



## APPROVED MINUTES

### SUNNYVALE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION FEBRUARY 13, 2013

The Sunnyvale Parks and Recreation Commission met in regular session in Council Chambers, 456 West Olive Ave. at 7 p.m. with Chair Kinder presiding.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kinder called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

#### **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Commissioners Present:**

Chair Robert Kinder  
Vice Chair Robert Pochowski  
Commissioner Robert Harms  
Commissioner Craig Pasqua

##### **Commissioners Absent:**

Commissioner Henry Alexander III

##### **Council Liaison Absent:**

Councilmember David Whittum

##### **Staff Present:**

Director of Library and Community Services Lisa G. Rosenblum  
Superintendent of Parks and Golf Scott Morton  
Golf Operations Manager Mark Petersen  
Administrative Aide Anna Lewis  
Casual Professional Carolyn McDowell

#### **PRESENTATION**

Director Rosenblum introduced the Commission to the Library and Community Services video titled "*If You Bring Your Child to the Community Center.*" This publicity video was developed at her request following the merger between the Library and Community Services Divisions. It is representative of the many services our newly combined Department offers the community. It also provided an opportunity for the two Divisions to work collaboratively on a project.

#### **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS** – None

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1.A. Approval of Draft Minutes of December 12, 2012

**MOTION: Commissioner Pasqua moved and Vice Chair Pochowski seconded to approve Consent Calendar Item 1.A. as presented.**

**VOTE: 4-0 motion passed unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS**

2. Approval of License Agreement between Synergy Golf Management, Inc. and the City of Sunnyvale for the Operation and Management of the Sunnyvale Golf Course Restaurants

Superintendent Morton presented the staff report giving a brief overview of the License Agreement with Synergy Golf Management, Inc. He introduced Mark Peterson, and Kristy Park, and said they were available to answer any questions.

The public hearing was opened.

Kristy Park, Synergy Golf Management principal, introduced herself as having been in the golf industry for 23 years and as a founder of Synergy Golf Management. Her goals are to improve and expand services at Sunnyvale's golf courses, including a significant capital investment.

Chair Kinder questioned whether the outdoor area at Sunken Gardens would be used for eating. Ms. Park plans to create a comfortable and pleasant outdoor eating environment. She also highlighted intentions to offer promotions, such as a bucket of balls, plus lunch at a competitive price.

Commissioner Harms asked if the golf community was informed of, or provided input to, the RFP process. Superintendent Morton shared the outreach plan that was defined in the previous agreement with the Lookout Inn, Incorporated regarding the scope.

Commissioner Harms inquired if the Lookout Inn, Incorporated was in breach of contract. Superintendent Morton informed the Commission that the Lookout Inn owes the City approximately \$20,000. The City Attorney filed a notice with Lookout Inn, Incorporated for failure to perform and the contract was terminated. The City recently turned this over to a collection agency for further action.

Commissioner Harms asked if Synergy Golf Management had a dietician on staff, or the ability to prepare specialty meals upon request. Ms. Park informed the Commission of their ability to comply with special medical, dietary or religious requirements. On the occasion where Synergy Golf Management is unable to fulfill a dietary request from a customer, it is not uncommon for them to work with an outside caterer to comply.

Vice Chair Pochowski asked how long Synergy Golf Management has been operating the food and beverage services at Coyote Creek. Ms. Park said Synergy Golf Management took over in 2008.

Vice Chair Pochowski was interested in learning how the current condition of the restaurant infrastructure of the Sunnyvale Golf Course and how it compares with that of the current courses she manages. Ms. Park acknowledged the current condition is outdated and in need of immediate improvement in order to meet Synergy Golf Management's objectives. As the potential licensee, Synergy Golf Management is required to fund an initial investment of \$100,000 in the first year of the contract to improve the infrastructure, equipment and furnishings. An additional \$50,000 shall be invested over the life of the contract.

Commissioner Pasqua asked Ms. Park if she has any plans to hire former Lookout Inn employees at either restaurant. Ms. Park indicated that one former Lookout Inn employee had been in contact with her for potential employment. Ms. Park informed the individual of the current licensee negotiation process and her interest in interviewing her should Synergy Golf Management be awarded the agreement.

Chair Kinder asked when this item will be heard by the City Council. Superintendent Morton responded the Council is scheduled to discuss and take possible action on this item on March 5, 2013.

Chair Kinder asked how long Ms. Park anticipated it would take to open the restaurants should Council approve the agreement. Ms. Park indicated that it would expedite the construction process in order to get the concession area and restaurant open as soon as possible. The liquor license, on the other hand, may take a bit longer to obtain.

The public hearing was closed.

**MOTION: Chair Kinder moved and Vice Chair Pochowski seconded to recommend that the City Council approve the proposed license agreement between Synergy Golf Management, Incorporated, and the City of Sunnyvale for the operation and management of Sunnyvale's golf course restaurants for a term of 15 years.**

**VOTE: 4-0 motion passed unanimously.**

The Commissioners felt Synergy Golf Management, Incorporated was a reputable company with a proven record for high quality service in the golf/restaurant industry. The license agreement meets the needs of Sunnyvale's golfing and larger community for their food, beverage and banquet needs.

## **NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS**

### COMMISSION MEMBERS Oral Comments

Commissioner Harms commented on the number of individuals using Panama Park with their dogs off-leash. He asked if the City had ratified its policy on leash requirements in City parks.

Superintendent Morton reinforced the Municipal Code, which states it is unlawful for any person to be in a park or school ground without their dog on leash. He went on to compliment the Department of Public Safety, Animal Control Unit, on their increased presence in Sunnyvale parks to address this matter. Given existing resources and Sunnyvale's expansive park system, it is difficult to approach and/or cite every violator of this policy.

Superintendent Morton informed the Commission that a Study Issue was initiated to review the existing park and open space system in an effort to identify potential location(s) and the associated cost to construct additional dog park(s) in Sunnyvale.

Commissioners and staff alike discussed the nuisances and public health concerns associated with unleashed dogs, as well as development of dog parks that provide separate areas for small and large dogs.

Director Rosenblum expects there will be much input from the Sunnyvale community on this project.

Superintendent Morton brought to the Commissioners' attention that Seven Seas Park will include a dog run.

#### STAFF Oral Comments

Director Rosenblum introduced the Commissioners to Anna Lewis, Administrative Aide in the Community Services Division. Anna replaces Karen Smith, who retired on December 7, 2012, and will serve as the Staff Liaison to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Director Rosenblum shared the RFP window has closed for an operator for Fremont Pool and two proposals were received. A panel of staff along with a recreation professional from a neighboring agency are reviewing the proposals. This item will be brought before the Parks and Recreation Commission in April, 2013 and the City Council in May, 2013. The current operator is in contract with the City until August 31, 2013.

Superintendent Morton informed the Commissioners that approximately 120 suggestions have been received to date for the park naming contest for the one-acre park at 545 Santa Real Avenue. The process will be similar to that used when naming Plaza del Sol where the Commissioners will be asked to narrow down the list of potential names to ten (10) for City Council action. Individuals are encouraged to participate in the contest, which is on the City's home page.

Superintendent Morton notified the Commissioners that the City Manager has a bi-weekly blog that provides insight into City departments, highlighting valuable information to the public. A recent entry noted that Ortega Park was host to more than 400 volunteers for a day of family fun and celebration, planting daffodil bulbs. The volunteer event was a joint effort by the Israeli House of San Francisco, the ICC of the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center and the Consulate General of Israel in San Francisco looking for an opportunity to give back to the community while celebrating the Jewish holiday of Tu B'Shevat "New Year for Trees."

Superintendent Morton shared the Sunnyvale Community Center was the host to the second community meeting for the Stevens Creek Trail Joint Cities Feasibility Study on January 30. The turnout was significant, with 200+ attendees. The objective was to gather information from the public on path and street treatments and to educate participants about what types of signing, striping, walk area, and traffic calming treatments could be utilized, and identify elements trail users and residents of area streets view as positive amenities. The next public meeting will have a similar theme and format, but with a focus on the geographic area between Homestead Road and the Cupertino trail end. It is scheduled for February 25 at 7 p.m. at the Cupertino Senior Center.

**INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS** - None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Kinder adjourned the meeting at 7:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa G. Rosenblum  
Director of Library and Community Services  
Department Carolyn McDowell