

CITY OF GALT

MINUTES

**GALT PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING**

**Council Chambers, 380 Civic Drive, Galt, California
Wednesday, March 30, 2011**

MEMBERS: Gamez, Guerrero, Smith, Moore, Steele

ADMINISTRATOR: Boyce Jeffries, Parks and Recreation Director

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Chairperson Gamez with all Commissioners present with the exception of Smith.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None.

OTHER BUSINESS

CORRESPONDENCE - None

NEW BUSINESS:

Athletic Field Light Usage Fees Report - Jeffries informed the Commission that the minutes of the previous meeting would be brought to them at the meeting of April 13th along with a presentation on the "C" Street Improvement Project. He referenced the staff report on the lighting fees and backup material that was included in the Commission packet and informed the Commission that Troy Bonnet, Park Superintendent, Armando Solis, Special Event Coordinator and Barry Weiss, Assistant City Manager were present to respond to questions.

The Commission had a lengthy discussion with staff and representatives from the youth groups regarding the electrical usage charges currently in place. Some of the issues raised was the interpretation of action approved by Council on March 2, 2010 which some of the Commission felt was only approval of the charge for the electrical use alone, not including staff time, etc. They also felt there was inequity in fees levied between the various youth groups. It was felt that some adjustment might be considered for those that had paid the high fee. They felt the approved fees should have been charged to all, not to just some. The Commission felt the fees were too high and would cause some youth and adult organizations to close down or move to other areas for their games and practices. Staff reviewed how the hourly fees were established.

Chris Dyer, youth sports supporter, said the tennis courts had no charge for lighting and he felt \$35 was too high. Gamez agreed. Dyer said the revenue from the Market was supposed to support the recreation programs so the City should pay for the lights. Jeffries stated that the City had paid the charges for electricity since the lights were put in and they have not charged a usage fee for the fields.

Edgar Valdez, concerned parent, also expressed his concerns about the high cost of the fees.

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Individual Commissioners suggested several possible fees for the lighting. Guerrero suggested \$7 for the year per participant. Steele suggested the fee be cut in half with 2% yearly increases and charge all equally. Steele suggested \$15 for all fields except \$20 for Community Park field. Moore suggested \$10 to \$15 electric usage fees.

ACTION: Steele moved the fee be \$12.50 for all facilities; seconded by Moore. Motion died for a lack of a majority.

ACTION: Guerrero moved to recommend to Council approval of \$10 per hour fee for lighting of all facilities; seconded by Steele. The motion carried unanimously by the Commissioners present.

Walker Park - Artificial Turf Field - Jeffries asked that this subject be brought back at the next meeting. He mentioned that he had included information in the packet on the issue. They discussed it briefly. The Commission should bring back suggestions regarding the fees for the park and the usage policy. Moore asked if there would be bleachers. Jeffries said they were not included in phase 1 but the pads were being installed and would be ready when the funds were available for the bleachers.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Gamez - none.

Commissioner Smith - absent.

Commissioner Guerrero - none.

Commissioner Moore - none.

Commissioner Steele - none.

There being no further business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission, the meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Gamez at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Cory, Commission Secretary