



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2011**

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Olson called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Olson, Kambe, Koblin and Nydam present. Chair King arrived at 6:21 p.m.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Comments from the Public

None.

5. Approval of November 15, 2011 Meeting Minutes

M/S/C: Commissioner Kambe/Nydam to approve the November 15, 2011 Commission Regular Meeting Minutes. 3-0-1 (Koblin Abstaining).

2012 ANNUAL FIELD SCHEDULING

Staff Liaison Alameda informed the Commission that Item number 9 has been removed from the agenda, the discussion of the General Plan's Open Space and Recreation Element will take place at the January 2012 Commission meeting.

Alameda then gave an overview of the 2012 field scheduling, permit issuance process, and 2012 field closure opportunities. It was noted that there is one conflict in the 2012 Recreational Facility Schedule before the Commission for use of the FIS Lower Field involving La Cañada Baseball/Softball Association and the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge. The two uses can be compatible by splitting the permit for use of the FIS Lower Field.

Staff Liaison Alameda noted that last year the Commission voted not to close the fields in August 2011, which had been the traditionally Summer closure in years past, which the fields were badly worn down by December 2011 from the expanded usage. At the 2011 field scheduling meeting, the fields had been in the best condition that they had been in for several years, so the Commission at that time agreed to allow the usage during August 2011. Alameda noted that the 2012 request of AYSO Soccer does request August usage again, which would not allow for a closed, so the Commission will need to decide if they want to allow for a Summer 2012 closure.

Alameda noted that a late request was submitted by FC Golden State for time that would directly coincide with the 2012 request of LAPFC. If the Commission would like to consider FC Golden State's usage, then the LAPFC and FC Golden State requests could be continued to the January 2012 Commission meeting, as their respective uses do not begin until the Summer of 2012.

Commissioner Kambe asked if FC Golden State submitted a field usage application for the 2012 Field Scheduling meeting. Alameda stated that an application was not received by the group and a scheduling packet had not been sent to them, since they were not issued permits in 2011. The 2012 request was a verbal request through the Sports Coalition for consideration at the 2012 field scheduling meeting.

6. LCUSD Requests.

A. Review LCUSD Field Request and Major Events.

M/S/C: Commissioner Nydam/Koblin to approve the LCUSD Field Permit requests, as submitted. 4-0.

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

M/S/C: Commissioner Koblin/Nydam to approve the LCE PTA Park 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 addressed the Commission he noted that there is some overlap with AYSO. He said that he has worked well with Marco Quezada in the past and there are no conflicts between the two groups.

Commissioner Kambe asked if the August move to hold practices at the FIS Lower Field has been workable for the Gladiator program. Mr. Lacey said that the FIS Lower Field has worked well and allows their program a lot more space and if there were lights at FIS Lower they would like to stay there all season.

Commissioner Nydam asked how the efforts to increase the local La Cañada Flintridge participation in the Gladiator program have been proceeding; he noted that their rosters were only at 40% for 2011. Mr. Lacey said they peaked at 52% a few years ago and that they approached the LCUSD about making presentations at local schools and placing banners onsite. But, the LCUSD Schools will only allow placement of brochures in the Administrative offices where they are highly unlikely to be seen. Mr. Lacey has had some success in advertising with the local private schools.

M/S/C: Commissioner Kambe/Nydam to approve the Gladiators Fee Waiver and Field Permit as requested. 3-0-1 (Koblin Abstaining).

B. AYSO – Field Permit and Fee Waiver Request

Kareem Badaruddin Regional Commission of AYSO introduced himself to the Commission.

Commissioner Koblin asked if the Commission would want to push back the AYSO request to September 2012 for use of the fields at La Cañada High School, to allow for an August closure. Mr. Badaruddin said they typically begin their Upper Division ages in August, which are children over the age of 14 years old. The Upper Division players need to begin earlier as their season has to be complete by Thanksgiving, so they can participate in the high school season.

Commissioner Kambe asked when the Summer 2012 field closure period would occur if the AYSO field permit request was modified. Carl Alameda stated that it would begin when LCBSA ended their season that is requested to be permitted until July 31, 2012 and the typical start date for the soccer groups would be September 4, 2012.

Commissioner Kambe would like to allow the Summer 2012 Field Closure and allow the usage to begin Monday, August 27, 2012 to coincide with the start of LCUSD Schools.

Vice Chair Olson also requested that should LCBSA complete their 2012 season at the LCHS JV/Varsity Baseball Fields earlier than their permit date of July 31, 2012 that the City try to close the fields prior to July 31, 2012.

M/S/C: Commissioner Kambe/Koblin to approve the AYSO Fee Waiver and Field Permit as requested with a modified start date of Monday, August 27, 2012 for the LCHS JV/Varsity Baseball Field (Oak Grove Field Request stands). 5-0.

C. LAPFC Soccer – Field Permit and Fee Waiver Request

Allen Bates of the LAPFC Board of Directors introduced himself to the Commission and stated that the Summer field closure issue does not impact their group.

M/S/C: Commissioner Koblin/Kambe to approve the LAPFC Soccer Fee Waiver and Field Permit as requested for use of the Oak Grove Field. 5-0.

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

Jack Johnson of LCBSA introduced himself and presented their 2012 field request and noted that they would like to request an earlier start time of 4:30 p.m. The earlier start time would allow for preparations time to get games started at 5:15 p.m. Mr. Johnson said it is more of an issue in the earlier part of the season when it gets dark earlier and they are under pressure to start earlier to get their games complete.

Alameda noted that this earlier start time would create a conflict with the Child Education Center (CEC) and the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge.

Vice Chair Olson asked if coaches preparing the field at 4:30 p.m. would at all affect the programs of the CEC. Alameda said that there have been conflicts at the Paradise Canyon Elementary School Field between the administrators of CEC, who do not want other present prior to their previously permitted 5:00 p.m. start time. Alameda said the conflicts largely occurred in 2010, when the LCBSA coaches were dragging, raking, and chalking the field at PCY prior to 5:00 p.m.

Commissioner Kambe asked if “splitting the difference” by getting on the elementary schools 15 minutes early would be helpful and when is 2012 opening day for LCBSA scheduled for 2012. Mr. Johnson said opening day would be March 5, 2012.

Commissioner Kambe noted that an early permit time on the FIS Lower Field of 4:30 p.m. would create conflicts with both the Community Center and LCHS 7/8 Soccer and would not support an earlier permit time at this site. Commissioner Kambe would support allowing LCBSA to have an earlier start time of 4:30 p.m. on the Cornishon Athletic Field from January 23, 2012 through the end of their season.

M/S/C: Commissioner Kambe/Koblin to approve the LCBSA Fee Waiver and Field Permit, with the following amendments:

1. Providing for an earlier start time at the PCY Field to be available at 4:45 p.m. from March 5, 2012 through July 31, 2012;

2. Providing for an earlier start time at the Cornishon Athletic Field to be available at 4:30 p.m. from January 23, 2012 through July 31, 2012. Vote of the Parks and Recreation Commission 5-0.

Chair King noted to the users present that the FIS Lower Field would be split between the Community Center and LCBSA for Fall 2012, with LCBSA using the western portion of the field abutting Cornishon Avenue.

8. Community Group Requests.

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

Chair King asked if the Community Center request was in conflict with any of the other requests. Alameda stated the change made with LCBSA by splitting the field during the Fall took care of the conflict.

M/S/C: Commissioner King/Kambe to approve the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge Field Permit and Fee Waiver as amended to apportion the use of the FIS Lower Field to permit only the Eastern portion from September 3, 2012 through December 16, 2012. 4-0-1 (Koblin Abstaining).

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 2012 facility request in support of their 39th Annual Fiesta Days.

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

C. The LCF Girl Scout Association- Park Permit and Fee Waiver Request.

M/S/C: Commissioner Olson/Nydam to approve the La Cañada Flintridge Girl Scouts for use of Memorial Park as requested. 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

9. Discussion of General Plan Update – Open Space and Recreation Element.

The discussion of the General Plan's Open Space and Recreation Element was continued to the January 2012 Commission meeting.

CONCLUDING BUSINESS

10. Staff Comments

Carl Alameda mentioned that at the last meeting of the City Council that the 2011 La Cañada Gladiators Junior Midget Football (12 and 13 year olds) team was recognized on their undefeated championship season.

11. Items for Future Agendas

The General Plan's Open Space and Recreation Element was continued to the January 2012 Commission meeting..

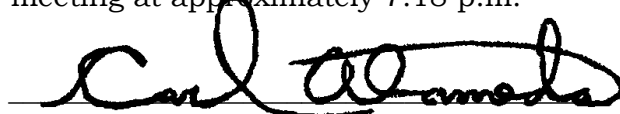
12. Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Koblin thanked Carl Alameda for the preparation of the meeting materials for the Annual Field Scheduling meeting.

Commissioner Olson thanked La Canada Sports Coalition for their efforts to streamline the user group requests for 2012.

ADJOURN

Vice Chair Olson adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:18 p.m.



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