PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
TEMPLE CITY, CALIFORNIA

REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 21, 2024 – 7:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 5938 KAUFFMAN AVENUE

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Haddad

2. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Commissioner Baroldi, Burroughs, Tarin, Rosso, Haddad

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

ABSENT: None

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chair Haddad 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 Burroughs moved to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Commissioner Tarin and carried by the following roll call vote:

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

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

7. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. JULY PROGRAMMING REPORT

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto updated the Commission that Summer Day Camp sessions three and four and session two of Sports Blitz took place during the month of July. He also stated that the Camp-A-Palooza event on July 19 had approximately 200 attendees. He stated that

participants of the event enjoyed dinner, inflatables, a movie, arts and crafts, snacks and continental breakfast. He stated that on July 26 the Neon Night Walk took place at Live Oak Park. He stated that participants enjoyed giveaways and a lit tunnel. He concluded by asking the Commission if they had comments or questions.

The Commission did not have comments or questions, therefore received and filed the report.

B. EVALUATION OF PICKLEBALL AND TENNIS COURT USE AT LIVE OAK PARK

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto provided a verbal and PowerPoint presentation of the staff report with an overview of the Pickleball program and recommendations for the Commission to consider. The overview included the initiation of the Pickleball pilot program in 2022 with consideration of the Commission to convert tennis court seven to four pickleball courts. He stated that in March of 2024 tennis court seven was converted into four permanent Pickleball courts. He stated that improvements made to accommodate Pickleball play include two paddle holders, an entry gate and temporary bench seating. He stated that since collecting data from March to date, the City has observed extensive use of the courts with oftentimes one tennis court left to use. He stated that since the intensified use of the courts the City has received little complaints from the public. He stated that typically during peak times Pickleball players wait approximately 30 minutes to play whereas tennis players wait up to an hour to play. He then asked the Commission if they had questions regarding the analysis portion of the staff report.

Chair Haddad asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if there is a time when the tennis courts are not in use.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that oftentimes on tennis court is unoccupied during peak hours.

Vice Chair Rosso asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if the data collected was done only during the summer.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that the data collected is from May 2024 to date. He then continued presenting the staff report identifying options for the Commission to consider: 1) implement a pilot program to create temporary Pickleball courts out of court six for a total of six months, 2) permanently convert a tennis court to four Pickleball courts, or 3) to maintain the current tennis court as is. He advised the Commission if a recommendation was made to install lighting along the existing Pickleball courts an impact study would need to be conducted. He stated

that additional lighting could have adverse impacts not only from the source of light but noise complaints. He stated that options do exist for mitigating noise created by Pickleball such as quiet balls and paddles and enclosing the courts. He stated that enforcement of quiet paddles and balls would be difficult to enforce as the courts are for public use and enclosing the courts would not allow visibility into the courts. He concluded the staff report and invited the Commission to comment and ask questions.

Vice Chair Rosso asked Director of Parks and Recreation how many tennis courts are lit, if the public have submitted noise complaints from youth playing baseball, and if there would be a difference in noise between the noise generated by baseball in comparison to Pickleball.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that three tennis courts are lit. He stated that he does not have information regarding complaints created by baseball players and that a study would have to be conducted to measure the comparative sound made by baseball and Pickleball.

Commissioner Tarin asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if noise mitigation is a concern.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that he would prefer to explore sound study if the hours of play were extended.

Chair Haddad asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if converting a lit tennis court to Pickleball courts would be an option or if installing ground lighting would alleviate light pollution.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that noise pollution is more of a concern than light pollution. He stated that noise measurement needs to be explored.

Commissioner Baroldi asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if the City has explored the option to build an additional court for Pickleball players.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated the City has not explored the option to build an additional court for Pickleball players.

The Commission had no further comments or questions at this time. Chair Haddad opened the item for public comment.

Sue Taing 5135 Farago, stated that tennis courts have a long wait time and are oftentimes occupied. He stated that tennis players have three courts open in the evening due to private instruction. He expressed concern that

if tennis court six is converted into Pickleball courts, players will spill into tennis court five.

Kirk Kolodji, 10529 Olive St., resident, stated that he would not be in favor of converting a lit tennis court into Pickleball courts. He stated that he would be in favor of retaining courts one through five for tennis.

Sam Gong, 5364 Beuan St., stated that he would like the Commission to consider allowing a pilot program for Pickleball play in tennis court six. He then provided a quiet paddle and ball for the Commission to observe. He stated that a game of Pickleball is approximately ten minutes, however players wait thirty minutes. He thanked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto and the Commission for their consideration.

Raymond Zhao, 10055 Lynrose St., suggested that the Commission find an alternate solution to allow Pickleball without negatively affecting tennis players.

Abigail Zhao, 10055 Lynrose St., stated that she is in favor of retaining court six for tennis. She stated that due to the length of a tennis game, courts are difficult to find. She stated that she felt that it is not fair that tennis players share their court with Pickleball players however, Pickleball players will not share courts with tennis players.

Kendrick Wang, 270 E. Glenarm Dr., suggested to increase court availability during peak hours. He stated that tennis players will typically drive to various locations looking for available tennis courts. He concluded by stating that he would be in favor of building additional courts.

Lestter Yeh, 9701 E. Lemon Ave., stated that he coaches both tennis and pickleball and found that the sports are very different. He encouraged the City to find a solution that would benefit both Pickleball and tennis players.

Chelsea Lee, 10143 Nadine St., stated that she would be in favor of additional courts. She stated that lighting for pickleball does not have to be as high as soccer lights, therefore should not cost as much money as detailed in the PowerPoint presentation.

John Wong, 2209 Holly Ave., stated that he believes that the study was conducted prior to the installation of the waiting area. He stated that tennis has not decreased in popularity, however Pickleball has increased in popularity resulting in two sports competing for the same place. He stated that he is in favor adding an 8th court.

Ron Brown, 9837 Miloann, stated that he is in favor of permanently converting tennis court six to Pickleball courts. He stated that he is not in

favor of converting tennis courts one through three into Pickleball courts, a pilot program or a hybrid court. He stated that additional pickleball courts are necessary as the group is already established.

Xao Xie, 4815 Persimmon Ave., suggested converting a lit tennis court to Pickleball courts if courts four through seven were lit. He stated that he is opposed to converting tennis courts one through three to Pickleball courts.

Jenny Zhao, 10055 Lynrose St., Suggested that the City find an alternate location to have a standalone pickleball play area.

Chair Haddad asked if additional members of the pubic would like to speak. No member of the public came forward, therefore closed public comment.

Chair Haddad asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if tennis courts one through three are used by the City for instructional purposes, if there is a way for the public to know when each court is in use, and if staff would need to chalk the tennis court daily to create temporary Pickleball courts.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that tennis courts one through three are utilized as reserved and private court use. He stated that he could gather data on when courts one through three are used by the public. He stated that Pickleball players place their paddle on the rack to hold their place in line. He stated that he would need to initiate a study to find hard data regarding wait times for use of the tennis courts. He stated that staff will have to draw lines on the tennis court to create temporary Pickleball courts, however a pilot program would allow the City to collect data for use and impacts to the park.

Vice Chair Rosso asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if Temple City High School (TCHS) has tennis courts.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that TCHS has tennis courts, however they are not available to the public.

Chair Haddad asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if the tennis courts could be utilized as part of the joint use agreement.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that the joint use agreement does not include use of the tennis courts.

Commissioner Tarin asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if there is a gate at the entrance of tennis court six.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto that there is a high fence between courts five and six that could be locked by the City.

Commissioner Baroldi asked Director of Parks and Recreation if the City has data regarding how many residents versus non residents use the courts.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that the City does not have information regarding how many residents versus non residents utilize the courts as it is a public facility.

Vice Chair Rosso asked Parks and Recreation Director Matsumoto if it would be possible to add another court.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that the City would have to explore and research to see if another court would be possible with notification to surrounding residents.

Commissioner Burroughs stated that additional lighting along the courts may cause adverse effects. She stated that she would be in favor of pilot program or converting court six. She stated that the City needs more time to survey and gather data.

Chair Haddad stated that she is in favor of a pilot program to convert tennis court six into Pickleball courts so the City may collect data. She felt that a study should be conducted if the City considers additional lighting along courts four through seven.

Commissioner Tarin stated that he is in favor of a phased approach for the use of tennis court six. He stated that he would also like to see what impacts would be caused from lighting, traffic and parking. He concluded by suggesting that the City look into adding a half court for Pickleball players.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that it is the Commission's purview to explore additional options not listed in the staff report. He stated that a lighting and noise study would require a budget allocation as there is no funding for such study this fiscal year. He stated that the City Council would be the deciding body to determine if a study would fit in with other infrastructure needs for the City in whole.

Commissioner Tarin made a motion to direct staff to incorporate a six month pilot pickleball program, retain tennis courts one through five and conduct a study for additional courts. Seconded by Vice Chair Rosso and carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioner – Baroldi, Burroughs, Tarin, Rosso, Haddad

NOES: Commissioner – None
ABSENT: Commissioner – None
ABSTAIN: Commissioner – None

9. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA
- None

10. UPDATE FROM PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

A. PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that City Council approved items include a three year agreement with Southland Transit, Inc., (the City's Dial-A-Ride provider), and amendments to the job descriptions for Senior Recreation Leader and Tree Trimmer. He thanked the Commission for attending the Live Oak Park Groundbreaking event, then announced that the fencing to begin construction of the playground will be installed on August 26, 2024 with a targeted completion date of early 2025. He stated that the City received many positive comments regarding the Summer Concerts in the Park band selection. He stated that upcoming events include the Autumn Festival on September 7 – 8, Movies in the Park in Temple City Park and Classic Car Show and Fall festival on September 28. He concluded by asking the Commission if they had comments or questions.

Commissioner Burroughs asked Director of Parks and Recreation if the amendment to the job description was due to the salary.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that the amendment to each job description was to attract a larger pool of applicants.

Vice Chair Rosso asked Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto if classes are offered to teach people how to trim trees.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto stated that trade schools and apprenticeships exist for tree trimming.

11. COMMISSION ITEMS SEPARATE FROM THE REGULAR AGENDA

A. COMMISSIONER BAROLDI – Stated that his Grandson enjoyed Primrose Park for the first time.

B. COMMISSIONER BURROUGHS – Thanked the public who spoke as their input provides insight for the Commission and staff. She stated that she enjoyed the bands at the Concerts in the Park series and complemented

Director of Parks and Recreation Matsumoto on the Groundbreaking event at Live Oak Park.

C. COMMISSIONER TARIN – Echoed comments made by his fellow Commissioners.

D. VICE CHAIRPERSON ROSSO – Echoed comments made by her fellow Commissioners. Expressed appreciation to those who purchased jewelry in support of the American Cancer Society.

E. CHAIRPERSON HADDAD – Thanked the public for their input. She stated that she enrolled her children into various camps and they prefer the City's Summer Day Camp Program. She stated that her family enjoyed the Camp-A-Palooza event and had fun at the Live Oak Park Groundbreaking Event.

12. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF:

The Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m. to the Parks and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Kristel Haddad, Chair

ATTEST:

Jennifer Venters, Secretary