

The meeting of the Inglewood Parks and Recreation Commission was convened on February 7, 2013 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 Bill Sanders – District One
Commissioner Norma Smith – District Two
Commissioner Cynthia McLemore – District Three

Absent:

Commissioner Taylor Irby – District Four

Staff:

Rita Gardner, Parks Superintendent
Sandra Green-Hilliard, Senior Administrative Secretary
James Henry, Recreation Supervisor
Trina Tyson, Senior Recreation Leader

Approval of the Minutes

Commissioner Sanders made a motion to approve the minutes from January 2013. Minutes were approved as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Sanders, Agee, McLemore
Nays: None

Public Comments

None

Director's Report

Rita Gardner gave the Director's Report, an update on the installation of artificial turf at Edward Vincent Park stating a staff report was presented to the Mayor and Council on Tuesday, January 15, with the Mayor and Council tabling the item until they are able to meet with State Officials and discuss what other possibilities are available and proceed from there.

Ms. Gardner went on and gave a report for the Parks Division updating the Commission on the following:

- Deadline for the State Office of Grants and Local Services to complete the requirements of acquiring the land from Inglewood Unified School District (IUSD) deadline is March 25th. City Officials met with IUSD and were informed that the district will no longer give us the land. A letter was sent to the State Project Officer requesting a change of the scope for the Center Park expansion project from acquisition pending to land tenure pending, and asking for a 90-day extension.

Commissioner Agee asked what land will be purchased. Ms. Gardner explained that there is a corner section of land that is on Center Park that belongs to IUSD that the city is trying to acquire. Prior to 2012, the city was told (and it was in writing) that we can purchase the land then were told we can have the land. That was taken off the table and IUSD informed the city that they do not want to sell the land and want to keep it. The city is hoping to rent the land but the State needs to inform us if it is an eligible procedure. Commissioner Agee asked if this was a change that took place when the State took over the school district. Ms. Gardner replied perhaps it did because the person who said they would give us the property had no authority to do that.

Ms. Gardner went on to complete her report on the following:

- Vincent Park Lighting Improvement: two electrical firms have been contacted to assist with the design of the electrical and lighting improvement project and we'd like to complete the project as soon as possible.
- A schedule was given to the Commissioners with the tree schedule for the months of February, March and April 2013.

James Henry gave a verbal report regarding the following Recreation Programs:

- The Lockhaven Community Center continues to offer "free" scrapbooking classes for youth ages 8-14. Classes are held every 3rd Saturday, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Interested persons should contact the Parks, Recreation and Library Services Department to register for the classes.
- Darby Park is now offering beginning Guitar lessons for youth and adults. Classes are offered on Mondays and Thursdays from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. The

- cost is \$35 for a four-week session. Students must bring their own acoustic guitar. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the Park.
- Fantasia Dance Ensemble offers dance classes for children, teens and adults at the Veteran's Memorial Building on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 p.m. The cost is \$26.00 per month. Director and Choreographer, Alicia Littleton, provides tap, ballet, jazz, modern and hip hop dance instruction. Potential students are encouraged to stop by the class and observe.
 - Zumba classes are offered at Rogers Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9:30-10:30 a.m. The cost is just \$3 per class. Join fitness instructor Ronnie for an intense workout! Pre-registration is not required. Drop-ins are welcome.
 - The Parks, Recreation and Library Services Department has partnered with the Clippers organization to conduct an NBA youth basketball league for boys and girls ages 4 to 14. The collaborative effort provides benefits to the city's existing youth basketball program. Benefits include free tickets to an upcoming clippers game, as well as, free coaches training and workshops. The season will begin this Saturday, February 9. Games will be played at both Rogers and Darby Parks. To date we have over 350 registered participants. There are still a few openings. Anyone interested should contact the Sports Office.
 - The city's annual Cesar Chavez Day Celebration is tentatively set for Saturday, March 16. Additional information and details will be provided at the March Commission meeting.

Commissioner Smith asked if she can have a copy of the information he gave. Commissioner Agee asked for the name of the instructor for the guitar classes because he thought it would be Jimmy Gough. Sandra Green-Hilliard stated she believes it is him.

Trina Tyson gave a brief report summer food program stated plans are under way with the hopes of adding two new locations. She also shared with the Commissioners that the National Police Activities League provided part one of a four part bullying prevention training series to the staff of the After School Program with the second part of the training taking place in April.

Public Comments

Jose Palomares resident for 25 years attended his first Council meeting last week and is interested in supporting youth programs. He is involved in soccer programs and has a lot of resources in the community including Nike, Adidas and

others who are interested in developing good programs in the community. He'd like to offer his assistance to help develop programs that would assist our kids in regards to diversity and educating them for college by not only playing soccer but teaching them life skills that include balance, responsibility, commitment, dedication, focus, and how to work with others. Commissioner Agee asked for his contact information.

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Smith thanked staff for their reports and reminded Mr. Henry for a copy of the information she requested. Commissioner Sanders also thanked the staff for their reports.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.