

CORONADO PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Monthly Meeting
March 12, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Kathy Vienna.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Kathy Vienna, Chair, Bob Breglio, Jennie Portelli and Tim Sullivan. Also present were Linda Rahn, Director of Recreation and Mindy Goldberg, Recording Secretary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Tim moved to approve the February minutes. Page 9 was inadvertently left out of the packets. Linda read page 9 aloud and Walt seconded the motion to approve the minutes.

AGENDA CHANGES:

Linda said that item #4 Recreation's 5 year plan will have to wait until the April 9th meeting because of time constraints.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: Kathy said she called the school regarding recruitment of a student representative on the Parks and Recreation Commission. Jennie brought up signage in the parks and asked about the appearance of the signs and who maintains them. Linda said that Public Services maintains the signs and she would see if the City had a policy of uniformity.

ACTIONS ITEMS:

1. Listing of Tennis Issues in Coronado:

Item #17 was addressed first per the request of a citizen in the audience. Kathy addressed the audience and advised that this session be for gathering information and advised the audience not to speak inappropriately.

Jeffrey Cobb, 520 Alameda, said he was surprised to hear of the tennis professional's exclusive rights to teach and that the contract had expired three years ago. He stated that

the exclusivity fact is ambiguous in the contract. He added that there is no signage or notices at the courts either notifying the public of this exclusivity. He stated that he had also heard stories that the current pro was threatening and harassing to someone who was teaching on the courts and was using inappropriate behavior.

Kay Schneider, 525 H Ave., commented in favor of the Recreation Department's summer tennis and golf program but her children didn't fit in well with the tennis professional. In November she was made aware of the exclusivity of the teaching professional and she said that the coaches she hired were told they could be arrested for teaching on the courts. She noticed after obtaining the contract that it didn't name more than one court at the Tennis Center. She said she strongly feels that parents should be able to choose their own coaches to teach their kids and suggested that perhaps open coaching time at the Library, High School courts or Cays courts would be available in the future.

Judy Berman, 1220 Churchill Place, concurred with Kay Schneider's comments and feels that teaching should be open to other coaches and teachers and that she has tried group and private lessons at the tennis center and was not satisfied and that perhaps something could be worked out in favor of using other courts.

Ralph Block, 59 Blue Anchor Cay, requested clarification on the liability issue if another professional is brought into the City to teach tennis.

Linda said she would comment on that when they were finished with item #17.

Kristen Kovac, 857 E Ave., said she's taught in Coronado for many years and does carry liability insurance and doesn't understand her boundaries. She said she was harassed and threatened on the courts and hopes that there is something that can be done to meet every child's needs. She added that she teaches for a nominal fee and perhaps can do so at the High School or Library courts.

Carl Kovac, 857 E Ave., circulated a petition with 61 signatures on it to have their choice of coaches and offered a copy to the Commission.

Deni Herron, 1718 Visalia Row, stated that her children have taken lessons from Phil Hopkins for a long time and have been actively involved in the tennis programs in town and in school. Deni stated that Phil is an excellent and challenging teacher but not overbearing. Deni said that at the Golf course there are Golf pros who are also exclusive and that possibly the tennis professional's contract could parallel that.

Linda thanked everyone for speaking about tennis and that the Recreation Department strives to meet the needs of everyone in the Community. Linda said that there is a lot she needs to do in the future and the current contract does have holes in it. She said she has forwarded it to the City Attorney for assistance and there are items that are needed in the contract that would benefit the community and tennis professional. There are conflicting dates in the current contract regarding the duration of the agreement. The City Attorney

has clarified that the current contract is valid from August 18, 2000 to August 18, 2003. The question about exclusive rights is not clear in the current contract, and at this time would not be enforceable. However, the history of the contracts and the request for proposal for bids from tennis pros has had an exclusive rights clause in it. She said their intent is to write that into the contract, however, the City and The Parks and Recreation Commission is open to other options on how tennis is handled in Coronado. She said that the Commission's responsibility is to evaluate the requests heard today and determine the best ways to offer tennis to Coronado. Linda said she wants to see the contract written in the best possible way. Linda confirmed that the tennis professional does furnish liability insurance naming the City as the additionally insured party and he was responsible for purchasing the policy. She clarified that the Golf pro does have exclusive rights to teach Golf in the City and he does have sub-contractors that teach as well. The City will most likely pattern this new contract after the Golf professional's contract.

Jennie said she has fielded questions about other people teaching on the City courts. Kathy said perhaps they could submit their suggestions in writing to be evaluated.

Carl Kovac suggested perhaps people file a DBA with the City if they want to teach and he stated that his wife Kristen is not trying to take business away from Phil and as a property owner in Coronado he doesn't appreciate his wife feeling threatened.

Katey Roberson, 251 F Ave, said she was confused about this issue because other field users are various coaches. She said, as a taxpayer, thinks she should be able to choose whomever she wants to teach her children. She stated that college students are using the public parks as well and she urged the Commission to let the people have the right to choose.

Pat McMahon, 1533 Ynez, CTA Member and President thanked the Commission for addressing the tennis issues. Pat thinks that Phil should have exclusive rights to teach at the Glorietta Bay Tennis Center but others should have the right to teach elsewhere.

Kay Schneider said that monopolies are not legal and the exclusivity clause sounds like one. She said she feels fine about Phil or anyone else having exclusive rights to teach at Glorietta Bay Tennis Center but the other courts in town should be open to the public for them to have a choice on whom each their children.

Carolyn Muehlenbeck, 511 Marina Ave, agrees on the idea of focusing on the Tennis Center area as there are amenities there and the pro should have exclusivity at that location. She suggested that the other courts in town could be run as individual courts.

Tim Sullivan asked the current tennis professional, Phil Hopkins in his professional time if he has subcontracted i.e. The Golf Course policies. Phil answered yes and said that he has two subcontractors at the Coronado Cays courts and two others at Glorietta Bay Tennis Center. And that the money goes to whomever wants to teach. He named Don Henson as one of the subcontractors, Louis Preciado, bilingual instructor, Marty Haught who won Ojai and teaches in his clinics and Nick Schultz.

Jennie asked what fee Phil takes from one of his sub-contractors. Phil answered that some contractors haven't paid him and he doesn't charge others.

Bob Breglio said that he didn't think the question of fees was appropriate and that the Commission simply needs to listen to a list of concerns to make the tennis program more viable.

Jennie said she brought the subject up because she received phone calls from people that want to teach under Phil.

Linda clarified that Phil does have sub-contractors that work for him and to get into dollar amounts is inappropriate but he does have agreements with sub-contractors that contribute to Phil's business.

Jennie wanted clarification that Phil has the right to charge sub-contractors whatever he wants. Linda said yes.

Kay Schneider said that the Tennis Center's prices were much higher and a portion went to the pro and the coach but she couldn't tell what the contract said about that.

Linda said that the contract states that the fees the pro charges must be reviewed with the Director of Recreation so there is some control and the fees must be similar to other market situations in the San Diego area. Linda said that what is worked out between the tennis professional and the sub-contractors is not specified in the contract. Perhaps the cost of lessons or fees can be reviewed but the actual costs are not appropriate for this meeting.

Phil asked about the exclusivity clause being enforceable.

Linda said that once it is in the contract again, it would be enforceable. The intent right now is to re-write the contract and the Commission will be listening to other suggestions and that this is based on the City Attorney's opinion and the past history of tennis professionals in Coronado. Linda stated that the exclusivity clause could be added back in to Phil's contract.

Kristen Kovac said she doesn't want to work for Phil Hopkins and was hoping that she would work with Linda Rahn and she would approve a percentage so she could teach at the Library and High School courts. She said she doesn't feel she can be out on the courts.

Linda said that the Commission will review the information and all options will be considered.

Walt said it would be a good idea to explore other communities when it comes to tennis professional contracts.

Jennie said she has looked into Robb Field and they have several pros that charge per hour and the money goes to the City or the Club.

Linda said that she could provide a report on what other cities do with their tennis professionals.

Kathy said that it would be a good idea to look at their salaries as well.

Carl Kovac gave Linda the phone number to San Diego City Permits.

Linda added that there are communities that hire a Tennis Supervisor who is a City employee.

Kay Schneider wanted clarification as to whether or not she can bring a coach to a public tennis court in Coronado. Kay emphasized that it's not personally about Phil and she wants to know where the contract came from because it was not in the City Clerk's office.

Linda said that contract was filed in the Recreation Department files and not in the City Clerk's office.

Kay Schneider asked where the other contracts were and Linda replied that the other two contracts were renewed yearly and were filed in the Recreation Department.

Katy Roberson said that there are other avenues out there for parents to take their children elsewhere for tennis lessons.

Kathy said that Ms. Schneider was also concerned with threat issues and the Commission has noted that.

Rob Muhlenbeck asked if anyone can go on the public courts and teach until the contract is amended.

Linda said he was correct.

Phil Hopkins apologized if anyone has felt threatened at all.

Pat McMahon said he endorsed all the tennis items on the list and thanked the Commission for putting the list together.

Kathy said the information given would be taken in and discussed with the Commission.

Bob said that there is a time when exclusivity conflicts with public access and he wants to be able to sit down with the City Attorney and talk about contracts on public property.

Kathy asked if the City Attorney could educate the Commission on the subject.

Linda said that she, as the Director would meet with the City Attorney and that would keep things in proper order and would like to approach the rest of the issues and invited the audience members to stay because of the other agenda items on the list. She explained that no City facility could be used for personal gain without prior approval of the City. The sports leagues are licensed or permitted to be in the parks with insurance certificates and generally the contract programs are set up so the City does receive a portion of the revenue. She gave an example: A parent can teach their child how to swim at the municipal pool, but cannot bring the neighborhood children to the municipal pool and charge the parents for that service. She stated that our goal is to set things up so they are conducive to all.

Kathy announced that the Tennis issues would be continued after the pool issues due to time constraints.

2. Municipal Pool Issues and Concerns:

Kathy briefly explained a letter she received from Ms. Kathy Mcguire regarding pool downtime.

Bill Earley, 475 C Ave, Coronado Masters Association, brought up the presentation on the main municipal pool he submitted to the Commission a year ago. He stated that the pool is competitively dysfunctional with a strange design and that actual length is 55 yards. He added that the annual maintenance period is increasing and he thought the entire facility should be replaced.

Kathy McGuire, 725 Guadalupe Ave, said she wrote the letter that Kathy (Vienna) mentioned and the pool was closed for two months and her group trained at the NAB pool. She was concerned about overusing their access in the event they have to ask NAB again. She added that they have a large number of swimmers and base accessibility and transportation makes it more difficult.

Kathy asked how many members are in CNSA. Ms. McGuire said that they lost about 22 members once they started using the NAB pool.

Walt said that a maintenance plan would work well at the pool.

Kathy asked Mr. Earley how many people were displaced when the pool was closed. He answered that 40-50 Masters were displaced.

Walt reflected on a letter he prepared to the Mayor regarding the planning of the pool at the new Community Center but they never got a response back.

Randy Burgess, 720 G, Coach of High School Boys and Girls Water Polo Teams, Peninsula Water Polo Club. He said that his teams rely heavily on the Navy base

facilities when the municipal pool is down. He said they lost a lot of playing and practice time and they could be bringing in more community members to swim.

Walt asked Randy about the possibility of a pool at the high school facility. Randy said that it can be a reality but both pools will still be completely utilized, as the current facility is open from 5am-10pm. He said it was a good idea but that the issue at hand needs to be dealt with.

Kathy reflected on former Director Caesar's comments of replacement instead of a new pool.

Linda said that the existing plans call for complete renovation to the pool and everything that needs to be done to have it functioning year round will be done. Linda stressed that the pool would not be patched and added that the project will be going into design phase soon and will take 3-4 years for completion.

Kathy said she assumed there would be more down time during renovation and Linda confirmed that would be true and they would work hard for swimmers to be able to use another facility.

Kathy asked how long annual pool maintenance takes in other cities. Linda said that she and Lori Burke, Pool Supervisor have worked on a proactive plan for the new budget year and sufficient funds have been requested to fix and replace pool parts. Linda advised the next scheduled maintenance will be in November 2001 and typically both pools are down for about 2.5 to 3 weeks.

Bob asked Linda if the pool is on a preventive maintenance schedule in place now and Linda said yes.

Kathy thanked everyone for their input.

3. Skateboard Park: Review of Proposed Fees:

Linda asked the Commission how many of them were involved in the fee proposal and that she wanted quick approval of the fees (once distributed to Commission members) in case it has to go to Council so it can be done quickly. Linda read the current fee proposal aloud and said that the contractor is now preparing the faulty bowls and opening should be sometime in June. She also said that she has requested a Recreation Coordinator that would be responsible for the Skateboard Park.

Walt explained that other fees were looked at before writing the proposal along with security issues as well.

Bob said that there was good documentation in the City Clerk's office in regards to the research that was conducted. Bob was concerned about communication for emergency services and Linda explained the Skateboard Park Recreation Coordinator would have a

cell phone at all times. Bob said that there is a lot of information to take in, in regards to equipment rental and so forth. Tim asked about safety equipment. Linda said that those issues will be handled by the Recreation Department and the Coordinator will be responsible for security of the park, chains across the bowls which will eliminate usage of the park after hours, ordering and renting safety equipment and a snack bar. Tim said he would be interested in other skate park operations and Linda said that information is in the minutes.

4. Development of 5-year work plan: Moved to April agenda.

Back to item 1 - Tennis Issues: Conclusion

Kathy said that there are facilities with fees and asked Jennie if the CTA members are residents of Coronado and that perhaps there could be a fee charge for use of the courts. Jennie said that not all members are residents. Jennie stated the numerous facilities that have been renovated or replaced and said that the Tennis Center should be maintained by the City. Jennie said that there would have to be an employee to collect the fees and doesn't see charging a fee as a viable solution.

Walt asked where the tennis concerns came from or what the Commission is supposed to do with them. Jennie said that several tennis players have called Jennie and Linda and a list of issues was compiled. Bob said the concerns seem valid and that there are several areas they can be broken down into. Jennie said that each concern needs to be looked into. Bob thought the responsibility of maintenance and other issues needs to be sorted out. Jennie suggested a committee be formed to address the tennis issues and Linda can decide on what will be decided on. Bob said he thought that some of the issue fell into a maintenance fund in the Recreation Department and how do these concerns break down into categories. Kathy thought some of the issues were contractual. Walt said it seemed that the list could be reduced by simply completing the maintenance items. Tim asked why the CTA doesn't take care of small items i.e. squeegees and social barbecues. Jennie said that members have brought up these issues to be addresses. Tim said that he would need further clarification on what the tennis professional's duties are and what the function of the CTA actually is.

ACTION TAKEN: Jennie made a motion to form a committee to address some of the listed tennis issues and to come up with viable solutions to be brought to the next Commission meeting. Walt seconded the motion. All voted Aye.

Walt asked if the attachment was from Phil Hopkins regarding the Tennis Professional Duties (that was included in the Commission's packet). Linda said it was.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Linda said a limited time parking zone of 4 hours at the Tennis Center was being recommended to deter people from selling their vehicles there. She brought this information from the Traffic Committee Meeting. She didn't foresee any problems with this ordinance for tennis players in particular.

Spreckels Park issue should be added to next month's agenda in regards to complaints about jumping pits at birthday parties in one area of the park.

Roller Hockey season is starting and will be played at the NASNI rink. Practices will be held at Village Elementary School.

Basketball season came to a close and Linda noted the number of volunteers that participated and how successful the season was overall.

Linda drew attention to the attachment of the letter regarding Dog Beach by a citizen from Arizona.

Valentine Grams raised \$150 for Recreation scholarships because of employee participation and it generated a lot of excitement in the City.

Linda has completed her first budget with the City. She has asked for 4 additional Recreation Coordinators to give some structure to staff and develop programs and a feeling of connection. The budget, when approved, will set the Recreation Department in a very good position.

Bob added that there should be clear direction on who has ownership in regards to the tennis issues and Jennie said that the committee would work on that.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05pm

Prepared by:

Approved by:
