



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
OF THE CITY OF LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2015**

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**PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Koblin called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Chair Koblin, Vice Chair Kambe, Commissioner Olson, Commissioner Berkuta, and Commissioner Kamar present.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Comments from the Public**

None.

**5. Approval of December 10, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes.**

M/S/C: Commissioner Olson/Berkuta to approve the December 10, 2014 Commission Regular Meeting Minutes, as amended. 5-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**6. LCF Girl Scouts Permit and Fee Waiver Request for PCR Field.**

Staff Liaison Alameda provided an overview of the Field Permit and Fee Waiver request of the LCF Girl Scouts for use of the Palm Crest Elementary School Field on May 8, and May 9, 2015, in support of their annual sleep-over event. La Cañada Baseball/Softball Association, the field permit holder on these dates, has been contacted about the usage request by the LCF Girl Scouts.

M/S/C: Commissioner Kambe/Koblin to approve the Field Permit and Fee Waiver request of the LCF Girl Scouts for use of the PCR Field on May 8, and May 9, 2015. 5-0.

**Chair Koblin re-ordered the Agenda to consider Item No. 9 next, as there were a number of residents in the audience in attendance for the discussion of this agenda item.**

**9. Update on Potential off-leash Dog Park.**

Staff Liaison Alameda provided an update to the Commission on the status of the project. At the November 2014 Commission meeting, City staff presented a number of potential locations within the City, which a leash optional zone could be located. The Parks and Recreation

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Commission identified the Southern California Edison right-of-way, adjacent to the Cross Town Trail as the favorable location. The potential "linear dog park" would be located in the right-of-way, but completely separate from the existing trail. The Cross Town Trail will not be used as an off-leash zone.

Alameda informed the Commission City staff met with Southern California Edison the week prior to the Commission meeting to propose the idea in concept only. Edison did not outright reject the idea and asked for the City to provide specifications with details on the location and boundaries of the leash optional zone and fencing materials to be used.

Commissioner Olson asked if Edison specified if they would have any restrictions on the location of the linear dog park.

Alameda stated Edison will have requirements on the minimum distances that any new structures must be set-back from their existing equipment within the right-of-way. They will also need to be able to access any of their equipment onsite. Alameda believes the western segment between Indiana north to Olive will be the most favorable location, as it is away from Edison's equipment and will keep the park the furthest distance away from any homes. At this location the County's Flood Control Channel fence could also be used as one of the boundaries.

Chair Koblin opened the item for public comment.

Bill Scherkey, a resident of Flanders Road, located at the end of Flanders Road addressed the Commission. He wants to make sure the potential dog park is located opposite his fence line, as it would be right against his home. The opposite side is just the flood control channel. He also stated since the Flanders access gate has been reopened he has observed people using the access to access the trail. He stated all the individuals he has seen keep their dogs on a leash entering the access. Some once inside the Edison right-of-way do take their dogs off leash.

Dale Ball thanked the Commission for proceeding to see if the project is possible. She restated they are not looking for a dog park, but an area where people can run with their dogs off-leash. Additionally, she feels a confined area has a higher potential for dog fights.

Alameda informed the Commission the City will submit the schematic to SCE for their review. After hearing back from Edison the issue will come back to the Commission for a public hearing.

## **7. Discussion of 2015 Music-in-the-Park Summer Concert Series.**

Staff Liaison Alameda informed the Commission the 2015 Series will feature 14 concerts, a movie night, and potentially a classic car show the same number of events as prior years. The first concert on Memorial Day, which is part of the Fiesta Days activities, has already been booked with Captain Cardiac and the Coronaries.

In the staff report the concert schedules from the past three years is included for the Commission's review. Alameda is looking to see if there are any specific types of music the Commission would like to see added or any other general changes to the line-up.

Commissioner Kamar said he attended The Long Run, a Tribute to the Eagles and this first time performer was a big hit and he would like to make sure they return in 2015. Alameda stated this particular band does have a major tour schedule, so it's not a certainty they can be booked, but he will make them a priority.

Vice Chair Kambe said he doesn't see a need to book the Fenians, the Irish/Celtic band for 2015. Chair Koblin said he attended their 2014 Concert date and it was the lowest attendance he saw on any concert night.

Kambe asked if there's a need to book the Jack Lantz Big Band for 2015. Alameda stated he would like to see this group retained, as the series is heavily slanted toward classic rock and this is one of the few concerts that is a very different experience. Additionally, the group has a local connection.

Commissioner Kambe would like to see Elvis return for the 2015 Concert Series, he was not booked in 2014. Chair Koblin supports booking Elvis rather than the Fenians for 2015.

## **8. Update on the Oak Grove Field Sub-Surface Drainage System.**

Staff Liaison provided an update on the Oak Grove Field drainage system. In the past, there has been discussion that the Oak Grove Field when constructed was built directly over a parking lot without any of the asphalt being removed. The implication was this situation was why the Oak Grove Field has poor drainage and is constantly wet in the fall.

Alameda researched the Capital Improvement Projects and found in July 2004, the City did install a sub-surface drain system under the Oak Grove Field at a cost of \$113,000. Photos from the project with the field excavated taken in July 2004 are attached in the staff report.

The City's Facility Maintenance Superintendent believes the contributing factor is the site is a smaller field, doesn't let users move drills around, leading to repetitive use and compacting the soil.

Commissioner Berkuta asked about the field lights mentioned as a factor to the deteriorated turf condition in the staff report. Alameda stated that when the Oak Grove Field lights were installed in 2005, greatly expanded the available usage of the field. Until the Commission placed greater limitations in 2014, the field was routinely lighted and used until 10:00 PM on weekdays.

## **CONCLUDING BUSINESS**

### **10. Staff Comments**

Staff Liaison Alameda stated he looks forward to scheduling the 2015 Music in the Park concert series. He also mentioned that the City's new public relations consultant found the concert schedule to be the most popular item on the City's website.

Kevin Chun informed the Commission the City's new public relations firm, Tripepi Smith & Associates, discovered when looking at the City website's analytics that the most traffic was for the Music in the Park Series schedule.

### **11. Items for Future Agendas**

Commissioner Berkuta mentioned the potential of a stand-alone restroom in Memorial Park. Alameda stated the City already did look at the project, which would be in excess of \$250,000 and felt continuing to rent the high quality portable restrooms for specific events is the best approach.

Commissioner Kambe asked for an update on the FIS Tennis Courts. Alameda stated he planned to place this on the next agenda, but provided the update to the Commission. The City had just been informed by the County of Los Angeles they didn't receive the competitive Proposition A Excess Grant applied for on the renovation of the FIS Tennis Courts. However, the City will still pursue the resurfacing of the FIS Tennis Courts, which is already contained within the Joint Use Committee Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan. The project is still at the Joint Use Committee level and isn't funded presently.

Commissioner Kamar would like a future discussion on a potential shade project for the LCE Athletic Field.

**12. Comments from the Commission**

Commissioner Berkuta thanked Alameda for the research on the Oak Grove Field sub-surface and stated the photographs were helpful.

Commissioner Olson that staff for being able to have the leash optional zone considered by SCE. Alameda stated that Mark Alexander is the one who met with Edison to discuss the concept.

**ADJOURN**

Chair Koblin adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:57 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl Alameda". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

**Carl Alameda, Senior Management Analyst II  
(Staff Liaison to the Commission)**