

**CITY OF SANTA MARIA  
RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION**

**REGULAR  
MUSSELL  
MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**ELWIN**

**JANUARY 18, 2006**

**CENTER**

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Spry led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL/MINUTES: Present:** Commissioners Corcoran, Spry, Rodenberger and Grennan.

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 8, 2005 REGULAR MEETING**

**MSC Commissioners Spry/Rodenberger: Recommended adopting the minutes of the November 8, 2005 meeting as submitted.**

Ayes: Four (4); Noes: Zero (0); Abstaining: Zero (0)

**4. RECOGNITIONS:**

**a. November Volunteer of the Month:** Ms. Pat Baugher was unable to attend the prior meeting to be recognized by the Commission. Pat was recognized for her volunteering efforts throughout the Department, which include the Fashion Show, holiday dances, membership drives, and her outstanding dedication as a "caller" of the Friday afternoon bingo program.

**b. December Volunteer of the Month:** Mr. Gary Bendixen was recognized for the time and efforts he puts forward in the Department's Summer Youth Basketball League. Gary volunteered countless hours as a head coach and his positive leadership values are greatly appreciated.

**c. Resolution 2006-02:** Mr. Trent Benedetti was presented with Resolution #2006-02 recognizing him as a long-time leader in youth sports, local government, the local business community, and volunteerism.

**MSC Commissioners Grennan/Spry: Recommended adopting Resolution 2006-02 recognizing Trent Benedetti for his outstanding citizenship and volunteerism.**

Ayes: Four (4); Noes: Zero (0); Abstaining: Zero (0)

**d. Resolution 2006-03:** Ms. Brenda Daniel was presented with Resolution #2006-03 recognizing her for her many years of service to the Recreation and Parks Department, having served as an Area Assistant for the Special Olympics as well as a Recreation Coordinator for the City.

**MSC Commissioners Spry/Grennan: Recommended adopting Resolution 2006-03 recognizing Brenda Daniel for her many years of service to the Northern Santa Barbara County Special Olympics, the Recreation and Parks Department, and the residents of the City of Santa Maria.**

Ayes: Four (4); Noes: Zero (0); Abstaining: Zero (0)

**e. Resolution 2006-01:** Ms. Mary Martone was presented with Resolution #2006-01 recognizing her fifteen years of hard work and dedication as a full-time employee of the Recreation and Parks Department. Mary had actually begun her employment with the City in a part-time status in 1987. She held many positions during her career, but the one factor that remained the same over the course of all of her positions held, were the compliments of Mary's

supervisors that always described her positive attitude and willingness to go “above and beyond”.

**MSC Commissioners Rodenberger/Grennan: Recommended adopting Resolution 2006-01 recognizing Mary Martone for her many years of service and dedication to the Recreation and Parks Department and the residents of the City of Santa Maria.**

Ayes: Four (4); Noes: Zero (0); Abstaining: Zero (0)

**f. Recognizing Barbara Badalutz:** Commissioner Corcoran recommended recognizing Commissioner Barbara Badalutz, posthumously, for her outstanding years of service to the Recreation and Parks Department, the Recreation and Parks Commission, and the residents of the City of Santa Maria.

**MSC Commissioners Rodenberger/Grennan: Recommended recognizing Commissioner Barbara Badalutz posthumously, for her outstanding years of service to the Recreation and Parks Department, the Recreation and Parks Commission, and the residents of the City of Santa Maria.** (Staff to prepare the Resolution for a future meeting so that the family of Commissioner Badalutz may have an opportunity to accept the Resolution).

**g. Recognizing the Winners of the 2005 Light, Sights, Holiday Night Decoration Celebration:** Members of the Santa Maria Recreation and Parks Commission are pleased to recognize and honor the grand prize award winners and the award of excellence winners of the 2005 “Lights, Sights and Holiday Nights” Home and Business Decoration Celebration, as follows:

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| • Best Decorated Home       | Jamie and Javier Martinez, 1150 W. Creston |
| • Most Inspirational Award  | Larry & Michelle Iliff, 917 Beth Court     |
| • Neighborhood Spirit Award | Lou & Tasha Mendez, 1030 Desoto Drive      |
| • Best Decorated Business   | Marian Medical Center, 1400 E. Church      |
| • Best Use of Craftsmanship | Larry Stewart, 330 S. Scott                |
| • Best Street Award         | Jake Barks, 1700 Block of LaSalle          |
| • Most Nostalgic            | Donald & Margaret Carr, 1629 Hillsboro     |

#### **Award of Excellence Winners:**

##### **Residential**

1027 W. El Camino	James & Diane Alexander
1030 W. El Camino	Earl & Victoria Capelle
104 Palm Court	Robert Dickerson
2859 Stardust	John & Kim Sabedra
1749 N. Vine	Lewis & Donna Thacker
1310 Jodie Court	Dave & Lora Iliff
1708 N. Western	Robert Garcia
1719 LaSalle	Jake Barks
1629 Hillsboro	Donald & Margaret Carr
1324 Valley Oak Place	Bob & Stephanie Melena
2225 Shay Avenue	Antonio & Yolanda Posas
209 Sycamore	Jerry & Sylvia Meisenzahl
1041 De Gama Drive	Tony & Ronda Martinez

## Business

Help U Sell  
Michael Clayton and Associates

602 E. Main St.  
400 E. Orange St.

5. **ROTATION OF CHAIRPERSON:** Alex Posada, Director of Recreation and Parks, advised of the rules and regulations pertaining to the rotation of the Chairperson. Commissioner Badalutz was to have rotated into the Chairperson position in 2006. Due to the unfortunate and recent passing of Commissioner Badalutz, Commissioner Kirk Spry will now rotate into Chairperson and Commissioner Henry Grennan will serve as Vice Chair. Chairperson Spry and Vice Chair Grennan both accepted their new positions.
  6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.
  7. **LEISURE NEEDS ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION BY HARISON & ASSOCIATES:** Barbara Harison of Harison & Associates provided an overview of the Leisure Action Plan that was developed in November of 2001, and the accomplishments of the Recreation and Parks Department thus far in meeting the recommendations developed from that plan. Alex Posada discussed how the Department utilized the leisure assessment plan to focus on specific goals to meet the community's needs. It was also discussed how a new plan would be of benefit to develop future goals. Input on this new plan would come from staff, the Commissioners, and at least two focus groups (a phone survey would most likely not be part of the new plan at this time). Commissioner Corcoran suggested the possibility of utilizing a variety of the local health groups as a resource in order to diversify the focus group.
  8. **NEW BUSINESS:**
    - a. **Batting Cages Report:** Jim Davis, Recreation Services Manager, proposed the possibility of installing batting cages at the Hagerman facility. Various scenarios were suggested, i.e., locate a company to construct and operate the batting cage with a lease situation while paying a percentage of the revenue to the City; have the City construct the facility and find a contractor to run the day-to-day operations with a percentage of revenue to the City; have the City construct and operate the facility; or, elect not to have batting cages at the facility. After much discussion and scenarios, it was agreed that more information would be required as well as a feasibility study.
- MSC Commissioners Corcoran/Rodenberger: Recommended staff prepares an indebt study outlining the feasibility of each of the proposed scenarios as well a comparison of what the anticipated usage may be during on and off seasons.** (Staff to conduct a feasibility study, collect further data, and resubmit at a future meeting).
- b. **Downtown Specific Plan – Commission Review Committee:** Alex Posada, Director of Recreation and Parks, suggested that two Commissioners review the Downtown Specific Plan with Frank Gonzalez, Parks Services Manager, to make recommendations as the Plan calls for major landscaping, maintenance for new landscape areas, possibly utilizing Simas basin for activities, etc. Commissioners Grennan and Spry volunteered to work on this project with Frank.
  - c. **Proposed Amendment to SMMC Section:** Alex Posada, Director of Recreation and Parks, discussed the lack of clarity in the current SMMC Section 8-15.06. The current code has not kept up the pace with modern construction practices concerning multi-family units and developer fees. It was requested that the hand-out be reviewed by the Commissioners in order to discuss more thoroughly at the next meeting.

d. **2005-2006 CDBD Grant Applications:** Alex Posada, Director of Recreation and Parks, discussed two Community Development Block Grant Applications that staff was applying for and their proposed usage, should the funds be awarded. The grant application process requires them to be accompanied by the respective Resolutions.

**MSC Commissioners Corcoran/Grennan:** *Recommended adopting Resolution 2006-04 authorizing the Recreation and Parks Department to apply for grant funds for the Home Investment Partnership Programs; and, Resolution 2006-05 authorizing the Recreation and Parks Department to apply for grant funds for the Families for the First Decade Project.*

Ayes: Four (4); Noes: Zero (0); Abstaining: Zero (0)

9. **OLD BUSINESS:** None.

10. **REPORTS:**

a. **Los Flores Ranch Property:** Dwayne Chisam, Director of Utilities, gave an overview of the newly acquired property by the City of Santa Maria - Los Flores Ranch. This site is currently proposed for the use of a new landfill, but the site may also be slated for many acres for use for recreation.

b. **Director/Staff**

- **Budget:** Alex Posada gave an overview of the Department's budget to date.

- **Tree Advisory Committee:** Alex Posada discussed recent requests from Santa Maria Valley Beautiful regarding their concerns of no apparent future plans for trees. They had previously requested that City Council appoint a Tree Advisory Committee. The City Council has referred this matter back to the Commission.

- **Rotary Centennial Park Dedication:** The previously proposed date of 2/20/06 is not feasible. A future date will be set, possibly in March.

c. **Commission:** Commissioner Grennan thanked Commissioner Corcoran for her past year of impartial and dedicated service to the residents of the City of Santa Maria as Chairperson to the Commission. Commissioners Rodenberger and Spry agreed.

Commissioner Corcoran suggested that perhaps the winners for the Lights, Sights, Holiday Night Decoration Celebration could be recognized at the Commission meeting prior to being recognized by the City Council; or, perhaps that the Commissioners attend that specific City Council meeting to recognize them at the same time.

Commissioner Corcoran was concerned that Joe White Park was using bark. The possibility of utilizing the recycled rubber material recently installed at other sites was discussed. The estimated cost was discussed – approximately \$50,000 – for initial installation and then upkeep on the material. Commissioner Corcoran suggested if possible in the future to keep it in mind due to the cigarette butts and animal feces that get caught in the bark.

11. **NEXT AGENDA ITEMS:** None discussed.

12. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. to the next regular meeting to be held on February 14, 2006, at City Hall Council Chambers, 110 E. Cook Street at 6:30 p.m.

**Alexander Posada, Commission Secretary**