

**CITY OF FONTANA
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2008**

The City of Fontana Parks and Recreation Commission and Staff met for a workshop at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 13, 2008, in the City Hall Executive Conference Room, 8353 Sierra Avenue, Fontana, California prior to the regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to review agenda, and selection process for Employee of the Year 2007. The workshop was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Chairperson Thomas, with Commissioners Baker, Echandi, Tigner, and Wibert present.

The regular meeting of the City of Fontana Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, February 13, 2008, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 8353 Sierra Avenue, Fontana, California. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairperson Thomas, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Echandi, a Moment of Silence in Memory of Dr. Arlene Piazza, and an Invocation given by Chairperson Thomas.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chairperson Thomas, Commissioners Baker, Echandi, Tahan, Tigner, and Wibert.

Absent: Commissioner Kakuska.

Present: Community Services Director Ken Herron; Acting Community Services Manager Kyla Brown; Parks and Landscape Manager Dan West; Parks and Landscape Supervisor Luis Villalobos; Community Services Supervisor for Aquatic Rafael Gonzales; Community Services Coordinator II Rick Dean; City Clerk Tonia Lewis; and Commission Secretary Orvene Steenbock.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH:

Chairperson Thomas and the Parks and Recreation Commission recognized the following employees as Employees of the Month for January:

VANESSA BARRAZA

Ms. Barraza is currently a Community Services Assistant; she has been working for the Community Services Department since August 2005. Vanessa has been an asset to the Community Services Department Administration Office, her ability to quickly learn the department's registration system has enabled her to surpass expectations. Ms. Barraza has proven to be a valuable staff member because she's bilingual, reliable, and has yet to say "no" to duty assigned to her.

Since her employment with the City of Fontana Recreation Office, Ms. Barraza has been assigned the responsibility of taking registration for various programs, answering the

phones, walking through customer on the online registration system and overseeing the front counter operations on a daily basis. Vanessa has been an outstanding team player, as she has assisted with various special events and willingly assists other fellow co-workers as needed.

Vanessa for all the hard work congratulations on being selected January's Employee of the Month.

LARRY WATSON

Larry Watson has been a long valued employee of the City of Fontana and we are proud to recognize him as the Employee of the month for January. Larry has been instrumental in making improvements to KFON channel 3 operations and overall broadcast quality.

Recently, Larry was able to help select and install a new Nexus digital playback system to help in the channel's transition to completely digital and provide viewers a better quality picture and sound. He installed the new system and had it operational within one day, resulting in minimal impact to our loyal viewers.

Larry has also played a key role in selecting and designed the new KFON mobile production van we hope to be utilizing in the near future. This van will allow additional coverage of community events and on-site production of videos.

Larry's excellent support and dedication to teamwork is reflected in his interaction with other city staff members and departments. When A/V support is requested, he is there to set up, operate, troubleshoot and break down the equipment. If there is a need for A/V technical support, Larry is the person that everyone calls on to help.

Tonight, we are proud to show our gratitude for all that Larry provides for our department and for the community through KFON Channel 3.

RECOGNITION:

LARRY CLARK, FORMER FONTANA POLICE DEPARTMENT CHIEF

Chairperson Thomas and the Parks and Recreation Commission recognized Former Fontana Police Department Chief Larry Clark; current Police Chief Rod Jones accepted the recognition on behalf of Larry Clark.

INTRODUCTION OF:

CHIEF OF POLICE, RODNEY JONES

Chairperson Thomas and the Parks and Recreation Commission introduced and recognized Chief of the Fontana Police Department Rod Jones.

DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE, ALAN HOSTETTER

Chairperson Thomas and the Parks and Recreation Commission introduced and recognized Deputy Chief of the Fontana Police Department Alan Hostetter.

CAPTAIN OF POLICE, BOB RAMSEY

Chairperson Thomas and the Parks and Recreation Commission introduced and recognized Captain of the Fontana Police Department Bob Ramsey.

FUSD POLICE CHIEF, BOB RATCLIFF

Chairperson Thomas and the Parks and Recreation Commission introduced and recognized Fontana Unified School District Police Chief Bob Ratcliff.

RAFAEL GONZALEZ, COMMUNITY SERVICES SUPERVISOR (AQUATICS)

Chairperson Thomas and the Parks and Recreation Commission were introduced to the new Community Services Supervisor of Aquatics.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS:

Dean R. Owens, Fontana Pony League, 5968 Cold Creek Court, gave an update on the league and their Healthy Fontana program.

Julie Ramos, Southridge Little League, 11251 Sierra, #2F-131, spoke regarding the condition of Village Park snack bar and restrooms.

By consensus, the Parks and Recreation Commission requested that the Village Park snack bar and restrooms be put on next month's agenda.

Tracy Garcia, Fontana Aquatics Club, 7500 Lavender Court, spoke regarding the status of the Fontana Swim Team.

Colleen Kennedy, 9741 Kempster, spoke regarding the memorial to Mike Reed.

By consensus, the Parks and Recreation Commission requested that Unfinished Business Item C be addressed at this time.

RECOGNITION AT THE JACK BULIK SKATE PARK ORAL REPORT – DAN WEST

Manager West reported on the sub-committee meeting held last Thursday, with Commissioners Tahan, and Baker, friends and Family of Michael Reed, Jr. and himself. He presented the Parks and Recreation Commission with a rendering of what the committee had decided on for the plaque, which stated:

In loving memory of Michael Lee Reed, Jr. 1/17/1986 – 11/21/07

“Mike Reed is Forever; Forever Mike Reed; Such an amazing person; you live within dreams; you're forever a hero and a legend in our hearts; and you'll always be remembered when we're skating the park.”

Motion made by Commissioner Tahan, seconded by Commissioner Baker to accept the rendering presented to be placed on the plaque at the Jack Bulik Skate Park. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

- A. Approve minutes from the January 9, 2007, Parks and Recreation Commission Meetings

- B. Accept Staff Reports
 - a. Community Services Department – December 2007 – Ken Herron, Community Services Director

 - b. Parks and Landscape Division – January 2008 – Dan West, Public Works Manager

Motion made by Commissioner Wibert, seconded by Commissioner Tahan, to accept the Consent Calendar as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PARK DEVELOPMENT UPDATE ORAL REPORT – LUIS VILLALOBOS

Supervisor Villalobos updated the Parks and Recreation Commission on the following park development: Village of Heritage Community Center, Village Park snack bar and restroom facility, San Sevaine Park Basketball Court Lights, Wayne Ruble Middle School Lighting Design Project, Fernandez Park, and Fontana Park Progress Update.

SPECIAL EVENTS UPDATE – MICHAEL WRIGHT

Supervisor Wright reviewed the recent events which occurred during the month of December, which include the Festival of Winter, Artist Showcase, and Family Art Day.

He informed the Parks and Recreation Commission of the following upcoming events for the months of February and March, which include: Teen Fest Career Day, Race Weekend, Fontana Boys and Girls Club Basketball Challenge, Fernandez Park Ground Breaking, Arbor Day, Spring Egg Hunts, Volunteer Appreciation, and Southridge USA Nationals.

NEW BUSINESS:

NATURE CENTER UPDATE – RICKY DEAN

Coordinator Dean gave an update on the facility and program enhancements that have been taking place at the Mary Vagle Museum and Nature Center.

HEALTHY FONTANA EMPLOYEE WELLNESS PROGRAM UPDATE – FRANCES HERNANDEZ

This item was continued to the March 12, 2008, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

CPRS CONFERENCE UPDATE ORAL REPORT – KYLA BROWN

Manager Brown presented the Parks and Recreation Commission with the information for the CPRS Conference to be held on February 26 thru 29, 2008 in Long Beach, California. She stated that if any of the Commissioners are interested in attending that they contact Community Services Department Administrative Secretary, Maria Torres.

THE NATION’S 100 BEST COMMUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ORAL REPORT

Staff reported that Fontana was one of the top 100 Best Communities for Young People.

Motion made by Commissioner Wibert, seconded by Commissioner Tahan, to accept all of the Unfinished Business and New Business items as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

DIRECTORS COMMENTS:

Director Herron, Manager Brown and Manager West stated they had no comments.

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Commissioner Baker congratulated Vanessa Barraza and Larry Watson on receiving Employee of the Month and stated that Larry should have received it much sooner. He welcomed Rafael Gonzalez to the City of Fontana.

Commissioner Tigner stated that he had no comments

Commissioner Wibert mentioned the Exchange Club of Fontana’s 55th Anniversary Recognition Banquet to be held on Thursday, March 13th, 2008 at Sierra Lakes County Club, honoring Fontana Police Explorers “Rising Stars”. She thanked the Fontana Rainbow Girls for all of the yellow ribbons they placed in the Rose Garden. She thanked staff for the past 3 park clean-up days. She wished her husband a Happy Valentine’s. She encouraged everyone to support our troops with their prayers.

Commissioner Echandi stated that she had no comments.

Commissioner Tahan expressed his condolences to the family of Dr. Arlene Piazza and commented on what asset she has been to the Fontana Community.

Commissioner Thomas congratulated the Mayor, City Council and staff for Fontana being honored as one of the top 100 best community for young people. He congratulated the Employees of the Month. He congratulated Chief Jones, and requested the community be supportive and help him in any way needed.

ADJOURNMENT:

By consensus, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m., to the next regular Parks and Recreation Commission workshop on March 12, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Executive Conference Room, prior to the next regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m., in the City Hall Council Chamber, at 8353 Sierra Avenue, Fontana, CA.

Orvene Steenbock
Commission Secretary

D. C. Thomas
Chairperson