

**COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
MINUTES
Monday, June 9, 2008
6:00 PM**

*FIFTH FLOOR LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL,
3900 MAIN STREET, RIVERSIDE, 92522
GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 951-826-5427*

MISSION STATEMENT

“The mission of the Commission on Disabilities is to promote greater awareness of, respect for, and the total participation of individuals with disabilities into all aspects of life.”

CALL TO ORDER: 6:03 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. Roll Call: Chairperson Debbie Keller, James Stream, Gene Brosious, Gigi Welch, Linda Garcia, Donald Hawecker, and Virginia Werly

Absent (excused): Paul Van Doren, Suzanne Puffer, Lesley Robinson

Also present was ADA Coordinator Monique Gordon.

2. **Introductions and Public Comment Period** - This is the portion of the meeting specifically set aside to invite your comments regarding any matter within the Commission's jurisdiction. *Individual audience participation is limited to 3 minutes.*

Public in attendance: Donna Kirchoff – Inland Regional Center. There was no public comment.

3. Minutes for the meeting of May 12, 2008

M/S Werly/Hawecker and unanimous to approve the minutes as presented.

AYES – 7 (Keller, Stream, Brosious, Welch, Garcia, Hawecker, Werly); NOES – 0 ABSTAIN – 0; ABSENT – 3 (Van Doren, Puffer, Robinson).

OLD BUSINESS

**6:30 P.M Joint Meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission /
Commission on Disabilities in the Art Pick Council Chambers**

4. Presentation of Conceptual Plans for the Fairmount Park Universally Accessible Playground

Chairperson Keller noted that she had attended the last task force meeting and noted that the design consultants would be presenting the conceptual plan and answering questions. Park, Recreation and Community Services Director Ralph Nunez suggested the joint meeting so the conceptual plans could be reviewed and possibly adopted in a timely fashion.

5. Update - Disabled Disaster Preparedness – Target Established Neighborhood Groups

At this time, there was nothing to report. A meeting is scheduled with Emergency Services Manager Anthony Coletta on June 17, 2008. A report of that meeting will be provided to the COD for the July 14, 2008 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

6. COD Approval – Three Month Leave of Absence for Suzanne Puffer

It was noted by the COD that Commissioner Puffer is absent due to her wheelchair failure only.

In response to a question from Vice Chair Welch concerning if a teleconference would be appropriate for Commissioner Puffer, ADA Coordinator Gordon noted that she would contact the City Clerk to verify if teleconference was in line with the Brown Act.

M/S Welch/Garcia and unanimous to approve a 3 month leave of absence for Commissioner Puffer from June – August 2008.

AYES – 7 (Keller, Stream, Brosious, Welch, Garcia, Hawecker, Werly); NOES – 0 ABSTAIN – 0; ABSENT – 3 (Van Doren, Puffer, Robinson).

7. Discussion: Jurupa Grade Change – ADA Accessibility (Public Works Photos)

Commissioner Hawecker noted that the enclosed photos on this item were an accurate depiction of the current ADA sidewalk.

Commissioner Hawecker noted that the problem is that the sidewalk ends abruptly in the street.

The noted route is over the rail road tracks, as shown by the red line (on the ariel view), and where the new sidewalk is (temporarily) constructed. The second sheet shows where the old sidewalk was located. The photos also show that Public Works added the street and installed an ADA sidewalk. The problem is that what is not shown in the aerial view is that to the left and right, the sidewalk ends. There was no sidewalk there to begin with. The major problem is that you must cross Jurupa against traffic in order to get to the ADA sidewalk. Commissioner Hawecker also noted that this area is where he was disabled when a vehicle collided with him on a bicycle and this is a very dangerous crossing. It seems that the Public Works expectation was that if a pedestrian wanted to use the ADA route, the pedestrian needed to cross Jurupa.

He continued to note that if you were coming from the park, you needed to go to the nearest light to cross. There are no sidewalks near the existing park and there never have been. To the left, a pedestrian would need to travel approximately ½ mile to the nearest light in order to cross Jurupa at Essex/Republic. To the right, a pedestrian would need to travel approximately 1.5 miles in order to cross Jurupa at Streeter/Grand.

In response to a question from ADA Coordinator Gordon concerning what he would consider a reasonable accommodation for that area during construction, Commissioner Hawecker noted that a reasonable

accommodation would be adding a stop sign and crosswalks at each end of the ADA route and have a Flag Man slowing traffic during business hours.

Commissioner Hawecker continued to note that near the church, there was about a 25' long sidewalk that connects to the ADA sidewalk, and then the sidewalk ends abruptly. After that, a pedestrian would need to cross Jurupa in order to use the sidewalk. On the other end, the sidewalk ends at a dirt lot, and then a pedestrian would need to cross Jurupa in order to continue using a sidewalk.

ADA Coordinator suggested that Commissioner Hawecker meet with the Public Works staff in order to clearly convey his concerns.

8. Information Item: An ADA Guide for Local Governments

This item was noted by the COD. ADA Coordinator Gordon noted that this information can be found on the ADA website at www.ada.gov. This information can be modified for City use concerning disaster preparedness for the disabled.

9. COD noted in the City's Calendar of Events starting July and City's upcoming electronic Calendar of Events.

ADA Coordinator Gordon noted that this is a new City Calendar where the COD meetings are listed.

10. Update: Neighborhood Conference – May 31, 2008 (Donald Hawecker)

Commissioner Hawecker noted that the Conference ended at 2:00 pm instead of 4:00 pm. Vice Chair Welch noted that the event was busy in the morning and tapered off in the afternoon. This event had a good turnout and a lot of COD information was distributed.

11. CSDIO – Interpreting Online

This item was noted by the COD. The subject is a new technology in a videoconferencing format.

UPCOMING EVENTS

12. Update: Community Outreach – Disabled Disaster Preparedness

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

- A. Discussion Item: Public Service Announcement concerning Proper Placement of Trash Containers in conjunction with Public Works Solid Waste Division –Next Steps
- B. Status Report - Community Outreach: Additional Advertisement of the COD – Special Transit and Press Enterprise Ads

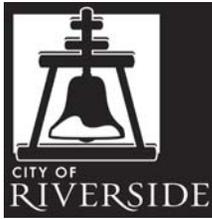
14. INFORMATIONAL ITEM

- A. Performance Measurement from Code Enforcement concerning Sidewalk Obstruction by Trash Containers and Vehicles (standing report)

Date	Postcards Distributed by Code Enforcement
January 2008	70
February 2008	0
March 2008	0
April 2008	201
May 2008	0
June 2008	Pending

15. ADJOURNMENT: 6:26 to reconvene at the Parks, Recreation Commission meeting as noted in item 4.

Approved minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will be appended.



PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, June 9, 2008, 6:30 P.M.
ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBER
CITY HALL
3900 MAIN STREET

Commissioners Present: Berg, Fowlie, Gerry, Kallinger, Leibe, Macias, Poulsen and Sotelo

Commissioners Absent: Chang

Commission on Disabilities: Brosious, Hawecker, Keller, Stream, Welch and Werly

Staff Present:
Ralph Nuñez, Director
Shari Call, Deputy Director
Tina Lang, Sr. Administrative Assistant
La Shawn Butler, Community Services Superintendent
Shirley Bennett, Parks Superintendent
Bridget Amaya, Recreation Supervisor
Bob Johnson, Principal Park Planner
Randy McDaniel, Project Manager

Public Works Staff Present: Robert Filiar, Urban Forester

CALL TO ORDER

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m., by Chairperson Gerry, with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. The Commission approved the minutes for May 12, 2008, as presented.

Motion: Berg
Second: Leibe
Ayes: All

CONSENT CALENDAR

The following matters, presented to the Park and Recreation Commission on the consent calendar for consideration, were approved by one motion affirming the actions appropriate to each item. Items 3 and 7 were pulled from the consent calendar for separate discussion.

4. April Recreation Division Monthly Report
5. Parks Division Monthly Report
6. CIP Tracking Report

Motion: Poulsen
Second: Sotelo
Ayes: All

OLD BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

6:30 P.M. JOINT MEETING OF THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION AND THE COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES IN THE ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBERS

8. UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND AT FAIRMOUNT PARK

Chairperson Gerry indicated that the Universal Playground at Fairmount Park item will be heard and discussed as a joint item by both the Park and Recreation Commission and the Commission on Disabilities (COD).

COD Chairperson Keller rose to a point of order and indicated as the Chairperson for the COD, they were present and had a quorum.

Chairperson Gerry stated that Chairperson Keller's point was well taken and asked each member of the COD to state their name for the record.

The following COD Commissioners introduced themselves: Chairperson Debbie Keller, James Stream, Gene Brosious, Gigi Welch, Linda Garcia, Donald Hawecker and Virginia Werly.

Project Manager McDaniel presented a PowerPoint Presentation on the Fairmount Park Universal Playground which will be located at Fairmount Park, north of Fairmount Lake and west of the Lawn Bowling area. Currently, there is a restroom, three picnic shelters and parking lots to the north and south of the area. The Fairmount Park Universal Playground Task Force has met three times in the previous nine months. Task Force provided input to the consultants on their ideas for the Universal Playground, who in turn generated a matrix of priorities for developing concepts and proposed a conceptual plan with playground elements incorporating a carousel theme.

Pat Hirsh, Principal Landscape Architect, Hirsh and Associates, described the various elements in the project. The parking lot on the south will provide an entrance with an entry sign denoting the Fairmount Park Carousel Playground. The boardwalk-patterned paving will tie in the carousel theme. Picnic tables will be introduced into the three existing shade structures, and the existing restroom structure will remain. From the south entrance there will be a sand play area, a sensory play area, the 2-5 year-old play area, a 5-12 year-old play area and splash pad area. The entire site will be landscaped including the surrounding area, to the extent the project budget allows. Existing trees will remain except for trees located in the proposed play area, but replacement trees will be introduced.

Diane Scanlan, Associate Director of Design for Shane's Inspiration, is in charge of designing the play equipment structure and sensory elements for the Universal Playground. She presented a sensory wall designed to represent a train featuring a smooth colorful top, formed animals embedded into poured-in-place concrete, with possible train or animal sound features, rubber tires, shiny mirrored material on the inside, three abacus wheels at different levels (allowing children to interact whether sitting or standing) offering a fine motor skill element, and various textures to appeal to the visually impaired.

Pat Hirsh indicated that hand painted porcelain tiles would be installed at the base of the train in the sensory area, which could also serve as a fundraising opportunity. The fenced circular sand play area would include tables to allow for wheelchair accessibility, and benches.

Pat Hirsh indicated that the 2-5 year-old fenced in play area would replicate the old carousel structure with animal designs in the fencing, octagonal play structures, walkways wide enough for tricycles and elevated by ramps with railings, slides and benches.

Diane Scanlan indicated that the entry will be at grade, then ramp up to allow access to play structures. All decks were designed at 24" to create a unified carousel look connected by arch bridges. All three color-coated, animal themed decks will be designed to represent a true carousel, with custom panels and electrical and sound components. Posts in the center of the structure will have mirrors, and animal images will be incorporated into the resilient surfacing on the ground and along the wall.

The first deck starts at 24," then each deck is progressively higher at 32," 40" and 48," providing the opportunity for a slide or a climber, and to meet the minimum grade requirements for the custom panels. The 24" deck will be wheelchair accessible, then a child or adult would need assistance to transfer out of the chair and step up the 8" increment or the 16" increment to go down the slide ending on resilient surfacing. Individuals in wheelchairs will be able to access the entire structure and will only need assistance to access the slide.

The sand play area has been designed separately to create a quiet space.

Pat Hirsh described the 5-12 year-old play area with fencing, designed to replicate the old roller coaster that was in Fairmount Park with picnic tables, resilient surfacing, a boardwalk and a concrete wall cast with animal shapes.

Donald Helwicker, COD, suggested wheelchairs should be able to easily pass each other through the entrances, on the ramps, and on the structure for interactive and safety purposes.

Linda Garcia, COD, cautioned that the roller coaster fence should be designed to eliminate any pinch points.

Diane Scanlan indicated that the entrance ramps up to a six foot wide 32” deck, then up to a 48” deck with an activity running parallel, providing the opportunity for a runner to race someone in a wheelchair, a roller slide (interactive textural feature), a clatter bridge providing sensation, a double swirl slide, a spiral slide and a Ferris wheel encased in protective casing with sound and lights, all designed to emulate a Big Top Circus.

Pat Hirsh indicated the water play area will encourage children to move through the activity with a water feature spouting no more than 25 gallons a minute, clamshell texture surfacing and fencing around the area.

Linda Garcia, COD, asked if there would be an emergency shut off valve installed for people in electric wheelchairs in the event of an emergency, as the water could disable the wheelchairs.

Commissioner Gerry suggested implementing a feature that would override the water system in the event of an emergency in the water play area.

Project Manager McDaniel indicated that the preliminary budget for the Universal Playground is \$1.5 million.

Commissioner Poulsen suggested using different animals etched into the entrance of each feature to represent each age group as a safety precaution for blind people.

Gene Brocius, COD, asked how many parking stalls would be wheelchair accessible.

Project Manager McDaniel indicated that the two existing parking lots, one to the north and one to the south, will provide access to the playground. They will be renovated as part of the project, and compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines.

Director Nuñez indicated that the Universal Playground would create a destination point and provide the opportunity for Fairmount Park to serve residents of all abilities.

Pat Hirsh indicated that the artwork tiles could provide a fundraising opportunity and would consist of acrylic paint on porcelain tile.

Commissioner Gerry expressed concern regarding the boardwalk sidewalk, noting that even the smallest crack in a sidewalk makes it hard to manipulate a walker.

Commissioner Berg suggested adding adding an entrance that faces the north parking lot.

Following discussion, a motion was made to receive the report for file.

Motion: Leibe
Second: Berg
Ayes: All

Following discussion, the Commission on Disabilities made a motion to receive the report for file.

Motion: Werly
Second: Garcia
Ayes: All

The Park and Recreation Commission took a brief recess at 7:52 p.m., as the Commission on Disabilities left the meeting.