

**BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
August 26, 2009**

**CALL TO ORDER** Santa Ana Central Library  
26 Civic Center Plaza  
Santa Ana, CA 92701  
5:31 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** T. Leon

**ROLL CALL** BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS  
MEMBERS/STUDENT REPS PRESENT  
Frank Acosta, Jerry Hills, Tish Leon, Max Madrid, Ken Nguyen, Julie Stroud, Wendy Tobiska, Jonathan Espinoza, Student Representative

STAFF PRESENT:  
Gerardo Mouet, Executive Director  
Ron Ono, Administrative Services Manager  
Heather Folmar, Library Services  
Mike Lopez, Parks Superintendent  
Kent Yamaguchi, Zoo Manager  
Athena Martinez, Board Secretary

**PRESENTATIONS**

**EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – SEPTEMBER, 2009**  
Claudia Aguero was present to accept this award.

**SPECIAL SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY – AUGUST, 2009**  
Tia Dwyer was present to accept this award on behalf of Think Together.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**MOTION:** F. Acosta      **SECOND:** K. Nguyen  
**VOTE:**      **AYES:** Acosta, Hills, Leon, Madrid, Nguyen, Stroud, Tobiska (7)  
                 **NOES:** None (0)  
**ABSENT:** (*at voting*) Orea (1)

**1. MINUTES**  
Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting held on July 22, 2009.

**2. ABSENCES**  
Excused: David Orea

**\*\* END OF CONSENT CALENDAR \*\***

**BUSINESS CALENDAR**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. LIBRARY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

PowerPoint presentation on Library Services provided by Heather Folmar with handouts. Discussion ensued regarding the formation of a Library Committee as the Library Board has been dissolved.

Motion to create a Library Services Committee of the Board of Recreation and Parks.

**MOTION:** J. Stroud                    **SECOND:** W. Tobiska  
**VOTE:**     AYES:                    Acosta, Hills, Leon, Madrid, Nguyen, Stroud, Tobiska (7)  
                  NOES:                    None (0)  
**ABSENT:**    (*at voting*)    Orea (1)

**2. REVIEW OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MASTER PLAN (YFMP) - PHASE I**

Draft of YFMP reviewed and discussed, copy on file with Recording Secretary for review. Discussion ensued and the Board in favor of fingerprinting and background checks to be done on all youth soccer league coaches.

**3. CATALINA CAMPOUT SUMMARY**

Handout provided. Special thanks to Commissioners Leon and Stroud for fundraising efforts.

**4. UPDATE ON AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

Handout reviewed and discussed.

**5. UPDATE ON MAINTENANCE FOR 14 PARK SITES**

Handout reviewed and discussed.

**6. UPDATE ON AGENCY STRUCTURE**

Handout reviewed.

**7. CCN BIG SCREEN UPDATE**

Handout reviewed.

**8. NOMINATIONS FOR SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD TO THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY OF SANTA ANA**

Motion to nominate UCI student organization, Chicanos/Latinos for Community Medicine, as the September recipient for their volunteer efforts at the Madison Park Walk-a-Thon, and to nominate OCHSA student, Tessa Horner, as the October recipient for contributions to El Salvador Center.

**MOTION:** K. Nguyen      **SECOND:** J. Stroud  
**VOTE:**      **AYES:**      Acosta, Hills, Leon, Madrid, Nguyen, Stroud, Tobiska (7)  
                 **NOES:**      None (0)  
**ABSENT:**      (*at voting*)      Orea (1)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Calendars for September and October, 2009 were reviewed and discussed. Events of special note:

- Aug 29:      Santiago Park Clean Up. Senator Lou Correa to speak to volunteers at 9:30 a.m.
- Oct 11:      Youth Expo at Hector Godinez High School in Centennial Park, organized by Kermes.

**STATUS/UPDATES**

1. COMMITTEE ON FIELD USE (CoFU) – No report.
2. COMMUNITY CONTACT REPORTS AND UPDATES – Reviewed.
3. PENDING ITEMS/ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS
  - Establish and Define Role of Library Committee (future)

**COMMENTS**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Thomas Gordon

- Commented on Santa Ana’s discrepancy of open space acreage per resident compared to City’s own mandate. Stated that City is breaking its own law and encouraged residents to bring this to light.
- Commented that the Bookmobile was a safe haven for the Myrtle Street area and that it should be brought back, especially since the Youth and Family Master Plan indicates safety concerns in this area.
- Has sent numerous emails to various Council Members and has yet to receive a response.

**STAFF/CONSULTANT COMMENTS**

G. Mouet

- September 11<sup>th</sup> has been declared a National Day of Service and Remembrance by Congress. City Council will present a proclamation to a small group of various City Volunteers at the September 8<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

H. Folmar

- An appreciation picnic at the Zoo will be held for the Summer Youth workers and Teen Space volunteers for their terrific work at the Library this summer.

- There were two very popular programs for youth at the Library this summer. Big Buddy/Little Buddy was a great partnership opportunity for teens to mentor children. There were also workshops geared mainly for teens, such as photography, duct tape art and others. The eight teens that entered photos at the O.C. Fair photo exhibit all received ribbons.

K. Yamaguchi

- This year's Zoofari was wonderful. A big thanks to the Friends of the Santa Ana Zoo for hosting this event and for their tremendous fundraising success. Another big thanks to Steve McGuigan for all his efforts toward this event. A total of \$70,000 was raised for the Zoo's commissary.
- The UCI Alumni Association donated \$20,000 for the naming rights of an anteater. The male anteater will now be known as "Peter".
- The Zoo's two new rhea babies are growing very quickly.

**BOARD/STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS**

J. Espinoza, Student Representative

- Served as judge at the Annual Talent Show held at Memorial Park. Had fun and was a great show.
- Has noticed an increase in graffiti in Ward 6.
- Spent a week at UCI, was a great experience.
- Will be attending the Youth Commission meeting on September 2<sup>nd</sup> to review and further discuss the Youth and Family Master Plan.

M. Madrid

- Focus group started with Willard Intermediate, Santa Ana Police Department, and many faith-based organizations to focus on the Willard area, to create activities, parenting classes, mentoring programs and such.

J. Stroud

- Inquired about who is conducting the Park Ranger class at Santa Ana College.
- Thanks to Secretary for the sandwiches.
- Jose DeSantiago of Code Enforcement has expressed interest in volunteering as a Park Ranger.
- All are invited to the September 19<sup>th</sup> Morrison Park Concert, hosted by six local neighborhood associations. This year's theme is "Simply Purple", and there will be many great raffle prizes this year.
- Inquired about the status of the house at the south end of Logan. Could this lot be used for park space?
- Asked who was responsible for construction around Greenville School/Griset Park. SAUSD Representative J. Hills confirmed that the school district did build a two lane drop off road to ease traffic in the area and for the safety of the children.

W. Tobiska

- Commented that the Library becoming a part of the Agency was a perfect fit.
- Would love to see theater arts at the Library.

K. Nguyen

- Thank you to Heather for the presentation on Library Services. Now has a much better understanding of the library.
- Commented that it had been over 20 years since last visit to the Zoo. Decided to take his parents two weeks ago (both in their 80s). Had a wonderful time, the park looked great, and it was nice to see so many families in the park. Was very proud to be a resident of Santa Ana and all the great things the City has to offer. Zoo staff was very professional and parents thoroughly enjoyed their visit.
- Thanks to Secretary for the sandwiches.

T. Leon

- The County's Historic Commission will host a free open house on September 26<sup>th</sup> at the Old County Courthouse. There will be a movie shown highlighting all the films made at the Courthouse.
- Happy Birthday Julie!

**NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, September 23, 2009 in meeting room A of the Santa Ana Main Library, located at 26 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA, 92702.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:47 P.M.**

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Athena Martinez  
Recording Secretary