

City of Newport
Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
December 15th, 2010
MINUTES

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by Roger Holstein @ 8:34 a.m.
2. Roll Call. Members present were: Ed Simon, Roger Holstein, Sandra Surber, Karen Smith. Absent: Susan Boehlert.

Also present: Lon Brusselback, City Council liaison.

Staff Present. Parks and Recreation Director, Jim Protiva.

3. Approval of Minutes. Ed moved to approve the October 20, 2010 minutes. Seconded by Sandra. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved.
4. Concerns or Comments from Citizens. None.
5. Report of the Director. Jim noted that from now on the meeting agenda would have more details as requested by the City Recorder. Protiva noted that the pool concept election had failed by 250 votes, so that at this point the project was on hold. It was close enough that we shouldn't just forget it and write it off as not a desire of the community. At this point, there seems to be a desire for pool services, based on the amount of people that were in favor of the project, but we will not be spending any staff time on the project for now. Aquatic District question/answer. The question was asked about creating an aquatic or recreation district to provide funds for building the pool. This would broaden the base of people that would have to pay taxes for the recreation projects. The committee discussed recreation districts and other possibilities of funding the pool project. Roger asked if the department tracked where most of the pool patrons come from, within or out of the city limits. Jim stated that it had not been done, but through the various passes and daily fees, we could probably get a close estimate because the fees are different for in and out of the city limits. Ed asked if the city would now be spending funds to update the pool since the new pool project was voted down. Jim said he thought that it would remain status quo, with no extra funding for upgrading.

Jim informed the Committee that there have been some issues with the Senior Center remodel. The basement had been dug out, and the area improved and then we had some high rain events and we then discovered we have all kinds of capacity problems with the size of the pipes and their ability to take the water away, which results in

flooding. Construction on the project is currently stopped and our problem is multi-fold, water seepage and drainage, plus a few small roof leaks. All of these problems are solvable, one of which includes putting gutters up. We are identifying solutions and moving forward.

6. New Business- The new mayor and councilors were identified and the open seat from when the new Mayor takes office. It was not known at that time if Councilor Brusselback would continue to be our council liaison.

The timeline of filling for the two vacant positions was discussed and it was believed that the newly seated council would discuss the matter and make appointments.

7. Old Business- Coast Park was discussed and the colors for the Ship have been chosen and the project is scheduled to go out to bid at the end of January and construction to take place in spring. Deco Park RFP's came in higher than we have money to construct. Staff is trying to determine what can be built with the money we have available.
8. Other- Brief discussion of Council goals took place as relates to the management of the pool and Rec Center. Protiva reported that with budgets very tight and possible less money available in the future, the council is looking for ways to save money. The council will discuss the merits of privatizing or contracting with a nonprofit to handle the operation of the both centers.
9. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned about 9:40 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 19th, 2011.