CITY OF CORNING
RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2009
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
794 THIRD STREET

A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Chairperson:	Shannon Boles
Commissioners:	Loretta Price
	Larry Johnson
	Kyle Lauderdale
	Allen Turner

All Commissioners were present except Commissioner Boles.

C. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: Dean Cofer addressed the Commission and passed around two clipboards for signatures from attending citizens who wish to be updated about the Corning Skateboard Park.

D. REGULAR AGENDA: All items listed below are in the order, which we believe, are of most interest to the public at this meeting. However, if anyone in the audience wishes to have the order of the Agenda changed, please come to the podium, state your name and address, and explain the reason you are asking for the order of the Agenda to be changed.

1. **Waive the Reading and Approve the Minutes of the May 5, 2009 Recreation Commission meeting with any necessary corrections.**

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2009 Recreation Commission Meeting. Commissioner Lauderdale seconded the motion. **Ayes: Price, Johnson, Lauderdale and Turner. Opposed: None. Absent: Boles. Abstain: None. Motion was approved by a 4-0 vote with Boles absent.**

2. **Review of Summer Activities Guide – Recreation Supervisor Kimberly Beck.**

Recreation Supervisor Kimberly Beck updated the Commission on the disbursement of the 2009 Summer Activity Guides, explaining when and where they were dispersed. Ms. Beck informed the Commission that the Corning High School has not been disbursing the Recreation Guides to the Students. She stated that she intends to contact High School Principal Charlie Troughton to try to work out some type of arrangement that will ensure that the students receive copies of the Recreation Guides.

Commissioner Lauderdale informed the Commission that he has been receiving great feedback on the Guides.

3. **Discussion of Skateboard Park Project:**
   a. **Presentation – Greg Melton, AIA: Park Development with emphysis on Volunteer Participation.**

Greg Melton introduced himself and his partner Shawn Rohrbacker. The audience was given a handout titled "The Park Development Process". Mr. Melton and Mr. Rohrbacker reviewed the Park Development Process with the Recreation Commission and the Community via a PowerPoint Presentation.

The first part of the process is having an idea. Mr. Melton utilized the PowerPoint presentation to show slides of a variety of skateparks to give the Commission an idea of what could potentially be created in Corning. The first Park shown was Oroville Skate and Bike Park, this Park is labeled

as a Hybrid Park and cost around $900,000; next shown was Red Bluff's Park at a cost of $500,000. Also shown was the 11,500 square foot Park in the City of Anderson, and it was stated that the Paradise Skatepark is in the third stage of the Park Development Process.

Mr. Melton stated that the second step of the Park Development Process is "Support and Direction". He stated that this meeting was about finding a Co-Chair. Once Co-Chairs are established and a Committee is formed they can begin meeting and create a direction by setting goals (i.e. size of park, budget, and timeline).

The third step of the process is "Input and Design". Mr. Melton stated that this is the fun part, this is the phase when the kids of Corning get to take trips to other Skateparks, visit sites, create drawings, and become an integral part of public meetings. This phase will eventually lead the Corning Skatepark Committee to a Master Plan. The Master Plan will identify the site and its feasibility, costs, etc. Mr. Melton and Mr. Rohrbacker showed pictures of various parks in Northern California. They stated that the largest Park at 64,000 square feet is located in Santa Clara and cost roughly $5,000,000.

The Master Plan = Commitment. Volunteers must be committed to seeking materials and labor such as concrete, base rock, and rebar. The volunteers must also be committed to seeking grants and fundraising.

Mr. Melton and Mr. Rohrbacker stated that the final step of the Skatepark is "Reality". They explained that in this step the architects create the final construction drawing, award the project, start construction and complete the Park.

b. Presentation – Dennis & Donna Hake: Red Bluff's Skateboard Park Success Through Volunteers.

Mr. Dennis Hake began by telling the Commission and Community that they first need to form a Committee. He then talked about how the Skatepark Project was started in Red Bluff, stating that: "Nobody's going to give you a Park". He encouraged community participation and volunteerism; emphasizing you must it be known that a Skatepark is needed. Mr. Hake then told the Commission that Co-Chairs are needed to push the project along. He encouraged Corning to create a non-profit. He stated that their are two reasons why a non-profit is beneficial; 1) People feel better about donating to a non-profit organization recognized by the government; and 2) It is easier to receive funding from grants such as the Tony Hawk Foundation. He informed the Commission that it cost the City of Red Bluff approximately $500 to prepare and obtain it's non-profit status for their Park.

Mr. Hake informed the Commission that the Park would not happen if the Community is not behind it. Donna Hake told the Commission, once you commit, it's a long and hard road but it's worth it. She encouraged the Commission and audience members to stay committed to the project.

Commissioner Turner asked Mr. and Mrs. Hake how often their committee met; he was informed that they had formal meetings at least once a month with treasurer reports and minutes of these meetings. He was informed that the adults never presented at the meetings; the Park was for the young people so the young people did all of the presenting. The Hake's stated that the Park really worked as a growth tool for the kids that were involved and completed all of the research for the proposal.

An audience member asked how long the project took from start to completion and was informed that it took the City of Red Bluff approximately 7-years. Mr. Melton stated that typically the process takes about 2-years if everything goes smoothly. Mr. Tinker (member of the audience) asked if the City provided guidance to the Red Bluff group; Mr. Hake stated that the group spent a lot of time attending City Parks and Recreation Meetings. Mr. Hake commented that the Commission was very thorough in evaluating and analyzing the project.

Mr. Melton stated that Land Image will act as the liaison on this project.

City Manager Stephen Kimbrough informed the Commission that Skaters don't sue. There has not been one claim from Skaters in all the Cities that fall under the Northern California Cities Self Insurance Fund. Mr. Hake stated that because Skaters choose to Skateboard, they are aware of the risk, so unless the Skatepark has a huge hold in it, liability is minimal. Mr. Kimbrough also said the liability coverage wouldn't cost the City anything to add the Skatepark.

An audience member asked if the City was going to donate land for the Park. Mr. Kimbrough responded we don't have any land or a designated site; we are currently looking for a piece of land that could have multiple uses. A member of the audience asked about using Clark Park and it's tennis court area. Mr. Kimbrough stated that could be a possibility, however, ideally we would want something more centralized. Mr. Hake stated that access, usability, and drainage of multiple sites would have to be considered when choosing the best site. Mr. Kimbrough informed the Commission that private landowners such as the Church on Solano Street would have to be held responsible for the liability of a Skatepark on their property.

A member of the audience asked if the Red Bluff Park Committee had any issues with it being outside of town, has their been any complaints. Mr. Hake responded stating no. He stated that one of the reasons for the location of the Red Bluff Park was because it is on the TRAX route so people from other towns can visit the Park for about $1. Another audience member asked if they had experienced vandalism problems because of the location outside of town; Mr. Hake stated that to date it has not been a problem. He explained that paint ruins Skateparks; you can't skate well on it so Skaters don't tag them. Mr. Melton stated that there are strategies such as closing the Park to control behaviors.

John Leach asked the Commission if we were looking for Co-Chairs. Mr. Melton asked for a commitment right now.

c. Call to Action & Commitment for Volunteer Leadership – Recreation Commission Chairperson.

Recreation Supervisor Kimberly Beck sent around a sign-up sheet for all those interested in participating in a Corning Skatepark Meeting. Madeline Brooks and Shannon Peterson immediately stepped forward as Co-Chairs for the Skatepark Committee.

Mr. Hake informed the Commission that Corning has chosen the right architects for the Project by choosing Land Image.

A member of the audience asked about using the property behind Save More. Mr. Melton stated that site locations would be part of the feasibility plan. Another audience member said someone called us troublemakers for skating around town; the only reason why they say that is because we have nowhere else to skate.

Commissioner Turner asked when and where the first Corning Skatepark meeting is to be held? Co-Chairs Brooks and Peterson decided that it would be held July 6th at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. A community member recommended putting an announcement on the Memorial Hall Board. Ms. Beck also talked about other advertising options.

Commissioner Turner expressed how proud he was of everyone who showed up tonight. He said for this to be successful, it is going to take 100% commitment and time, so you can't get disappointed or discouraged. Recreation Supervisor Kimberly Beck mentioned that she had received word that the Rolling Hills Casino and the Nomlaki Tribe are interested in being a part of the Skateboard Park Project.

E. <u>ITEMS PLACED ON THE AGENDA FROM THE FLOOR</u>:

Dean Cofer asked everyone to sign the sign-up sheets before they left the meeting.

F. ADJOURNMENT! 8:55 p.m.

The Corning Recreation Commission serves as an advisory body to the Corning City Council on Public Parks and Recreation issues including park use, master planning, acquisition and development, beautification, improvement and maintenance of City Parks. The Commission provides a public forum for the proposal and discussion of public recreation services that benefit the Community. Ideally the Commission would encourage community volunteers and youth/adult volunteer sports groups to work together in the planning for current and future facility and program needs.

Kimberly Beck, Recreation Supervisor