



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2012**

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Chair Olson called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Olson, Nydam, Koblin, Berkuta and Kamar all present.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Olson invited Wes Seastrom to the podium to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Comments from the Public

5. Approval of November 20, 2012 Meeting Minutes

M/S/C: Commissioner Koblin/Nydam to approve the November 20, 2012 Commission Regular Meeting Minutes. 4-0-1 (Kamar Abstaining).

2013 ANNUAL FIELD SCHEDULING

Staff Liaison Alameda gave an overview of the 2013 field scheduling, permit issuance process, and 2013 field closure opportunities. It was noted that there are conflicts with the new usage requests submitted by LCHS Athletics both the requests from the La Cañada Baseball/Softball Association, the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge, and the City's proposed 2013 Summer Field closure period.

The conflicts are in the 2013 schedule due to new LCHS athletic programs added at the 7/8 level for lacrosse, soccer, and softball which are proposed to be held at the FIS Lower Field. This field site traditionally has not had LCHS activities held on site and has been used in the past exclusively for the surrounding elementary schools and the youth recreation organizations within the City.

Chair Olson re-ordered the Agenda to consider Items No. 8B, 8C, 6B and 8A first, as the applicants were present and their requests did not present any significant facility usage conflicts.

8. Community Group Requests.

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

Wes Seastrom of LCF Chamber of Commerce Executive Board introduced himself and presented their 2013 facility request in support of their 40th Annual Fiesta Days.

M/S/C: Commissioner Berkuta/Koblin to approve the LCF Chamber of Commerce Facility Permit and Fee Waiver request. 5-0.

C. Kiwanis Club of La Cañada Flintridge Park Permit and Fee Waiver Request.

Commissioner Berkuta informed the Commission that the Noon Kiwanis Club, which meets on Wednesdays at Descanso Gardens, is requesting the park permit and fee waiver in support of a new family picnic event at Memorial Park in April 2013.

M/S/C: Commissioner Olson/Koblin to approve the Kiwanis of La Cañada Flintridge Park Permit and Fee Waiver request. 4-0-1 (Berkuta Abstaining).

6. LCUSD Requests.

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 June 2013.

M/S/C: Commissioner Nydam /Koblin to approve the LCE PTA Park Permit and Fee Waiver Request. 5-0.

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 2013 field usage for the FIS Lower and Upper Fields.

Alameda 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.

M/S/C: Commissioner Koblin/Berkuta to approve the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge Field Permit and Fee Waiver as requested. 5-0.

Commissioner Koblin informed the Commission that LCHS Athletics and LCBSA were still in the City Hall Conference Room discussing proposed 2013 field scheduling, so the Commission may want to consider proceeding with the other youth user group requests.

Chair Olson re-ordered the Agenda to consider Items No. 7A, 7B, 7C as the requests did not present any significant facility usage conflicts.

7. LCF Sports Collation Requests.

A. Gladiators Football– Field Permit and Fee Waiver Request

Chair Olson noted that the 2013 field request of the La Cañada Gladiators does not have any conflicts with any other field requests.

Alameda commented that the La Cañada Gladiators while under the 50 percent residency requirement are still eligible for a fee waiver as they are a “nonprofit organization with a bona fide place of business within the City”.

Commissioner Koblin stated that the La Cañada Gladiators have done everything within their ability to increase the participation level of La Cañada Flintridge residents within their programs. But they are limited by their conference on how many players their rosters can carry and it is a competitive try-out system.

M/S/C: Commissioner Nydam /Kamar to approve the Gladiators Fee Waiver and Field Permit as requested. 4-0-1 (Koblin Abstaining).

B. AYSO – Field Permit and Fee Waiver Request.

Alameda gave an overview of the 2013 AYSO Field Permit request and noted that AYSO Region 13 had not submitted their player rosters as required for consideration of a fee waiver.

Commissioner Koblin asked if the fee waiver could be approved contingent upon the verification by City staff that AYSO does have a minimum of fifty percent or at least 350 participants who are residents of La Cañada Flintridge.

M/S/C: Commissioner Olson/Koblin to approve the 2013 Field Permit request of AYSO Region 13 and Fee Waiver Request contingent upon the prior 2012 participant roster being verified by City staff that it satisfies the requirements for a City fee waiver. 5-0.

C. LAPFC – Field Permit and Fee Waiver Request.

Alameda gave an overview of the 2013 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.

Marco Quezada representing AYSO and LAPFC informed the Commission that he was out of state during the roster deadline and will submit the prior 2012 participant rosters after the start of the New Year.

M/S/C: Commissioner Koblin/Kamar to approve LAPFC for use Oak Grove Field as requested. 5-0.

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

Jack Johnson and Walter Calmette of LCBSA introduced themselves and presented their 2013 field request, which they had worked out with LCHS Athletics. LCBSA and LCHS Athletics met prior to the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting at City Hall once again in an effort to resolve the field usage conflicts the two groups had in their application materials submitted.

LCBSA will relinquish the LCHS Varsity Baseball Field on the following 5 dates, in full: January 19, February 2, March 16, March 21, and June 13, 2013. LCBSA will make the LCHS Varsity Baseball Field available to LCHS Baseball in the mornings every other Saturday, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., starting date of January 19, 2013. However, LCHS Baseball does need the field for this starting date, so LCBSA will relinquish its first permitted Saturday (January 19, 2013) in full to LCHS Baseball.

Additionally LCBSA will be off the LCHS Varsity Baseball Field every Saturday by 4:00 p.m., so that the field would always be available to LCHS Baseball on Saturdays after 4:00 p.m.

On the LCHS Junior Varsity Baseball Field LCBSA cannot relinquish their Saturday dates due to the number of children in the age division that use the field. LCBSA will relinquish the following 5 dates: January 19, February 2, March 16, March 21, and June 13, 2013.

On the LCHS Oak Grove Field LCBSA will relinquish the following dates: March 1, March 2, March 21, June 13, and the week of June 17 – 21, 2013 (LCHS Softball Camp).

On the FIS Lower Field LCBSA will not relinquish any days or times, but will work with LCHS Athletics as best they can to accommodate their scheduling needs on the FIS Lower Field in 2013.

Alameda stated that LCBSA, in 2012, at the organization's own expense of just over \$15,000, modified the FIS Lower Field to allow for formal softball games at the site (which now makes the field usable for LCHS 7/8 Athletics). Given LCBSA's investment in the site, they would like to retain usage of the field they just improved to hold their softball games.

Chair Olson proposed that since LCHS Athletics did not have a completed schedule for the 7/8 soccer program that he will move to issue the permit of the FIS Lower Field to LCBSA as requested. LCHS 7/8 Athletics will need to request their specific dates from LCBSA.

Jack Johnson noted that the permit start times on the three elementary school sites (LCE, PCY, and PCR) should be 5:00 p.m.

M/S/C: Commissioner Olson/Koblin to approve the LCBSA Fee Waiver and Field Permit 5-0, with amendments as noted by City staff.

6. LCUSD Requests.

A. Review LCUSD Field Request and Major Events.

Ted Jope of the La Cañada Gladiators presented the "Sims Conditioning Clinic" June 17 – July 19, 2013 to take place on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays for a total of 18 dates consisting of running and agility drills. The camp is open to the public and serves the LCHS Football players, the La Cañada Gladiators, and is open to the community. The camp is not in conflict with the 2013 proposed field closure dates.

Chair Olson suggested that the Commission consider requesting that the "Sims Conditioning Clinic" rotate the areas of the field they use to not wear one area too greatly during the duration of the conditioning camp.

Craig Franzen presented the request for a Summer LCHS Freshman Football program on the LCHS JV/Varsity Baseball Field, which doesn't have space on the football stadium due to the presence of L.A. Premier Soccer Club.

Alameda stated that the proposed usage of 25 practice dates for a freshman football program would be a significant impact on the field. From his past experience it would badly deteriorate the field's condition at the expense of the other users of the field, the community, and the City's significant investment in the field.

Chair Olson said that the Freshman Football practices on the LCHS JV/Varsity Baseball Fields could not be accommodated due to the level of intense use it would place on the field and the fact that the Summer 2013 field closure period would be lost.

Kevin Lacey of the La Cañada Gladiators offered that the LCHS Freshman Football program could come to the FIS Lower Field and practice during the time that the Gladiators have a permit for the field. The Gladiator program can make the space and he would like his youth to be able to see the high school athletes practice.

Koblin stated that LCHS should consider the offer from the Gladiators and that the Parks and Recreation Commission's mandate from the City Council is to protect the fields.

M/S/C: Commissioner Olson/Koblin to approve the LCHS Athletics Field Permit 5-0, noting the following conditions:

1. The dates that LCBSA has relinquished to LCHS Baseball on the LCHS JV Baseball Field, Varsity Baseball Field, and Oak Grove Field as noted by City staff;
2. The understanding that the "Sims Conditioning Camp" will rotate the areas of the field used for the sessions of the camp.
3. The 2013 Summer Freshman Football Program proposed for the LCHS JV/Varsity Baseball Field is NOT permitted.

CONCLUDING BUSINESS

10. Staff Comments

Carl Alameda congratulated the 2012 La Cañada Gladiators Midget Football Team (12 and 13 year olds) on their undefeated championship season. They will be recognized at an upcoming City Council meeting.

11. Items for Future Agendas

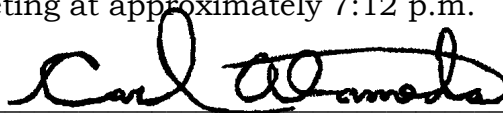
The Commission wanted an update on the current Five-Year Joint Use Capital Improvement Project Plan.

12. Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Nydam asked if LCHS Athletics will work on their 2014 requests through the LCF Sports Coalition this coming year to prevent the conflicts.

ADJOURN

Chair Olson adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:12 p.m.



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