

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL JOINT CITY COUNCIL /  
PARKS, RECREATION & BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION MEETING  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2007**

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Lieberman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 154 South Eighth Street, Grover Beach, California.

**ROLL CALL**

City Council: Council Members Ashton, Bright, Nicolls, Mayor Pro Tem Shoals, and Mayor Lieberman were present.

Commission: Parks, Recreation & Beautification Commissioners Greeley, Krum, Laferriere, Vice Chair Knapp, and Chair Vaughn were present.

City Staff: City Manager Perrault, Parks & Recreation Director Petker, and City Clerk McMahan were also present.

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

The Mayor opened the floor to any member of the public for comment on any item described in this agenda. There were no public comments received and the Mayor closed this portion of the Public Comment period.

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**1. Joint City Council / Parks, Recreation & Beautification Commission Meeting.**

Mayor Lieberman read the title to the foregoing item and deferred to staff for a report. City Manager Perrault gave an overview of the workshop's format to provide the Council and the Commission an opportunity to discuss a variety of topics related to parks and recreation services, the respective roles of the two bodies, relationships, expectations, and goals.

A roundtable discussion was held regarding a variety of topics, including:

***Underutilized Parks, Property Acquisition/Disposition*** - potential alternative uses for underutilized properties, such as the City's Community Garden, establishing some uniformity in park signage, and developing a policy guideline regarding the acquisition/disposition of parklands.

***Volunteer Corps*** - organizing Parks and Recreation Department volunteers into a structured citizen volunteer group to increase community involvement, screen applicants, and provide community service opportunities for high school students.

***Communicating Commission Recommendations to the City Council*** - increasing Commission input regarding the City's annual budget, General Plan, and Capital Improvement Plan in areas that impact parks and recreation policies, programs, and services. Presenting periodic or quarterly progress reports at City Council meetings to raise awareness of Commission events, activities, and the Commission's role as an advisory body to the City Council.

***Water Conservation and Landscaping*** -

- ***Tree Standards*** - having the Parks, Recreation & Beautification Commission work with the Planning Commission to develop a list of approved street trees with minimum size requirements as guidelines for new developments as well as for property owners with existing landscaped areas. Providing some level of enforcement to ensure that certain tree species with destructive roots aren't planted near public sidewalks.
- ***Demonstration Garden*** - praising the Commission's research and presentation on water conservation tips at the September 17, 2007 City Council meeting. It was suggested that: 1) one of the landscaped areas at City Hall be converted to install improved City Hall signage in conjunction with a demonstration garden of

drought-tolerant plantings; 2) the demonstration garden be included in the City's annual Spring Garden Tour; and 3) a list of drought-tolerant plants be provided in the landscape design guidelines for new developments and for property owners with existing landscaped areas.

- **Further Water Conservation Awareness** - including a message on City utility bills stating, "We have tips on how you can reduce your water bill. Go to the City's website and click on ...to see the information." It was noted that the Commission's September 2007 PowerPoint presentation on "Water Saving Tips for Landscaping" was posted on the City's website and Government Cable Access Channel 20, with printed copies available at City Hall.

**Cleaver Property** - Parks and Recreation Director Petker stated that conceptual plans for the site of the City's newest park had been developed by David Foote of *firma* based on comments provided at the October 2007 community workshop. The next workshop was anticipated to be held in January/February 2008.

**Goal Setting** - City Manager Perrault stated that advisory bodies would be conducting their own respective goal setting sessions in January/February 2008, with the Council scheduled to review FY 08 Community Goals and Work Program in February 2008. The concept of implementing a two-year budget cycle was also discussed.

**Commission Appointments and Selection Process** - discussion was held regarding the current appointment process to fill Commission vacancies, recent delays in scheduling interviews with applicants due to the winter holidays, the Maddy Act Notice posted in December of each year notifying residents and the media of scheduled vacancies in the coming year, suggested alternatives to fill Commission vacancies on a more timely basis, and the appointment process conducted in other jurisdictions. It was noted that, until the Council took formal action to fill an expired Commission term or terms, Commissioner(s) could continue serving on a month-to-month basis.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the City Council / Parks, Recreation & Beautification Commission, Mayor Lieberman adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

/s/ STEPHEN C. LIEBERMAN, MAYOR

Attest:

/s/DONNA L. McMAHON, CITY CLERK  
(Approved at CC Mtg 2/19/08)