INGLEWOOD CALIFORNIA

Park and Recreation Commission

MINUTES – May 1, 2014

A meeting of the Inglewood Parks and Recreation Commission was convened on May 1, 2014 in the Council Chambers located on the 9th floor in City Hall. Commissioner Willie Agee presiding called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., followed by the flag salute.

Roll Call

Present:

Commissioner Willie Agee, Chair – Commissioner at Large
Commissioner Halimah Ginyard – District One
Commissioner Juanita Withrow – District Two
Commissioner Cynthia McLemore – District Three
Commissioner Gene Eldridge – District Four

Staff:

Sabrina Barnes, Parks, Recreation and Library Services Director
Stephanie Maldonado, Administrative Aide
Craig Civitello, Lead Park Maintenance Worker
Teresa Estrada, Recreation Superintendent
Thomas Uwal, Transportation Supervisor

Public Comments

Dr. Dennis Richardson, Professional Tennis Instructor presented a proposal regarding a tennis program that will not only create top quality players but generate an avenue to assist the community in being more healthy (a fun way to get fit) including a fitness and wellness piece, programs with youth, adults and seniors and it would also increase revenue. Commissioner Withrow thanked Dr. Richardson for coming and is happy to hear seniors will be included in the program. She asked if the North Park tennis facility can be included and asked if his current programs take place at an LA County Park. Dr. Richardson stated yes, he is an assistant coach for Mira Cosa High School and is at Redondo Union High School over the weekend. Commissioner Withrow asked if he would have time to run programs here in Inglewood. Dr. Richardson stated yes, he would take them on full time. Commissioner Eldridge thanked Dr. Richardson for the information and will take his time to go through the proposal but would like to suggest starting with 2 courts instead of 4. He asked if Dr. Richardson had any support from other professional individuals. He also stated he would like to see Rogers Park's facility used as well. Commissioner McLemore asked what type of time table is he looking at. Dr. Richardson stated whenever he gets the green light from the city he is ready to begin. Commissioner Agee thanked Dr. Richardson for presenting his project. Commissioner Agee asked what happened to the tennis courts in the last 20 years. Sabrina Barnes stated we've acknowledged the courts need resurfacing and it is on a wish list as well as the lighting issue that I will address a little later in my report. Mario Hughes, partner of Dr. Richardson is looking forward to assisting in the City of Inglewood.

Richelle Robinson resident of the City of Inglewood and frequent diner at the Senior Center came to inform the Commission of the issues she has had with the new caterer ranging from the food not being fully cooked to the food not arriving on time. Commissioner Withrow stated she visited the center last Friday and was informed by seniors that they thought the food was very good but a lot of people are on food restrictions so she was inquiring about a nutritional chart because there is no fact sheet that they have received. Commissioner Withrow asked Ms. Robinson what did the site manager/staff say or do. Ms. Robinson stated she informed staff about the Easter lunch and he agreed. Commissioner Withrow asked if she thought the site manager did not inform the caterer of the issue. Ms. Robinson stated she was sure he told her about the issues. Commissioner Withrow asked if she had received any update. Ms. Robinson stated no. Sabrina Barnes stated she was informed about the Easter meal situation and what came out of that was the caterer did not have her regular chef because he was on vacation and the backup chef did not have the ability to be a backup. We are trying to get them up so speed and staff is working with the caterer on the menu. Ms. Robinson did compliment the soups and salads.

Stewart Bailey piggybacked on Ms. Robinson's comments and asked for staff to ensure food is fully cooked.

Approval of the Minutes

Commissioner Eldridge made a motion to approve the minutes from May 2014, Commissioner Withrow seconded. The minutes were approved as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Ginyard, Withrow, Agee, McLemore and Eldridge
Nays: None

Commissioner Eldridge asked if it would be proper to comment on the minutes at this time. Commissioner Agee stated they have been approved already. Commissioner Eldridge stated there is no reason why they can't be commented on. Commissioner Agee stated you may comment. Commissioner Eldridge suggested a header be added to the minutes to indicate the date. Commissioner Agee stated my minutes are dated May 1, 2014 at the top.

Director's Report

Sabrina Barnes gave staff report recommending the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend the Mayor and Council Members adopt a resolution to amend the FY 2013-2014 budget to reflect receipt of $10,299 Nutritional Supplemental Funds from the Los Angeles County Area Agency on Aging (AAA), to provide additional meals and food services equipment and related supplies for the City's Senior Nutrition Program (SNP) and approve an amendment to the agreement between Tender Loving Care Catering (TLC) and the City of Inglewood to increase the maximum contract sum by $8,062 for the remaining FY 2013-2014 period ending September 30, 2014 for a new contract sum of $602,062 to increase the number of contracted meals TLC provides for the SNP.

Commissioner Eldridge made a motion to approve the staff report and was seconded by Commissioner Withrow. Commissioner Withrow asked if the additional money will help improve their services or is this just to feed additional people. Ms. Barnes stated it provides additional meals over the term of the contract. Commissioner Agee stated he can support item one but before he can approve item two he would like to see some change.

The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Ginyard, Withrow, Agee, McLemore and Eldridge
Nays: None

Sabrina Barnes presented a staff report recommending the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend the Mayor and Council Members approve an agreement with the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) in order to receive grant funds in the amount of $31,200 from April 1, 2014 through January 31, 2015 for provision of "out-of-school time programs" (Grant Funds); and adopt a resolution amending the FY 2013-2014 budget to reflect receipt of $31,200 from the NRPA grant.

Commissioner Eldridge made a motion to approve the staff report, Commissioner Withrow seconded. Commissioner Eldridge asked is the $1,200 stipend for a current employee. Ms. Barnes stated yes it is for a current staff person and the money provides for travel, lodging and per diem. Commissioner McLemore asked if the summer meals are provided by same the caterer of the seniors. Ms. Barnes stated the past vendor was IUSD.

The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Ginyard, Withrow, Agee, McLemore and Eldridge
Nays: None

Craig Civitello gave a report regarding the following items for the Parks Division:

- Manchester Median: due to a car accident, a backflow and controller has been repaired and 8 palm trees replaced.
- Siminski Park Fencing Project: current contractor was out of compliance with state, next lowest bidder will be approached.
- Hardy Slope: major clean up done by city crews.

Commissioner Withrow asked what is Hardy Slope? Was it an I-Clean event that was held? Craig Civitello stated Hardy Slope is an area located on Crenshaw Boulevard between Century Boulevard and Hardy Street that use to have sprinklers and ivy. The Parks crew cleaned it up so it looks nicer. Commissioner Withrow asked if the contract procedure for Siminski Park will start all over again. Civitello stated yes. Commissioner Withrow asked if the city charges the person who

caused the car accident on Manchester. Sabrina Barnes stated we file a police report and document the costs in hopes that our City Attorney's office can collect the fees.

Teresa Estrada gave a report for the Recreation division regarding the following items:

- Summer Day Camp: This year the department will offer a variety of Summer Day Camp experiences for youth ages 3-14. Rogers Park will offer a Sports Camp, Darby will focus on Fun and Fitness, and Siminski Park and Lockhaven Community Center will offer Kiddie Camps. Summer Day Camp registration will begin on Monday, May 12 for residents and Monday, May 19 for Non-Residents. Camp will be offered in two, four week sessions. The first session is July 7 – August 1 and the second session is August 4 – August 29.
- Swimming Lessons: The Edward Vincent Jr. Park Swimming Pool will open on Wednesday, June 25 and close on Monday, September 1, 2014. The swim complex will offer youth and adult swim lessons, Parent and Me swim classes, Lap Swim, Water Aerobics and Family Swim Nights. Registration for summer offerings will begin on Monday, June 2 and will be accepted until all classes are filled.
- The Edward Vincent, Jr. Park Swim Complex will also open up this year for Memorial Day weekend – May 24, 25 and 26, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The cost is $1 per person.
- Youth Baseball: Registration for the City's Youth Baseball league will be held May 27 through June 21. The cost is $30 for residents and $34 for non-residents. Participants will practice once a week at Rogers and Darby Parks. Games are played on Saturdays at Ed Vincent, Rogers and Darby.
- Memorial Day Celebration: The 66th annual Memorial Day Celebration will take place on Monday, May 27, at 11:00 a.m. in front of the Memorial Monument located on the South Mall courtyard area at Inglewood City Hall. We invite you to join us for this special event that honors our veterans, past and present.

Commissioner Withrow asked if there are any scholarships or grants for Summer Camp. Ms. Estrada stated the only financial assistance we are offering this year is at the Lockhaven and Siminski Park sites. Low to moderate income residents are eligible to receive a one-time only $100 discount on a camp session provided by CDBG funds.

Thomas Uwal gave a report regarding the following new programs available at the Inglewood Senior Center:

- Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) provides a Counselor, Yvonne Douglas, to assist seniors with any health insurance concerns they have. For seniors who have both Medicare and MediCal Insurance, changes are coming soon and Yvonne can assist them through the process. CAL Medi Connect will be how they will receive health insurance. Appointments can be

scheduled on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Senior Center.

- A Healthy Lifestyle Program meets at the Senior Center every Thursday from 11:00 a.m. until noon. Featured are urban gardening, healthy cooking, exercise and nutrition. This program is sponsored by the Social Justice Learning Institute through a special grant from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.
- We continue to struggle with the budget cuts and it has become challenging to retain drivers because of the pay rate. We transport close to 80,000 seniors and disabled people a year.

Commissioner Withrow asked for an update regarding the shuttle that caught fire. Sabrina Barnes stated the city's Risk Manager from the City Attorney's office is aggressively working with the city's insurance company in an effort to get the vehicle replaced. Commissioner Withrow asked if Mr. Uwal is able to coordinate the shuttle for the seniors when lunch is running late. Mr. Uwal stated we have consistent communication with the seniors, drivers and Food Service Manager. Commissioner Withrow asked if the seniors can take the I-Line as well. Mr. Uwal stated they can but the I-Line goes to certain locations every hour so it may not always go where the seniors need to go. Commissioner Withrow asked if there is an Old Timers Organization in the city. Mr. Uwal stated no but we do have a transportation assessor who assesses the needs of the senior and based on what they need we will connect them with other agencies to get them where they need to go.

Ms. Barnes informed the Commission of grant funds available through Los Angeles County and indicated she will be touching base with each Commissioner individually to check preferences in terms of the recommendation that is going to be made to the Mayor and Council. The Proposal needs to be submitted by June and we will hear back from the County within 120 days. She also mentioned budget planning for FY 2014-15 is currently underway.

Public Comments

Michael Benbow resident of District 1 shared his interested in the tennis proposal that was made and shared his thoughts on the importance of sports programs for youth and seniors.

Jim Withrow resident of District 2 asked for some clarification on item 2 on the agenda: the increase on the contract for the caterer. Sabrina Barnes stated the $602,000 is what their new total will be once we add the $8,000. Mr. Withrow stated it seems like the excuse the caterer is using for the food situation at the senior center is a smokescreen and thinks there is something else going

on there. He also stated the tennis court presentation is a really great idea and believes it would bring the tennis courts back to life.

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Eldridge asked that the Council Chamber doors be opened at 5:30 p.m. He also mentioned there is no header on the minutes like there is on the agenda. He asked if the tennis proposal needs to be approved by the City Attorney's office first. Sabrina Barnes stated while she thinks this is an awesome program and if she can go and work with them tomorrow without any questions she would. She explained that when individuals want to provide a service to the city where they will be collecting fees she needs to consult Legal to make sure the next company doesn't come in and asked why they were picked; it needs to be done correctly and in order. Commissioner Eldridge complimented Ms. Barnes on her performance of the National Anthem at the State of the City address and also mentioned how the Mayor did not acknowledge the 4th District like he did the other three districts.

Commissioner Withrow thanked city staff for their excellent reports and thanked them for their everyday efforts. She also thanked Dr. Richardson for presenting the tennis proposal.

Commissioner Ginyard asked if there is a way to post signs for transportation when there is a delay. Thomas Uwal stated he has a staff person who usually makes announcements in both English and Spanish at the center. She stated she spoke to Mr. Bly and they are both excited about the tennis program.

Commissioner McLemore thanked Sabrina Barnes for keeping everything on the straight and narrow and hopes the city can move forward on the tennis proposal.

Commissioner Agee stated the City of Inglewood is on the move, give us another 2 years and you will see the difference. He thanked Dr. Richardson for coming out and making his presentation. He also mentioned he'd like to start working on getting the pool covered and heated at Vincent Park.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.