarding reference to City Council Policy G-6 relative to reforestation, next steps and review by the City Attorney.

Chair Cole thanked the Members of the Ad Hoc Committee for their work on this matter.

**Chair Cole opened the public discussion.**

Ron Yeo, CdM Residents Association, thanked City staff and the Ad Hoc Committee for their work and commented positively on community outreach and on the report. He spoke in support of the recommendations listed within the report.

**Chair Cole closed the public discussion.**

**Motion by Commissioner Anderson**; seconded by Commissioner Hayes, to forward the draft G-1 Policy - Retention & Removal of City Trees to the City Council for their review and approval. Motion carried unanimously.

**D. Revisions – City Council Policy G-6 – Maintenance & Planting of Parkway Trees**

*Recommendation: Staff recommends that the PB&R Commission review the final draft of City Council Policy G-6 recommended by the Street Tree Designation Ad Hoc Committee; accept comments from the full Commission and public; approve revisions to the draft G-6 Policy, and forward to the City Council for their review and approval.*

Acting Co-Director Pisani provided details of the report addressing background and community outreach.

Manager Sereno reviewed details of public comments received, responses and recommendations. He addressed the City Tree Designation list, City Parkway Tree Designation list and specific comments from the CdM Residents Association.

Discussion followed regarding the City Tree Designation list, the water needs of available trees, and adding a legend to identify specific water needs of the various trees and encouraging the use of drought-tolerant trees.

**Chair Cole opened the Public Discussion.**

Ron Yeo, CdM Residents Association, thanked City staff and the Ad Hoc Committee and commented positively on the recommended revisions. He addressed the importance of working closely with Public Works.

Jim Mosher referenced written comments he submitted and commented on how the two lists within the policy interact with each other. He recommended that staff clarify the intent before the draft is presented to Council for approval and made suggestions for clarifications in terms of using the Street Tree Designation list. He opined that the list is

Corona del Mar-centric and commented on the protection of some trees and not others, specifically, Jacaranda trees.

Discussion followed regarding the need to encourage homeowners to plant the same trees that were there before as long as it is on the list.

**Chair Cole closed the Public Discussion.**

In response to an inquiry from Chair Cole, Manager Sereno reported that the Jacaranda is still on the list but noted that the tree are beautiful when in full bloom they get aphids on an annual basis and the dropping flowers are quite messy.

Discussion followed regarding trees on Irvine Avenue and that the City works with the City of Costa Mesa in terms of acceptable trees and maintenance responsibility for those trees.

Acting Co-Director Pisani reported that defining water-use classifications could be added to the list of the policy.

Chair Cole thanked City staff and the Members of the Ad Hoc Committee.

**Motion by Commissioner Hamilton**; seconded by Commissioner Hayes, to forward the draft G-6 Policy - Maintenance & Planting of Parkway Trees to the City Council for their review and approval. Motion carried unanimously.

**6) PARKS, BEACHES & RECREATION COMMISSION / STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, AD HOC UPDATES OR MATTERS WHICH MEMBERS WOULD LIKE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION, ACTION OR REPORT (NON-DISCUSSION ITEM)**

Director Detweiler announced the *Breakfast with Santa* event on Friday, December 5 at 9:30am at the Newport Coast Community Center, the Sunset Ridge Park dedication on Saturday, December 6 at 11:30am, and asked those Commissioners planning on attending to let her know after the meeting.

She went on to report that City Hall will be closed from Wednesday, December 24, 2014 and will reopen Friday, January 2, 2015. She added that the Commission should have received the winter *Navigator* and thanked Vice Chair Englebrecht for his email commending staff for their work. Additionally, that Commissioner Hayes has removed himself from the Black Ball Ad Hoc Committee. She thanked the PB&R Commission for its work during this past year and commented on their accomplishments. She expressed her wishes for a Happy Holiday Season.

Acting Co-Director Pisani addressed some of the work of staff including park renovations, West Newport parking lot, Washington Street restrooms, Grant Howald Park, the Arches interchange and Newport Pier improvements.

Commissioner Anderson commented on the condition of bike racks near the Wedge and requested placing the matter on a future agenda.

Commissioner Howald commented on the OASIS utilization report including donations, the boutique sale, the costs of putting it on and volunteers. He encouraged residents to attend the upcoming Holiday event.

**7) PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Jason Cox commented on the Upper Newport Bay and the native habitat in the area. He addressed protecting water quality in the area and the maintenance of the habitat area. He asked that the matter be placed on a future agenda.

Ron Yeo, CdM Residents Association, reported that the CdM Residents Association is working on adding landscaping and a vista to a piece of unimproved property along East Coast Highway between Crown Cove and Shore Cliffs. He noted that the Association is trying to procure an easement from the property owner in order to improve the areas.

Jim Mosher commented on the new City Council and reminded the PB&R Commission regarding the City Charter, Section 709 in terms of the Commission's powers and roles. He provided highlights of PB&R Commission-related items recently addressed by City Council.

**8) ADJOURNMENT @ 7:04PM**

Submitted by: Teri Craig  
Teri Craig, Admin Assistant

Approved by: Ron Cole  
Ron Cole, Chair