

CITY OF LOS BANOS
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
January 23, 2024

ACTION MINUTES – These minutes are prepared to depict action taken for agenda items presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chairperson Gargano called the Parks and Recreation Commission Special Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Munoz led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL – MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION PRESENT: Munoz, Gargano, Spevak; Blevins excused, Pierce excused.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Parks and Recreation Director Heim, Administrative Coordinator Calderon.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Approval of the Agenda was motioned by Gargano, second by Spevak. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all Parks and Recreation Commission Members present; Blevins excused; Pierce excused.

PUBLIC FORUM: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON ANY ITEM OF PUBLIC INTEREST THAT IS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE CITY; INCLUDES AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS. NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS. DETAILED GUIDELINES ARE POSTED ON THE COUNCIL CHAMBER INFORMATIONAL TABLE. No one came forward to speak and the Public Forum was closed.

SUNRISE RANCH PARK DESIGN UPDATE:

Parks & Recreation Director Heim shared a PowerPoint regarding the design of Sunrise Ranch Park and explained the benefits of parks, which include providing neighborhood identity, reducing anxiety, encourages physical activity for all ages and proceeded to describe the differences between pocket parks and neighborhood parks. Heim stated that Sunrise Ranch Park is located in District 9, which is a new subdivision and stated the park concept includes the following amenities: a shade structure, picnic tables, corn hole, an exercise station, an embankment slide, a zig zag climbing apparatus, which will serve all age groups, and a half-court basketball playing area. Heim described the park is in a 1-acre space and will also include a 4-foot fence wrapping the park and barbecue pits, which was a requested amenity. Heim stated the park was built to accommodate different needs with unique amenities we don't currently have at other local parks in our community. Heim informed the commission members the park is being funded out of the Sunrise Ranch Park fund, which is about 1.3 million and stated the project is currently under budget. Parks and Recreation Director Heim stated plans to present to council for approval in February and present the project for bid in June or July if approved by council and is hoping for construction to begin in winter. Commissioner Munoz inquired

about the possibility of having restrooms at the park and Heim responded that adding restrooms would be an additional cost between 400,000-500,000 and we are not in a financial position to add restrooms at this time. Heim did discuss the option of possibly providing portable restrooms as there will be space if someone were to have a celebration at the park and express the need for restrooms. Commissioner Munoz inquired if a drinking fountain will be present at the park and Heim stated a water fountain is not currently included in the park concept but can be reviewed yet may also be expensive to maintain.

PICKLEBALL CONCEPT REVIEW:

Parks & Recreation Director Heim provided a review of the pickleball courts concept and stated that the background is similar to that of a tennis court in appearance. Heim stated pickleball courts is a highly requested amenity in the community and the funding has been provided by ARPA. Heim stated courts will include fencing, lighting, a connecting sidewalk, supporting amenities, and will be located at the Ag Sports Complex. Heim described that the courts will be located between the dog park and the sports field and the site is construction ready and already includes a restroom and picnic tables. Heim explained that the designated area can accommodate 9 courts and stated that the connecting sidewalk will provide another exit point at the park. Heim stated the cost of the project is estimated at 1.7-2.4 million mostly due to the cost of concrete. Heim is planning on presenting the concept to council for approval in February and if approved the goal is to have the courts completed and open by Christmas. Heim concluded that there are still a few items that need to be discussed including lighting, rental cost, and restroom hours and accessibility.

COLORADO BALLPARK CONCEPT REVIEW:

Parks & Recreation Director Heim presented the Colorado Ball Park concept and stated he plans to present the concept to council in February. Heim explained that the park hosts various sporting events throughout the year, including Little League and Pop Warner Wildcats. Heim stated the parking lot at this location is in deteriorating condition as well as other areas of the park and has been in need of major improvements. Heim stated public meetings have been held to encourage input from the public and community and further explained that the skatepark at this location is often used and stated that has received support from the community. Heim added that the tennis courts are not as commonly used as the skatepark yet the tennis courts are also in deteriorating condition. Heim expressed some additional concerns regarding the existing park, which include minimal ADA access, electrical issues, irrigation issues, and the parking lot needs to be completely redone. Heim discussed utilizing the park development fund, Measure H, and is confident of the possibility this project may be funded without impacting the general fund and added that ARPA may also play a role regarding funding. Heim stated doesn't have an exact estimate for the project yet but is expecting the cost may range between 10-15 million. Commissioner Spevak inquired about the Pacheco Park improvements and Heim responded the Pacheco Park improvements are at the discussion level and stated currently there is a major irrigation project going at this park. Heim added that Colorado Park and Pacheco Park are our staple parks in the community yet are the most deteriorated. Commissioner Spevak

commented that Pacheco Park is at the center of town and an important part of the community.

PUMP TRACK CONCEPT REVIEW:

Parks & Recreation Director Heim explained the pump track concept and stated the project is in the early discussion stage yet there has been an interest in a pump track in the community. Heim presented pictures of pump tracks in other cities as examples during the concept review. Heim stated that Meadowlands Basin Park is the proposed location, which is 23 acres in total and is flat and constructable and is what made the location attractive for a pump track. Heim added that the location is on the opposite end of the skate park in town and both provide action sport options for the community. The pump track will be about 15,000 square feet, which is a couple hundred yards from the homes in the proposed area and he will continue to obtain public input from neighbors during the process. Commissioner Spevak commented that he doesn't think residents will be very concerned overall in regards to sound or parking at the proposed location for the pump track. Commissioner Munoz inquired about drainage at Meadowlands Basin Park and Heim responded he will explore the possibility of a French drain system and there is also a storm basin at this location. Heim concluded that funding for the project will be from the park development fund and explained the cost difference between using dirt as an option, which may cost 200,000 or using asphalt, which is in the range of 600,000. Heim informed the commissioners may decide to present to council possibly in late spring before the budgets are finalized.

RE-NAMING FIELD 3 AT COLORADO BALLPARK TO ERNIE LUGO SR. FIELD:

Parks & Recreation Director Heim informed the Commissioners that Mr. Lugo was an integral part of Little League and stated that the board approached the Parks & Recreation Department inquiring if field 3 at Colorado Ballpark can be named after Mr. Lugo. Heim explained that the request will require city council approval but wanted to bring the request to the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting on this date for discussion. Heim stated Mr. Lugo was a person who volunteered in the community for many years and it is warranted he be recognized for his involvement and commitment. Commissioner Spevak asked when this request may be presented to council and Heim responded planned to present within the next month or two but will need to obtain direction from the city attorney.

PARKS & RECREATION 2023/2024 REVENUE/EXPENDITURE REPORT: Parks & Recreation Director Heim provided a brief review of the budget and stated doesn't have concerns at this time and asked if there are any questions or concerns regarding the report.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS:

GARGANO:

Commissioner Gargano reviewed some of the upcoming Parks & Recreation events, including Save a Heart, which will be taking place in February. Gargano commented that the Parks & Recreation Department is moving in the right direction and stated the department is doing a great job. Gargano also mentioned the upcoming volunteer days and the annual Egg Hunt Event taking place in March.

MUNOZ:

Commissioner Munoz inquired if volunteers had painted the basketball courts and Heim responded that volunteers have been involved in painting some of the basketball courts in the community. Munoz commented that the courts bring life to the parks and also stated that he has noticed that there are not any garbage cans present at the Ranchwood Park. Munoz also added that he noticed that the restrooms at Meadowlands II Park remain open and asked if they are ever locked and Heim responded they are not locked unless there is a need due to vandalism. Munoz added he had some concerns regarding some of the lighting at parks and stated the hand soap dispensers and paper towel dispensers are damaged at some locations. Heim responded we have staff that will be following up with these issues.

SPEVAK: No report

PIERCE: Excused

BLEVINS: Excused

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at the hour of 7:26 p.m.

APPROVED:



Brad Gargano, Vice Chairperson

ATTEST:



Marisol Calderon, Administrative Coordinator