

**CITY OF GALT**

**MINUTES**

**GALT PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING**

**Council Chambers, 380 Civic Drive, Galt, California  
Wednesday, January 9, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Commissioner Steele. Roll call was taken. All Commissioners with the exception of Commissioner Smith who was running late were in attendance.

Staff members present: Special Projects Administrator Solis and Administrative Assistant Porteous-Toste.

**CHANGES TO THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA** - None

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**PRESENTATIONS:** None

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

- A. **Subject:** Election of Chairperson – Administrative Assistant to conduct election of Chairperson. Porteous-Toste opened up nominations for the 2013 commissioner with Commissioner Steele nominating Moore and the motion was seconded by Reuthinger. With no more nominations a vote was called for and passed unanimously.
- B. **Subject:** Election of Vice-Chairperson – Chairperson to conduct election of Vice-Chairperson. Chairperson elect Moore opened up nominations for the 2013 Vice-Chairperson. Steele nominated Buchanan and the motion was seconded by Reuthinger. With no more nominations a vote was called for and passed unanimously.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Smith moved to accept the minutes of January 9, 2013 and the motion was seconded by Steele. Vote was called for and acceptance of the minutes passed unanimously.

Moore asked if the acceptance of the minutes could bypass a vote and be observed as “If there are no objections to the minutes as presented then they will go on record as accepted”

**OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **Subject:** Landscape Contract – Selby – Will revisit next meeting due to Adin’s absence
- b. **Subject:** Adult Soccer - Moore

Moore reported that he was at the General Meeting held in December and Angie Lopez was appointed the new league President. Moore is continuing on completing the paperwork that is needed by the league which he estimates that the authorization of affiliation will be 5 weeks from receipt of the paperwork. He reiterated the need to have 6 established teams (approx 11 players per team) and that 16 years + could play depending on the agreed upon policies. He is suggesting beginning as Co-ed and expanding from there depending on interest. Tony Lara, principal from Estrellita High School can get 2 of the 6 teams needed.

Moore wants to make sure that the Department is on board and is trying for get a timeline together to start play by mid to end of March. Discussion continued on possibly playing on week day as well as a Sunday.

**UPDATES**

Solis reported that Staff was looking at closing the Walker Artificial Turf field during the late Spring and Summer months to practices. The natural turf fields are slated to be open in May and the other fields Veterans, McCaffrey and Greer Basin will be available for use.

Walker Parks Artificial Turf would then be utilized for "Games only". The reason behind this decision is to give the field a much needed break in hopes to get a long life out of the field before having to replace it. Since the artificial turfs opening it has been used non stop almost 7 days a week.

Using it at this time for only games would have the least impact on those organizations that currently use the field. It would allow the Adult Soccer League to have a game field and the City is hoping to put together a flag football team that would play opposite the regular Pop Warner and High School football games. Additionally, we have had some interest in from outside agencies using the field for their games (i.e. a semi pro football team out of Stockton) where we would be bringing in revenue from the use of the field. To date we have not rented out the field. Solis did note that rentals of the field would not interfere with our local organizations. By limiting this time period to games only, realistically the park would be potentially only used on a couple of days during the week leaving the field open and giving it a much needed break.

Commissioner Moore and Steele had questions about how the other organizations would view the vacant field as many play on artificial turf and would like to practice on it as well. Steele suggested to just closing maybe a day or two but feels that organizations would want to use the artificial if they see it open. Solis reiterated that the City is just trying to reduce the wear and tear on the field when possible and hopes to lengthen the life of the field.

Commission Moore wanted to know more about the benefits of letting the field rest and if the summer was a good time due to the heat. Solis suggested that we have Adin bring back a report to the Commission next month to include the benefits and why we would do this for the Commissions consideration. Staff will look at last year's use during the spring and summer month's to see which organizations would be affected by closing the artificial turf.

Solis reported that Department has secured Valley Oaks gymnasium for practices for the younger basketball players and this should help alleviate problems with getting practices. We also have approval for use of Fairsite gym if needed.

Along with the gymnasium the Department has procured two classrooms for the Special Interest Programs. One will be dedicated to those activities that use mats and the other a classroom. The hope is to open up the larger facilities and our meeting rooms and to reduce the labor costs associated with the set up and tearing down between activities/program.

Staff is still working with the School District regarding the use of Marengo and McCaffrey.

The Galt Market has decided to relocate 16 vendors off of "B" row to fill with produce vendors. The vendors will be given a choice of a new location and will not be put in close proximity to a competing vendor. Once vendors have chosen new location they will be given 6 months free rent in compensation for the inconvenience in hopes not to lose them. Many of these vendors have been there 20+ years. This is being done in an effort to keep the Market healthy and keep revenues up.

**UPCOMING COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS**

a. Resident Non-Profit Facility Rentals – January 15<sup>th</sup>

Last year Resident Non-Profit groups were given the use of the Littleton and Chabolla Centers free of charge for two events per calendar year on a one (1) year trial basis to be brought back to Council for review. Steele had concern about “FREE” as there is an expense to the City and although non-profit it should not be free. Solis let the Commission know that in the past Staff assisted with set up and clean up. With the no fee provision, organizations have to do their own set up, tear down and clean up. A deposit of \$150 is held and if facility is not left in same or better condition it was given to the organization then the cost of staff time to do so is deducted from the deposit.

b. Independence Day Celebration – February 5<sup>th</sup>

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

a. Winter Bird Festival – January 26, 2013 – At McCaffrey Middle School and tours are booking up and the event is growing annually.

**COMMISSIONERS REPORTS**

a. Chairperson Steele – Welcomed Janice to the Commission and wanted to thank Ben Gamez for his service on the Commission. Steele really enjoyed the Lighting of the Night Event and in spite of the bad weather the turn out was impressive and felt it was especially successful for the kids.

b. Vice- Chairperson Smith – had to leave meeting early

c. Commissioner Buchanan – His gymnasium question has been answered. Asked about the age limit for boys to play for Parks and Recreation. Solis responded at age 9 they go to the Galt Youth Baseball organization.

d. Commissioner Moore – Followed up on Buchanan’s question wanting to know at what point would Parks and Recreation step in and offer a program opposite GYB. Solis responded if the organization goes the way of competition and moves away from recreation at that time the Department may have to step in and provide a program.

e. Commissioner Reuthinger – Glad to be back and truly enjoy serving on the Commission last time.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

a. Walker Park Artificial Turf – benefits in closing the field – Selby

b. Adult Soccer League Update - Moore

**ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business before the Parks and Recreation Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Porteous-Toste, Administrative Assistant