

**CORONADO PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**September 10, 2001**

Commission Chair Kathy Vienna called the meeting to order at 4:08 pm.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:**

Commissioners: Kathy Vienna, Tim Sullivan, Walt Heinecke and Jennie Portelli.

Absent: Bob Breglio

Staff: Linda Rahn, Director of Recreation and Sandy Goodson,  
Administrative Secretary

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the meeting of August 13, 2343 approved with the following amendments: page 4, paragraph 4, should state that "Tim didn't agree with the parameters...". Page 5, paragraph 5, should state that "Kathy wants to know...". Page 6, paragraph 5, should state, "Jennie wants to make sure that people can take their children or relatives to play *or assist* tennis...". Page 7, paragraph 6, should state, "Jennie said she didn't agree with the golf benefit *as stated, but liked the idea*".

**Motion:** Heinecke – Accept the Minutes of the August meeting as corrected.

**Second:** Sullivan

**Motion passed all voting aye**

**AGENDA CHANGES:**

None

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**1. Appointment of new member to Tennis Review Committee:**

Jennie said that she spoke with the Tennis Review Committee and Pat McMahon said that he would step down. She spoke with Rob Moore, a Navy Captain who works with the Middle School tennis team, about joining the committee. He said he would like to be on the committee. She was also asked by a couple of people the legality of the Commission stating that they want a certain number of members who are not part of the CTA.

Kathy said that she wasn't aware of the legality, but the Commission was trying to reach a balance of people on the committee. She asked Linda to look into the legality of the request.

**Motion:** Portelli – Appoint Rob Moore to the Tennis Review Committee.

**Second:** Heinecke

**Motion passed all voting aye**

## **2. Proposed Employee Recreation Policy:**

Linda said that Golf Course twilight hours would not be adversely impacted by allowing employees to golf. One thought reflected was that the Commission might want to limit the number of times a year the employee can golf. Another designation made was adding to the policy wording that says, “Unless specified, benefits are for employees only”. Also, item D in the policy could be extended to employee, spouse and family. The Men’s and Women’s clubs were not opposed to the proposed recreation plan.

Walt asked how it would be controlled. Linda stated that we would have a card that could be punched.

Kathy said that at the last meeting Tim asked how much the golf course would be available in the twilight hours. Linda said that she was told that most of the time there was always availability.

Tim said if there was always availability, then we don’t need to limit the amount of golf allowed to employees. Walt said he agreed and we should just leave it up to the discretion of the starter.

Linda said that at the present time the golf course employees are allowed to golf during the twilight hours.

Linda said that the Commission could also accept the Recreation policy but have it reviewed in 1 year. Jennie said that was a good idea. Walt agreed.

**Motion:** Sullivan – Accept the draft with a review in one year.

**Second:** Portelli

**Motion passed all voting aye**

## **3. Community Center Design Development:**

Kathy explained that the Community Center will be an on-going item on the agenda to allow discussion and input from the community. She said the square footage of the Center is 40,000 sq. ft and a list of areas currently planned for the Center are 5,400 for Community Hall (700 sq. ft. for storage, 600 sq. ft. for kitchen and 600 sq. ft. for restrooms), 3,500 sq. ft. for gymnastic/acrobatic room, 1,000 sq. ft. for fitness room, 1,000 sq. ft. for arts & crafts room, 500 sq. ft. for juice bar, 1,600 sq. ft. for 2 racket ball courts, 3,000 sq. ft. for lockers, 3,000 sq. ft. for control point & cueing room, 150 sq. ft. for an aquatics staff area and 100 sq. ft. for a first aide area. It also includes 9,140 sq. ft. for a Boathouse and 4,370 sq. ft. for the Playhouse. Walt asked if we have any information on the height of the building. Kathy said that the restriction is 25 ft. with 28 ft. maximum for design elements.

**Ed Chapman, 1111 Coronado Ave.**, said that there was a committee that met last week with Mayor Smisek and Councilmember Monroe and some others. He said that they had some directives regarding the “Great Room” at the new Community Center. He said they discussed what would be and would not be in that room and wanted to know if we knew anything. He said that he understood that the committee said it won’t be a gymnasium, which would preclude basketball, volleyball, badminton or any other sports. He also said that the committee gave directions about the playhouse. Kathy said that we don’t have anymore information.

Ed Chapman said that he would like to know what the Community Center will include. He stated that he was on the original planning committee that worked on the Community Center. He also visits community centers whenever he travels. He feels that it is essential that the voice of the people be heard when it comes to our Community Center. He said we should talk to parents of middle school and high school kids because they will be the major users of the facility. He said that we are about the only Community that doesn’t have a Community Center.

Ed Chapman also encouraged the Commission to visit other Community Centers and talk to their managers. He said we should ask what is good and what isn’t, what facilities are the best, and most importantly, what would they do different if they could do it all over again.

Ed Chapman said that the Community Center did not originally start as a gymnasium, but that feature was added a few years later. He wasn’t sure when the gymnasium was taken out. He said that the height limit was a concern to him, and that he feels the Community Center should be available for major events. He asked if the playhouse would really give a benefit that the taxpayer’s deserve. He said that costs for a playhouse are going to be very expensive.

Tim asked Ed Chapman how he heard about the committee meeting. Ed Chapman said that Phil Monroe told him about the meeting after the meeting was over.

Tim asked Ed Chapman if while he was on the Parks and Recreation Commission was the “Grand Room” suppose to be a gymnasium? Ed Chapman said yes.

Kathy said that the sub-committee is Mayor Smisek and Councilmember Phil Monroe. She asked if future sub-committee meetings would be posted. Linda said that she would find out.

Walt said that he thought residents should be allowed to attend the sub-committee meetings. He asked Ed to refresh his memory about a committee that he and Ed sat on about a year ago and he wanted to know if there were any more meetings. Ed said that was the last meeting he was at as well.

**Margaret Richardson, 435 G Ave.**, said that since our Community Center is for multi-use, there should not be a height restriction that would preclude volleyball and basketball. She said that she believes that is what our community is interested in. She said that the school district does not make facilities available to the community since

they are locked up after hours. She also thanked staff for the work in getting the Tennis Courts on 6<sup>th</sup> repaired and restored.

Kathy clarified that the Parks and Recreation Commission did not make the height restriction, that the decision was made by the City Council.

**Gail Pedrotty, 171 Carob Way**, said she is concerned about what the Community Center will be used for. She has 2 sons who would love to have a place to drop in and play basketball. She said her family was very happy that the school district was building a gymnasium and then very disappointed when they couldn't get in there to use it, since it is rented out so much of the time, or locked up. She said that our Community needs a place that our kids can go to for sports. She said that information should go out to Elementary School, Middle School and High School parents about meetings regarding what is going to be in the Community Center and the restrictions. She said that she believes we are only talking about an additional 4 or 5 feet in height and it would give us a place to keep our kids involved in good activities such as concerts, sports or banquets.

Gail Pedrotty also wanted to applaud the recreation department for their involvement at the middle school. She said it is great that the recreation department is offering lunchtime activities for the middle school kids and that the kids are being made aware of the after school recreation programs that are available.

Jennie asked if we will have a general question on the survey that asks "what the people want in a Community Center" or questions that are more specific such as "do they want a gym"? Kathy said that the Commission will decide what questions will be on the survey.

**Linda Stanton, 855 C Ave**, said that when she was on the Design Review Commission the sub-committee recommended trees that grow 40 to 50 ft. and that she would encourage that no height limit is set. She said that she is an interior decorator and that no height limit be established until the uses of the Community Center are decided. She said that form follows functions. Linda said that this Center will be used by everyone, not only the youths, and should even be rented out for functions like weddings or banquets. She said we need a space for sports. She is also concerned about the seating availability of the playhouse so that enough people can attend to make it profitable.

Kathy asked if Design Review approved the 40 to 50 ft. trees. Linda said that the Design Review Commission recommended that there be no vertical obstructions in the design including light posts and trees because it would obstruct the view of the bay.

Tim said that he feels the Commission needs to convey the thoughts the people are bringing forward to our City Council. Walt agreed and said that we need to be the voice of the people.

Jennie asked Ed if we asked about a gymnasium on the last survey. Ed Chapman said it was not a gymnasium, rather a fitness center, but we didn't ask that question, we asked what would you want in a Community Center.

Ed Chapman said that we need a "needs assessment" that clearly defines what we need in a community center including the size and the equipment. He said that the "needs assessment" is what the architect needs to get the job started.

Ed Chapman said that he spoke in great length at the optimist club a few weeks about the new Community Center and what he would like to be in it. He said that he received a lot of support from the club.

Kathy said that it doesn't hurt to make your concerns known to the council and that she would like the minutes of our meeting to go to the Council with a cover letter asking that they please read the comments from the audience members concerning the Community Center.

Tim asked if a "needs assessment" has been done. Linda said yes, it was done in 1991 or 1992, and also commented that the process of developing the Glorietta Bay Master Plan has taken much longer than anyone anticipated. Linda explained that the architect goes through several steps and looks at what we do presently and what we intend to do in the new facility. The architect will have staff complete forms that indicate "I need an office here so that I can meet with this person" and "I need it to be this size because I have this equipment". The architect will validate what we need.

Linda said that we need to do a survey that asks the proper questions within the parameters we are given to work in.

Walter suggested that there is professional help to do a survey and that the proper wording on the survey is the important thing.

Tim wanted to know if the Architect has been provided any materials on what the Community Center is going to be used for. Linda said they were provided with the master plan that was approved by the City Council.

Walt asked if "The train left the station". He said he wasn't quite sure where we are in the process. Linda said "The train may have left the station, yes".

Walt wanted to know if we have time to get the word out.

Linda said there will be public meetings.

Jennie asked if there would be enough time to do a survey before the public meetings.

Tim asked if Linda contacted Sandy Ferguson at the school district to get a schedule for the gym. Linda said yes.

Tim said that he would like to have the schedule before the public meetings. Linda said that the schedule she received was incomplete and was in process of being up dated.

Tim said that the audience commented that the gym is unavailable and having the information would be a help to answer our needs.

Ed Chapman said that at the last Council Meeting, Phil Monroe stated that they hoped to get 1 night a week at the school gym for adults.

Gail Pedrotty said it doesn't matter if the facility is being used, it is locked up when not in use.

Walt said that we need to put the schedule on paper to show the Council what the availability is.

Kathy explained that Linda is working with the School District on a Joint Use Agreement.

Gail Pedrotty said that when her kids were in a basketball program they were allowed to use the gym in the morning, but had to get out in the afternoon because other groups rented the gym.

Tim said that Linda is working on a Joint Use Agreement with the School District and that hopefully it will open up the availability of the facilities for us.

Walt asked Gail Pedrotty if she could give us an example of what groups use the gym. Gail said volleyball is a big user and gymnastics. She said that these groups are not related to Coronado teams.

Kathy said that it will be an on-going discussion with the Joint Use Agreement Committee.

Linda Stanton asked if the Commission had input in the design of the "foot print" for the new Community Center. Kathy said no. Kathy explained that the Commission is an advisory Commission and that she was also disappointed that the plan did not come to the Commission for review. Linda said that when she was on Design Review Commission and the new Middle School plan came before them, the Commission was adamant that the field was to be left open, and now there is a fence around it.

**Motion:** Sullivan – The minutes from today's meeting along with the minutes from last month's meeting be sent to the Council with a cover letter expressing the view of the Commission that the design of the Community Center be based on information we are receiving from the community as far as the need to include a gymnasium or multi-use facility that will service the youth as well as the adults in town.

**Second:** Heinecke

**Motion passed all voting aye**

Linda clarified that the minutes from the last meeting have already been approved with the corrections noted, but this month's minutes will not have been approved.

Tim suggested that in the letter we state that the minutes have not been formally adopted but will be at the next meeting, and the Commissioners sign the letter.

Walt said that maybe we should include the letter from Ed Chapman regarding the Community Center.

#### **4. Community Survey/Needs Assessment:**

Kathy explained that the sub-committee appointed by the Commission at their last meeting met briefly before this meeting and they came up with some suggestions for the survey. One suggestion was for the survey to state what is planned for the Community Center, and then ask "would you use it" and "what else would you like to see".

Walt suggested that we have someone who really knows how to do surveys create our survey. He is concerned that we might ask the questions in the wrong way and not get valid results.

Linda said that she can get assistance from SANDAG. They do assistance in surveys and she feels that she can get timely assistance.

Tim said that he thinks the survey is going to be very important to the Recreation Department even if it is not completed in time for the Community Center.

Ed Chapman asked if Linda had information about a survey that was done in 1994 from a professional firm. Linda said that it was the survey she had. He said that he never saw it, but if it were random, that would make sense. He said that he really thinks that the questions should come from the Commission. Ed Chapman said he believes it would be best if the survey is professionally done and random.

Walt said that as the Commission they have the right to decide what questions to ask, but that what concerns him is how to ask the question.

Ed said that the Commission should look at the old survey to get an idea of the questions. He said that if a few Commissioners sat down for a couple of hours, they could probably have a survey done.

Kathy asked Linda about the timeline and distribution of the survey. Linda said the Commission should decide if they want to do something in addition to a professional or semi-professional survey that would be validated as being unbiased. Linda said that we could go forward with a professional survey and make a choice to supplement it with an interest form distributed through the schools and local paper, to show the areas of program interest, and document how the survey had been distributed.

Linda said that the Commission could decide to do a combination of both a professional survey and an interest form. She said they must decide what they want to do and keep in mind the parameters we must follow.

Kathy said that the Commission needs to decide if the main reason they want to do a survey is to determine that what is laid out by the City Council is what the Community feels is the essential items to be included in the Community Center or is the reason to do the survey to see what the concerns are for the future.

Tim said that he thinks the survey needs to be broader and take a look at total recreation needs. He said that the parameters he sees are costs and time. He suggested sending the survey out through the Eagle and the Schools and then trying to figure out the validity and margin of error of the survey. Tim suggested that Walt might be able to help figure out the validity of the survey.

Jennie asked if the result would then be forwarded to the sub-committee and the City Council. Tim said yes.

Kathy asked if we will be specific in our questions such as "Would you use a racquetball court". Linda said it could include those type of questions easily.

Tim asked Linda when she could have a survey out. Linda felt with SANDAG's help, she could have the information in 2 weeks. Tim asked if the sub-committee could review the survey in 2 weeks. Linda said yes.

Walt suggested looking at the questions from the 1994 survey before going to SANDAG. He said that questions from the 1994 survey might be valid and we would not need to go to SANDAG.

Tim asked if a sub-committee could meet to review the survey once Linda has it completed. Linda said a sub-committee could meet to review the survey.

Walt suggested having the people prioritize the items on the survey.

Jennie said that she wouldn't presume that the council isn't going to change their mind on the Community Center after receiving the results of the survey.

Kathy said that the direction the Commission has been given is a list of what is going to be in the Community Center and how does it fit into the Center.

Ed Chapman asked if the City Council stated what the use of the Community Center will be. Linda said that the City Council did approve what will be in the Community Center.

Tim said that the Council did approve a height limit which limits the practical use of the Community Center.

Kathy said that she and Tim will meet in committee to review Linda's draft survey.

Jennie asked if we have time to do the survey. She believes a more professional survey is important and that if Linda could get SANDAG's assistance it would be good.

**Motion:** Portelli – the sub-committee move forward with a needs assessment survey.

**Second:** Walt

**Motion passed all voting aye**

## 5. Next Meeting Date:

Linda explained that the next meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2001, which is a holiday for the City.

Tim asked if there were alternate dates. Kathy said the 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Motion:** Sullivan – Have the next meeting on October 15, 2001.

**Second:** Portelli

**Motion passed all voting aye**

## INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

### 6. Director's Report:

**A. Skatepark:** Linda said that the Skatepark is going well. We have ordered an extension of the sun canopy to help protect staff from the sun. She said that we are at winter hours now which mean opening at 1:00 p.m. and closing just before dark which is around 7:00 p.m. There was a convention in San Diego last week and we had a lot of heavy-duty pro type skaters. Our skatepark has a reputation of being the best skatepark in Southern California, "smooth" and "great transitions". We received a very nice letter from a man stating that his son had a great time, that the staff was welcoming and the place great. She forwarded a copy of the letter to David Bolles.

**B. Teen Programs:** We have been busy with our teen programs. Linda took our teen specialists to meet Nancy Girvin, the new Middle School Principal. The purpose was to introduce Colin and Jim and to ask permission to set up a table regarding Island Adventure. What came out of the meeting was that the Middle School needed lunchtime assistance. We are now running programs in the lunchroom and on the field at lunchtime. The response has been great from the School Superintendent, teachers, parents and students. Staff is visible in their Island Adventure Staff t-shirts. Linda said that we will not generate any money from the lunchtime activities, but we will generate some revenue from other activities. We have an "Island Adventure" web site and are going strong.

**C. Municipal Pool: structural study:** We are in the process of entering into a contract with ArchPac to do a structural study of the pool to determine if it will hold up to the renovations we will be doing. City Council allocated \$30,000 and ArchPac is a very reputable company.

**D. Joint Use Agreement with School District:** City Council authorized City staff to work with School District staff to work on an agreement for joint use of City and School facilities. The goal is to get information together by February to be adopted in March or April by the City Council. The Committee will be made up of several City and School District staff. She is in the process of getting copies of Joint Use Agreements from other agencies. It is our goal that we increase access to the School District facilities, increase supervision, improve maintenance, and improve communication with the School District and establish priorities for use.

Walt asked if we will be discussing increased use of the gymnasium. Linda said yes. She said that she asked Sandy Ferguson for a schedule. She said that she was not impressed with the schedule Sandy gave her. Sandy indicated that the use increases in the winter and he will be getting Linda a better calendar in the near future.

Jennie asked if we will provide the staff to run the program. Linda said yes. Linda indicated that we currently have 3 staff members with an office in the gym.

## **7. Commissioner's Report:**

Jennie said there were cleaning issues at the courts and wanted to know who should be contacted. Linda said both citizens and the Tennis Pro have responsibility for reporting maintenance concerns regarding the courts. Jennie said that the committee is trying to come up with items for future tennis contracts.

Walt shared that he now has a 2-year old lab and has become a user of Vetter Park. He said the park is very nice.

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.**

**Prepared by:**

**Approved by:**

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