PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
TEMPLE CITY, CALIFORNIA

REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 16, 2023 – 7:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 5938 KAUFFMAN AVENUE

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Chair Vance

2. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Commissioner Baroldi, Rosso, Tarin, Vance

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto and Parks and Recreation Secretary Venters

ABSENT: Haddad

Commissioner Rosso moved to excuse Vice-Chair Haddad for due cause. Seconded by Commissioner Tarin and carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioner – Baroldi, Rosso, Tarin, Vance
NOES: Commissioner – None
ABSENT: Commissioner – Haddad
ABSTAIN: Commissioner – None

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Chair Vance led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **PRESENTATIONS** - None

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA** - None

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Commissioner Rosso moved to approve the Consent Calendar as amended, seconded by Commissioner Tarin and carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioner – Baroldi, Rosso, Tarin, Vance
NOES: Commissioner – None
ABSENT: Commissioner – Haddad
ABSTAIN: Commissioner – None

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action: Approved.

B. MONTHLY ATTENDANCE/ACTIVITY REPORTS

Action: Approved.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. COMMITTEE ON AGING UPDATE

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that action goals were discussed, and new Committee member Jenny Guard was introduced at the Committee meeting in July. He asked if the Commission had comments or questions at this time.

Commissioner Rosso asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if the report card will be brought forth to the City Council.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that the report card will be presented to the City Council at a future meeting.

The Commission did not have additional comments or questions at this time.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. JULY PROGRAMMING RECAP

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that the Youth and Mini Sports Blitz held strong with a total of 120 participants. He stated that Summer Day Camp sold out for the entirety of the program, was well received by parents and participants, and included daily activities and field trips. He stated that the space themed Camp-A-Palooza event included a demonstration by the Columbia Memorial Space Center, the movie Wall-E, food provided by Nexx Burger and continental breakfast. He asked if the Commission had comments or questions at this time.

The Commission did not have additional comments or questions at this time.

B. REQUEST FROM TEMPLE CITY AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION (TCASA) FOR RESERVED USE OF THE SOFTBALL FIELD AT LIVE OAK PARK

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto provided a verbal presentation of the staff report. He stated that the requested use of the softball field would take place during the months of August through November. He concluded that the request before the Commission is consistent with

previously approved requests by TCASA. He asked the Commission if they had questions or comments at this time.

The Commission did not have comments or questions at this time.

Chair Vance opened the item for public comment. No member of the public came forth. Chair Vance closed the item for public comment.

Commissioner Rosso made a motion to approve a request from TCASA for reserved use of the softball field at Live Oak Park from August through November 2023 for fall practices with the conditions stated in the staff report and waive the 51% residency requirement. Seconded by Commissioner Tarin and carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioner – Baroldi, Rosso, Tarin, Vance
NOES: Commissioner – None
ABSENT: Commissioner – Haddad
ABSTAIN: Commissioner – None

C. AYSO REQUEST FOR HANGING SPONSOR BANNERS

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto provided a verbal presentation of the staff report. He stated that staff has no objections as no impacts were made the previous year by hanging sponsorship banners. He asked the Commission if they had questions or comments at this time.

The Commission did not have questions or comments at this time.

Chair Vance opened the item for public comment. No member of the public came forth. Chair Vance closed the item for public comment.

Commissioner Rosso made a motion to approve a request to allow AYSO to hang sponsorship banners at Live Oak Park for the fall season of 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Tarin and carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioner – Baroldi, Rosso, Tarin, Vance
NOES: Commissioner – None
ABSENT: Commissioner – Haddad
ABSTAIN: Commissioner – None

D. EVALUATION OF PICKLEBALL COURT AT LIVE OAK PARK

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto introduced Parks and Recreation Coordinator Ramos to the Commission. He stated that Ms. Ramos has worked in partnership with the pilot of the pickleball program,

therefore she will provide a verbal presentation of the staff report and provide a PowerPoint presentation.

Parks and Recreation Coordinator Ramos briefed the Commission regarding the sport of pickleball and various age ranges of people who participate. She stated that the City began a pickleball pilot program in October 2022 using tennis court seven. She stated that the City tracked the amount of pickleball players after installing two temporary courts from the hours of 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. each Friday. She stated in November 2022 due to high volume of participants the City added two more pickleball courts in tennis court seven totaling in four courts. She stated that use of the pickleball courts grew consistently therefore, the City extended the use of game play to every Thursday and Friday from the hours of 8 a.m. through 12 p.m. starting in the month of April 2023. She stated that due to increased popularity tennis court seven is currently used solely for pickleball seven days a week during park hours. She then presented options to the Commission to retain court seven in its current use, create a hybrid tennis/pickleball court or a full conversion to pickleball courts. She concluded by requesting direction from the Commission.

Chair Vance opened the item for Commission comments and questions.

Commissioner Baroldi asked Parks and Recreation Coordinator Ramos to clarify the difference in cost between a hybrid court and a fully converted pickleball area.

Parks and Recreation Coordinator Ramos stated that a full conversion of tennis court seven would include removal of the tennis court lines and net followed painting pickleball lines and installing nets.

Commissioner Rosso asked Parks and Recreation Coordinator Ramos if the City could continue to draw lines for Pickleball boundaries if the City opted for a hybrid court.

Parks and Recreation Coordinator Ramos stated that the City would have permanently painted pickleball and tennis boundaries if the Commission opted for a hybrid court.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto added that the hybrid option does not include permanently installed Pickleball nets.

Commissioner Rosso asked if conflict has occurred between tennis players and pickleball players and if there would be different colored court boundary lines if the Commission opted for a hybrid court.

Parks and Recreation Coordinator Ramos stated that the City has not experienced a conflict between tennis and pickleball players. She stated that if the Commission opted for a hybrid court the boundaries for tennis and pickleball would be different colors.

Commissioner Tarin asked Parks and Recreation Coordinator Ramos if players could be confused by the boundary lines if the Commission opted for a hybrid court.

Parks and Recreation Coordinator Ramos stated that the differing boundary lines may cause initial confusion however players have been observed to adapt.

Chair Vance asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if a full conversion of court seven would include removal of the current tennis court boundaries and if tennis participants have been notified that the City is considering permanent pickleball courts.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated the cost of a full conversion would include removal of the tennis court boundaries and repainting with permanent pickleball boundaries. He stated that signage has been posted notifying the public of a potential conversion.

Chair Vance asked the Commission for further comments or questions. The Commission did not have further comments or questions. Chair Vance opened the item for public comments.

Joshua Tran, 5636 Pal Mal Ave., Temple City, stated that he is in favor of a full conversion of court seven to four pickleball courts.

Tim Eng, 9219 Key West, Temple City, spoke in favor of lighted pickleball courts as well as developing pickleball courts indoors, at gyms and alternate locations.

Elizabeth Lau, 5659 McCullock Ave., Temple City, stated that she is in favor of either a hybrid or fully converted pickleball area that is preferably lit.

Benjamin Wong, 5256 Sereno Dr. Temple City, stated that he has not observed competition of courts between tennis and pickleball participants. He stated that he is in favor of fully converting court seven.

Jonathan Perliss, 838 Pamela, Arcadia, stated that he is in favor of a full conversion. He suggested converting one of the lighted tennis courts to a pickleball area to allow participants to play in the evening.

Commissioner Rosso asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto how much it would cost to install lights on court seven, how many residences would be affected and which direction the affected residences face.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that installation of additional lights would be a larger discussion as the surrounding community would be affected. He stated that several homes adjacent to the parking lot and residents of the Santa Anita Nursing Home and Convalescent Center would be affected. He stated that he would be required to gather data and public opinion to provide accurate input.

Commissioner Baroldi asked Director of Parks and Recreation if pickleball participants experience interference from other players balls. He suggested rotating the courts by 90 degrees to allow more room if the Commission is in favor of a full conversion.

Commissioner Tarin asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if there would there be a barrier if the pickle ball courts were permanent.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated the balls from pickleball typically are contained. He stated that the City can explore rotating the pickleball courts by 90 degrees. He stated that the current layout of court seven would remain the same. He noted that there is an existing small fence between courts six and seven.

Commissioner Rosso stated that she is favor of fully converting court seven with lights. She asked if the tennis courts that are lit are problematic to adjacent properties.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that additional lighting would require separate consideration as additional input would need to be considered by adjacent properties, a pilot program for pickleball in the evening would have to take place and additional lighting would increase the cost of the project.

Chair Vance asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if the cost of the project could be recuperated if the City started with a hybrid court and gradually fully converted a tennis court to a pickleball area, if pickleball participants prefer court seven and if the lit courts are reserved for tennis lessons in the evening.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that the project costs are separate therefore cost recuperation would not be possible. He stated that if it is the desire of the Commission staff could operate a pilot program

for pickleball in a lighted court. He concluded that that the lighted tennis courts are currently used in the evenings for lessons and public play.

Commissioner Rosso made a motion to approve option C to fully convert tennis court seven to four pickleball courts. Seconded by Commissioner Tarin and carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioner – Baroldi, Rosso, Tarin, Vance
NOES: Commissioner – None
ABSENT: Commissioner – Haddad
ABSTAIN: Commissioner – None

Commissioner Rosso made a motion to conduct a survey to install lights along tennis courts four through seven, conduct a cost analysis and gather community input. Seconded by Commissioner Tarin and carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioner – Baroldi, Rosso, Tarin, Vance
NOES: Commissioner – None
ABSENT: Commissioner – Haddad
ABSTAIN: Commissioner – None

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that he will provide quotes for a full pickleball court conversion through an RFP process.

Chair Vance asked if the pickleball conversion or proposal to install lighting would require approval of the City Council.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that if General Fund reserves are required the project would require City Council approval, however there may be funding sources available that do not require City Council approval.

9. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Jessica, pickleball player, felt that noise and light pollution caused by pickleball players should not be intrusive as lighting currently exists for the softball and soccer fields.

Tom, pickleball player, stated that he is in favor of additional lighting along the tennis courts.

Public Speaker, Temple City resident, stated that she is not in favor of additional lighting during evening hours due to potential increased traffic, light pollution and noise.

10. UPDATE FROM PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

A. PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that the Senior Lunch Program hosted by YWCA continues to gain interest and positive feedback since being held in person at Live Oak Park. He stated that the City Council Ad Hoc Committee met on August 3rd and August 18th to review conceptual designs for the playground renovation at Live Oak Park and Temple City Park. He stated that a Special Meeting of the Commission will take place to review the conceptual designs of the playground renovation on August 30, 2023. He asked the Commission if they prefer to meet at an earlier time or at 7:30 p.m.

Commissioner Tarin stated that he would not be able to attend the special meeting.

Commissioner Baroldi stated that 7:00 p.m. would be an appropriate time to conduct the special meeting.

Commissioner Rosso concurred with fellow Commissioner Baroldi.

Chair Vance concurred with her fellow Commissioners.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto confirmed that the Special meeting of the Commission will be held on August 30, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. He then provided updates on upcoming events including the Centennial Celebration taking place on September 30th at Temple City Park, an unveiling of the tile mural and tree planting at Primrose Park, Movies in the Park, the Autumn Festival in partnership with the World Journal, and a Noodle Festival in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce. He asked the Commission if they had questions or comments at this time.

The Commission did not have questions or comments at this time.

11. COMMISSION ITEMS SEPARATE FROM THE REGULAR AGENDA

A. COMMISSIONER BAROLDI – Thanked Parks and Recreation Coordinator Ramos for her presentation and the community for their support.

B. COMMISSIONER ROSSO – Thanked the community for attending the Commission meeting.

C. COMMISSIONER TARIN – Echoed comments made by fellow commissioners and expressed appreciation to the public.

D. VICE-CHAIR HADDAD – Absent

E. CHAIR VANCE – Asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto for an update regarding acquired property on Sereno Drive.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that he would be able to provide an update to the Commission at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m. to the Parks and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Cynthia Vance, Chair

ATTEST:

Jennifer Venters, Secretary