



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2013**

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Chair Nydam called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Olson, Nydam, Koblin, and Kamar present.
Commissioner Berkuta absent.

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Comments from the Public.

None.

5. Approval of October 29, 2013 Meeting Minutes

M/S/C: Commissioner Koblin/Kamar to approve the October 29, 2013 Commission Special Meeting Minutes. 4-0.

2014 ANNUAL FIELD SCHEDULING

Staff Liaison Peter Castro gave an overview of the 2014 community group requests for re-occurring annual community events. The requests do not conflict with each other and will be noted on the permits of the other athletic user groups, should there a conflict.

Chair Nydam re-ordered the Agenda to consider Items No. 8A, 8B, and 8C first, as the applicants were present and their requests did not present any significant facility usage conflicts.

8. Community Group Requests.

A. The Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge – Field Permit and Fee Waiver Request.

Deb Jordan, Executive Director of the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge presented the request of the Center for their 2014 field usage for the FIS Lower and Upper Fields.

Jordan noted that the weekday request of LCHS Athletics does conflict on the FIS Lower Field. Jordan stated that it isn't a concern, as the Community Center can either move their usage to the FIS Upper Field completely or use a small compact area of the FIS Upper Field adjacent to the Community Center building.

Commissioner Koblin stated that he on behalf of the Sports Coalition will draw a map to address the overlapping time on the FIS Lower Field and have the Community Center and La Cañada High School sign off on the arrangement.

M/S/C: Commissioner Koblin/Olson to approve the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge Field Permit and Fee Waiver as requested. 4-0.

B. The LCF Chamber of Commerce – Facility Permit and Fee Waiver Request.

Pat Anderson of LCF Chamber of Commerce Executive Board introduced herself and presented their 2014 facility request in support of their Annual Fiesta Days.

M/S/C: Commissioner Olson/Koblin to approve the LCF Chamber of Commerce Facility Permit and Fee Waiver request. 4-0.

C. LCF Girl Scouts Park Permit and Fee Waiver Request.

Isabel Portantino presented the request of the LCF Girl Scouts for usage of Glenola Park in support of the Daisy Bridging Ceremony on May 16, 2014.

M/S/C: Commissioner Olson/Koblin to approve the La Cañada Girl Scouts Park Permit and Fee Waiver request. 4-0.

6. LCUSD Requests.

A. Review LCUSD Field Requests and Major Events.

Chair Nydam and Commissioner Koblin gave an overview of the 2014 requests and conflicts within the usage schedule. Most notably, the LCHS request for LCHS La Crosse is in direct conflict with the Community Center.

Craig Franzen, LCHS Athletic Director addressed the Commission that the usage took place last season and worked for the Community Center. Mr. Franzen said that LCHS Athletics is agreeable to sign-off on the shared usage map with the Community Center on the FIS Lower Field.

Commissioner Koblin stated that he has received complaints that during the baseball season that the LCHS Baseball program practices would run over into youth usage time and limit field usage for LCBSA. Mr. Franzen said that this may happen with games, as they don't have control, but he'll talk to the coaches about practices.

Alameda stated that the LCHS requests for the most part are identical to what occurred in 2013. He did note that the request for LCHS Football practice during the dead period in August was not permitted last year and is being requested against.

Mr. Franzen stated that the June and July conditioning program was permitted in the past on the baseball field. The August period was not permitted in 2013.

Franzen has been in contact over the past year with Walter Calmette of LCBSA to coordinate LCHS games, which worked well, so the Commission will grant the permit to LCBSA.

Football Hell Week in August 2014 will not be permitted and the January 16, 2014 LCHS Baseball game will be permitted to LCHS Athletics.

B. LCE PTA – Park Permit and Fee Waiver Request.

Alameda presented the request of the LCE PTA for usage of Memorial Park in support of their “Gold Rush” event and their End of the Year activities in March 2014.

M/S/C: Commissioner Nydam /Olson to approve the LCE PTA Park Permit and Fee Waiver Request. 4-0.

C. LCE PTA – Park Permit and Fee Waiver Request.

Alameda presented the request of the LCE PTA for usage of Memorial Park in support of their Annual End of the Year Parties in June 2014.

M/S/C: Commissioner Olson/Koblin to approve the LCE PTA Park Permit and Fee Waiver Request. 4-0.

D. PRC PTA – Park Permit and Fee Waiver Request.

A Palm Crest Elementary parent, Holly presented the request of the PCR PTA for usage of the PCR Field for the Annual PRC Springamajig to be held on April 25 – April 26, 2014.

M/S/C: Commissioner Koblin/Nydam to approve the PCR PTA Field Permit and Fee Waiver Request. 4-0.

7. LCF Sports Collation Requests.

A. Gladiators Football– Field Permit and Fee Waiver Request

Kevin Lacey, President of the La Cañada Gladiators, presented the request for the group’s 2014 request, which is identical to last year. For the fourth year in a row the organization has had a team go undefeated.

M/S/C: Commissioner Koblin/Olson to approve the Gladiators Fee Waiver and Field Permit as requested. 4-0.

B. AYSO – Field Permit and Fee Waiver Request.

Alameda gave an overview of the 2014 AYSO Field Permit request, as Marco Quezada is currently out of the state and could not attend the Commission meeting.

KC Mathews addressed the Commission regarding the condition of the Oak Grove Field. He stated that the softball field is in terrible condition, the quality of play has been affected, as softballs bounce in the outfield at unexpected angles. Throughout the softball season (in the spring) the field regenerates and is in good condition by the end of the softball season, then is destroyed by the end on the fall soccer season. He says that the City's contract landscape maintenance crew Oak Ridge does fantastic work, but they can't keep the field in good condition with the amount of usage on the field.

Commissioner Olson asked the ages of the AYSO and LAPFC users on the Oak Grove Field. Alameda stated that it ranges from young children just learning to play up to high school. Olson suggested trying to limit the permitting of the Oak Grove Field to U10 to try to minimize the impact on the Oak Grove Field.

Commissioner Koblin suggested limiting the usage to U6 and U8 for AYSO on the Oak Grove Field.

Commissioner Kamar suggested also pushing their permit start to later in the year by two weeks on the Oak Grove Field.

The Commission discussed and decided rather than push back the permit start date by two weeks, it would be better to start one week later and end one week earlier to give the field more rest time prior to the start of the spring softball season. Additionally, both AYSO and LAPFC would be limited to U8.

M/S/C: Commissioner Nydam/Koblin to approve the 2014 Field Permit request of AYSO Region 13 and Fee Waiver Request contingent upon the prior 2013 participant roster being verified by City staff that it satisfies the requirements for a City fee waiver and limiting the usage of the Oak Grove Field to U8. 4-0.

C. LAPFC – Field Permit and Fee Waiver Request.

Alameda gave an overview of the 2014 LAPFC Field Permit request for the Oak Grove Field and noted that LAPFC also had not submitted their player rosters as required for consideration of a fee waiver.

Commissioner Nydam noted that LAPFC's usage request for the Oak Grove Field would also be limited to U8.

M/S/C: Commissioner Koblin/Olson to approve LAPFC for use of the Oak Grove Field limiting field usage to U8. 4-0.

D. La Cañada Baseball/Softball Association (LCBSA) – Field Permit and Fee Waiver Request.

Walter Calmette of LCBSA introduced himself and presented the 2014 field request, which they had worked out with LCHS Athletics. LCBSA has had a direct line with the LCHS Baseball Coach, which has worked well to coordinate field times.

M/S/C: Commissioner Nydam/Olson to approve the LCBSA Fee Waiver and Field Permit 4-0, with amendments as noted by City staff.

E. Valley Sports Association Baseball (VSA) – Field Permit Request.

Staff Liaison Alameda presented the request of VSA, a new group looking for practice space two days per week that had been displaced from their field in La Crescenta. The group is not requesting a fee waiver, as they are not eligible and would be paying fees.

M/S/C: Commissioner Nydam/Olson to deny the VSA Field Permit Request Permit 4-0.

CONCLUDING BUSINESS

10. Staff Comments

Carl Alameda thanked LCHS Athletics and LCBSA for agreeing to modify their season schedule to maintain at least a one month field closure period in the summer of 2014.

11. Items for Future Agendas

Commissioner Olson would like to discuss the possibility of adding a water fountain at the FIS Lower Field.

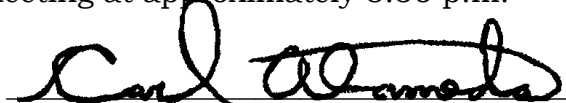
12. Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Nydam asked for a quick back ground on the Cross Town Trail issue to be discussed, which Alameda provided.

Commissioner Koblin thanked the sport groups for another year of outstanding cooperation in the 2014 field scheduling process.

ADJOURN

Chair Nydam adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:36 p.m.



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