

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF HARBOR COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH, HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE HARBOR DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AT 925 HARBOR PLAZA, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2007, AT 1 P.M.

Present: Commissioners: Sramek, Hankla, Topsy-Elvord, Walter, Cordero  
Absent: " None

Also present:

R. D. Steinke	Executive Director
S. B. Rubin	Managing Director
C. Lytle	Managing Director
D. A. Thiessen	Managing Director
R. G. Kanter	Managing Director
D. K. Jacobus	Acting Executive Officer to the Board
L. Marin	Director of Human Resources
H. C. Morris	Director of Communications
S. Joumbat	Chief Financial Officer
D. L. Albrecht	Director of Information Management
R. Rich	Director of Maintenance
K. J. Adamowicz	Acting Director of Real Estate
C. Perrone	Director of Security
D. B. Snyder	Director of Trade Relations
S. Ashley	Director of Government Affairs
R. S. Baratta	Director of Risk Management
D. T. Holzhaus	Principal Deputy City Attorney

PRESIDENT CORDERO PRESIDED AS CHAIRPERSON.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Upon motion by Commissioner Walter, seconded by Commissioner Sramek and unanimously carried, the amended minutes of the regular meeting of October 8, 2007, were declared read and approved as read.

RECOGNITION.

President Cordero recognized and welcomed Mr. Kenneth Tse from Yantian International Container Terminal.

Mr. Tse addressed the Board and stated it was a great honor for him and his delegation to be here at the Port of Long Beach and they were here to learn how to become a Green Port. He stated, 15 years ago, Yantian was a fishing village and it is now an international Port, which handled 8.6 million TEUs last year.

Additionally, he praised the Port of Long Beach staff on the wonderful Green Port Fest event held on Saturday.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS.**

Mr. Mike Murchison addressed the Board and stated he was here to introduce Mr. Jeffrey Klein, from the Save The Queen, LLC.

Mr. Klein addressed the Board and thanked Mr. Steinke, Mr. Holzhaus, and the Port staff for all of their assistance with the Estoppel Certificate.

Commissioner Hankla stated he would be happy to assist Mr. Klein in any way needed.

Commissioner Sramek stated the Port is also here to help.

**CONSENT AGENDA – ITEMS NOS. 1-10.**

Items Nos. 1 and 2 were removed from Consent Agenda for discussion.

Item No. 8 was withdrawn.

**3. O’CONNOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT, INC. - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE CONTRACT FOR COST ESTIMATING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR VARIOUS PORT PROJECTS - DOCUMENT NO. HD-7231.**

Communication from Douglas J. Sereno, Director of Program Management, dated October 10, 2007, recommending authorization of a Contract with O’Connor Construction Management, Inc., for cost estimating professional services for various Port projects, expiring on November 30, 2010, in an amount of \$400,000, was presented to the Board. The recommendation was approved by the Executive Director.

**4. TIDELANDS OIL PRODUCTION COMPANY – PERMIT TO DRILL ONE PRODUCTION WELL - APPROVED.**

Communication from Richard D. Cameron, Director of Environmental Planning, dated October 8, 2007, recommending approval of the application submitted by Tidelands Oil Production Company for a permit to drill production Well Y-162, located within the designated Pier D oil operation area, was presented to the Board. The recommendation was approved by the Executive Director.

**5. LEVEL I HARBOR DEVELOPMENT PERMITS – RECEIVED AND FILED.**

Communication from Richard D. Cameron, Director of Environmental Planning, dated October 8, 2007, requesting that the following Level I Harbor Development Permits be received and filed:

HDP #05-112	Tidelands Oil Production Company – Soil Remediation
HDP #07-091	Port of Long Beach – ATMIS Project
HDP #07-092	Laserium Interactive Corporation – Seating and Platform Installation
HDP #07-101	Southern California Edison – Conduit and Manhole Installation

was presented to the Board. The request was approved by the Executive Director.

**6. RWO NO. 665J – COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AT CONNOLLY-PACIFIC COMPANY – APPROVED.**

Communication from Richard D. Cameron, Director of Environmental Planning, dated October 8, 2007, requesting approval of RWO No. 665J to cover costs associated with the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report at Connolly-Pacific Company at 1925 Pier D Avenue, was presented to the Board. The request was approved by the Executive Director.

**7. PORT OF LOS ANGELES - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT TO MASTER COST SHARING AGREEMENT TO CONDUCT A SAN PEDRO BAY BIOLOGICAL SURVEY – DOCUMENT NO. HD-5849A - WO NO. 5198 – APPROVED.**

Communication from Richard D. Cameron, Director of Environmental Planning, dated October 8, 2007, requesting approval of an amendment to Master Cost Sharing Agreement with the Port of Los Angeles to conduct a San Pedro Bay Biological survey, in the amount of \$626,774, and WO No. 5198, in the amount of \$627,000, was presented to the Board. The request was approved by the Executive Director.

**8. Withdrawn.**

**9. JOE A. GONSALVES AND SON - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE CONTRACT FOR SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS OUTREACH SERVICES - DOCUMENT NO. HD-7232.**

Communication from Samara Ashley, Director of Government Affairs, dated October 9, 2007, recommending authorization of a Contract with Joe A. Gonsalves and Son, for Sacramento legislative advocacy and government relations outreach services,

at a monthly cost of \$6,450, for the period of October 1, 2007, through September 30, 2008, was presented to the Board. The recommendation was approved by the Executive Director.

**10. QUEEN'S SEAPORT DEVELOPMENT, INC. - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE ESTOPPEL CERTIFICATE IN CONNECTION WITH THE SUBMERGED LAND AND WATER AREA - DOUCMENT NO. HD-7233.**

Communication from Karl Adamowicz, Acting Director of Real Estate, dated October 10, 2007, recommending approval of the Estoppel Certificate related to the Lease with Queen's Seaport Development, Inc., for a submerged land and water area lease, and authorization for the Executive Director to execute the Estoppel Certificate, was presented to the Board. The recommendation was approved by the Executive Director.

Commissioner Topsy-Elvord moved, seconded by Commissioner Sramek that the communications be received and filed and that Items Nos. 3-7, and 9-10 be approved as recommended. Carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Commr:	Sramek, Hankla, Topsy-Elvord, Walter, Cordero
NOES:	"	None
ABSENT:	"	None

**1. FTR INTERNATIONAL- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AUTHORIZED TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL STAFF CHANGE ORDER AUTHORITY FOR THE SECURITY COMMAND AND CONTROL CENTER UNDER SPECIFICATION NO. HD-S2225.**

Communication from C. J. Cardamone, Director of Construction Management, dated October 10, 2007, recommending authorization to approve additional staff change order authority with FTR International for the Security Command and Control Center, in the amount of \$470,000, under Specification No. HD-S2225, was presented to the Board. The request was approved by the Executive Director.

In response to a question by Commissioner Walter, Mr. Cardamone addressed the changes to the project and the additional costs for plan checks.

Commissioner Hankla moved, seconded by Commissioner Topsy-Elvord that the communication be received and filed and that the Executive Director be authorized to issue said additional staff Change Order authority with FTR International for the Security Command and Control Center. Carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Commr:	Sramek, Hankla, Topsy-Elvord, Walter, Cordero
NOES:	"	None
ABSENT:	"	None

2 SHAWNAN – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE, UPON SATISFACTION OF CERTAIN CONDITIONS BY CONTRACTOR, CONTRACT FOR TOWN LOT GRADING, DRAINAGE AND STRIPING UNDER SPECIFICATION NO. HD-S2255 - CITY ATTORNEY REQUESTED TO PREPARE CONTRACT – DOCUMENT NO. HD-7234 - CWO NO. 1197, SUPPLEMENT NO. 21 AND A BUDGET REVISION – APPROVED.

Communication from Douglas J. Sereno, Director of Program Management, dated October 10, 2007, requesting conditional authorization of a Contract with Shawnan for the Town Lot grading, drainage, and striping, under Specification No. HD-S2255, in the amount of \$8,044,480, CWO No. 1197, Supplement No. 21, in the amount of \$10,820,800, and a revised project budget, was presented to the Board. The request was approved by the Executive Director.

In response to a request by Commissioner Walter, Mr. Thiessen stated the Engineering department would clarify the recommendations in future Board memos.

Commissioner Sramek moved, seconded by Commissioner Topsy-Elvord that the communication be received and filed, that the City Attorney be requested to prepare and the Executive Director be authorized to execute said Conditional Contract with Shawnan, CWO No. 1197, Supplement No. 21, and a budget revision be approved. Carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Comms:	Sramek, Hankla, Topsy-Elvord, Walter, Cordero
NOES:	“	None
ABSENT:	“	None

REGULAR AGENDA.

None.

NEW BUSINESS.

Dr. Walter asked the Commissioners to think about what subjects were talked about at the jointly held meeting with the Commission from the Port of Los Angeles on Friday, October 12, 2007. He stated that the word ‘pollution’ came up 26 times and the words ‘employee drivers’ 70 times.

Mr. Steinke stated the Port is hosting the American Association of Port Authorities Marine Terminal Management Training Program at the Hyatt, and he received a plaque honoring the Port of Long Beach.

Mr. Richard Steinke stated at the recent American Association of Port Authorities Annual Conference, the Port had received numerous awards and honorable mentions for our website, videos, and outstanding contributions in creative communication, and Award of Merits for special events, promotional literature, periodicals, and awards for

2007 Communications Awards Program of Excellence for overall campaign, and the 2007 Environmental Improvement Award, jointly with the Port of Los Angeles, for comprehensive environmental management.

Ms. Morris recognized the staff from Communications, Mr. Art Wong, Mr. Steven Macias, Mr. John Pope, Mr. Lee Peterson, Ms. Renee Moilanen, Ms. Donna Shipman, Ms. Margaret McGee, Ms. Erica Zentgraf, Ms. Leona Utu, and Ms. Linda January.

Dr. Kanter recognized the staff from Planning, Mr. Rick Cameron, Mr. Thomas Jelenic, Ms. Heather Tomley, and Ms. Allyson Teramoto.

Commissioner Topsy-Elvord thanked Ms. Morris and her staff for the tremendous event, the Green Port Fest, that was held on Saturday. She stated there were over 7,000 in attendance and that she received several calls telling her how great the event was.

Ms. Ashley, Director of Government Affairs, introduced representatives from Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP, Ms. Susan Lent, Mr. Seth Stodder, and Mr. Sean O'Shea.

Commissioner Sramek stated the Commissioners were honoring and celebrating our new logo and branding by wearing the newly designed Port shirts.

Ms. Morris gave an overview presentation of the Green Port Fest that was held on Saturday, October 13, 2007.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS.

Mr. Mario Beas, Civil Service Executive Director, addressed the Board and thanked the Port for their sponsorship of the LB Conservation Corp dinner, which honored Commissioner Hankla.

Additionally, Mr. Beas introduced Ms. Tara Cannon who was the staff support member who coordinated the event.

Commissioner Hankla stated the Port and the LB Conservation Corp are partners in the tree planting program.

Ms. Joyce Krauss addressed the Board and thanked them for their harbor tour cruise sponsorship for the Assistance League of Long Beach. Additionally, she reviewed the programs that the Assistance League is involved with.

Mr. James Ota addressed the Board on the Clean Air Truck Plan.

President Cordero thanked Mr. Ota for his comments.

CLOSED SESSION.

At 2:40 p.m., President Cordero recessed the Board meeting to hold a closed session:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Closed session pursuant to Section 54956.9(a) of the Government Code regarding Brutoco Engineering & Construction, Inc., vs. Port of Long Beach, et al., Superior Court Case No. NC034761.

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

Closed session pursuant to Section 54956.8 of the Government Code for conference with real property negotiators regarding the Submerged Land and Water Area Lease on Pier H. The Port's principal negotiator is Richard Steinke. The terms of assignment to Save the Queen, LLC are under negotiation.

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

Closed session pursuant to Section 54956.8 of the Government Code for conference with real property negotiators to discuss terms of payment of Lease with Ultramar, Inc., for property located at 1090 Pier G Avenue. The Port's principal negotiator is Larry Ditchkus.

At 3:25 p.m., the meeting was again called to order by President Cordero.

Mr. Holzhaus reported that the Board took the following final action in closed session. Commissioner Hankla moved, seconded by Commissioner Walter, to approve the Settlement Agreement and General Release in the matter of Brutoco Engineering & Construction, Inc., vs. Port of Long Beach, et al., Superior Court Case No. NC034761. The motion passed 5-0.

ADJOURNED.

At 3:30 p.m., Commissioner Walter moved, seconded by Commissioner Sramek that the meeting be adjourned sine die. Carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Comms:	Sramek, Hankla, Topsy-Elvord, Walter, Cordero
NOES:	"	None
ABSENT:	"	None

**-CITY OF LONG BEACH  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2007**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order by Harry Saltzgaver, President, at 9:00 a.m., at the El Dorado Park West Senior Center Library. Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine, took roll call and confirmed a quorum.

**Present:** Harry Saltzgaver, President  
Drew Satariano, Vice President  
Simon George  
Albert Guerra  
Bob Livingstone  
Sarah Tong Sangmeister  
Brett Waterfield

**Absent:** none

**Staff:** Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine  
Thomas Shippey, Manager, Maintenance Operations Bureau  
Dennis Eschen, Manager, Planning and Development Bureau  
Chrissy Marshall, Manager, Community Recreation Services Bureau  
J.C. Squires, Manager, Business Operations Bureau  
Tara Yeats, Financial Services Officer  
Lt. Joe Stilinovich, Park Rangers  
Bill Greco, Supervising Park Ranger  
Geoff Hall, Special Projects Officer  
Robin Black, Executive Assistant to the Director

**Guests:** Robert Lamond  
Ed Morero  
Valerie Williams  
Andrea Thrush  
Kevin Loper  
Alexis Morero  
Mark Christoffels, City Engineer  
Jim Clark, HortScience, Inc.  
Melanie Smith, Melendrez and Associates, Architect



**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 16, 2007**

**It was moved by Commissioner Sangmeister and seconded by Commissioner Livingstone to approve the August 16, 2007 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

**III. PRESENTATION TO HONOR EMPLOYEES**

Mr. Hester stated that it was his pleasure to recognize some of the park rangers for their action in evacuating visitors and staff from the El Dorado Nature Center during a fire on August 19, 2007. He presented plaques to Sergeant William Mallery, Ranger John Hill, Ranger Kevin Phillips, and Ranger Richard Ramirez for their heroic efforts in searching over 100 acres and three miles of walking trails to evacuate 25 park patrons and staff.

President Saltzgaver thanked the park rangers for all their efforts.

Lt. Stillinovich said that he had another presentation to Ranger Barry Boyer, who retired last week. Mr. Boyer was presented with a plaque honoring his years of service.

**IV. COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS**

**#07-0901**

**PERSONAL SERVICES/INSTRUCTION AGREEMENTS-MONTHLY APPROVAL**

**It was moved by Commissioner Livingstone and seconded by Vice President Satariano to authorize the Community Recreation Services Bureau Manager or his or her management designee to execute the Personal Services and Instruction Agreements and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed. The motion carried unanimously.**

**#07-0902**

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A PERMIT FOR THE OPERATION OF A PICNIC SERVICE CONCESSION WITH GERARDO CRUZ, AN INDIVIDUAL DOING BUSINESS AS CREATIVE EVENTZ**

**It was moved by Vice President Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Waterfield to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a permit with Gerardo Cruz, an individual doing business as Creative Eventz for a term of one year, expiring September 30, 2008, with additional options for renewal subject to the discretion of the Director. The motion carried unanimously.**

**#07-0903**

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO PERMIT NO. 30025 FOR THE OPERATION OF A PICNIC SERVICE CONCESSION WITH COMPANY PICNIC SPECIALIST**

**It was moved by Commissioner Livingstone and seconded by Commissioner Sangmeister to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute the First Amendment to Permit No. 30025 with Company Picnic Specialist to extend the term one year, expiring August 31, 2008, with additional options for renewal subject to the discretion of the Director. The motion carried unanimously.**

**V. PUBLIC HEARING**

**A. FOR PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2008 FEE INCREASES FOR PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES UNDER THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION'S JURISDICTION**

President Saltzgaver opened the public hearing. He said that the proposed fee increases were reviewed and approved by the Finance and Appeals Committee. Two policies were approved by the Commission in the past. The first policy was to attempt to recover cost and to allow a CPI increase. The second was to recover fees from adults and nonresident participants and to attempt to provide as much service as possible at as low a price as possible to youth and senior citizens. He requested a presentation on the proposed fee increases.

Mr. Squires stated that in preparation for the analysis, the Department took all the fees in the schedule and did a calculation of the Consumer Price Index for the 12 months ending October 2006, so we are traditionally a year behind on the price increase. At that point, the spreadsheet was distributed throughout the Department to get staff input. This was collected and reviewed by executive staff, adjustments were made, and the Finance and Appeals Committee reviewed the final document. This is a pretty broad adjustment of fees, representing cost inflation.

President Saltzgaver stated that these are CPI increases and rounding up or down. He asked if there was anything that Mr. Squires considered important in the adjustment.

Mr. Squires responded that there was nothing he considered a significant adjustment. They all follow the same theme of a small and modest adjustment.

President Saltzgaver pointed out the filming fees, which are of some interest. He also pointed out that the Parks and Recreation Commission does not have jurisdiction over fees in the Tidelands area.

Mr. Hester stated that there were a number of areas in which increases were not recommended. The Department is recommending a \$1 increase in the El Dorado Regional Park entrance fee. He said that it is intent of the Commission that fees should not operate to deny services to individuals who cannot afford services through the Department. We continue to have a sliding scale in place.

Commissioner Livingstone said that there is a lot of revenue potential in the quarterly brochure. He asked how much revenue was received from the brochure.

Mr. Squires responded that the revenue commitment is \$46,000 a year. Staff is in the process of reviewing the quarterly brochure and looking at the advertising campaign.

President Saltzgaver opened the hearing to the audience.

Mr. Ed Morero said he was from the Stearns Park area. He asked if there is an additional fee to the contract groups to use the facilities for storage, like a karate class that keeps their mats at the park building.

Mr. Squires responded that there is no separate fee for storage right now. That is an agreement with staff on site if there is space available.

Ms. Valerie Williams said she was not sure if this was the correct place for her question. She said she is a resident of Long Beach and she is present because of her concern about the extended day program that her children attend at Houghton Park. She has been hearing about the possible closing of the program.

President Saltzgaver said that this was a decision made by the City Council.

Mr. Hester said that the Department was requested to make reductions in the budget and they looked at all areas where the Department was subsidizing programs. The cost of operating the extended day program was over \$300,000. The revenue received was about \$180,000, so the City was subsidizing that program for about \$120,000. Staff also looked at the numbers being served and noticed that the number of participants had dropped significantly. Last year they only had about 60 people at the three sites. There are WRAP programs available at the school sites, which are free. This was offered as a discussion item at the Budget Hearing. The Department found out that a number of parents said that the after school programs that are free are good programs. The parents were more concerned about the programs before school where staff walks the kids to school. Because of the concern of City Council, the Department proposed a separate program for mornings only for these three sites where the parents could pay a full cost recovery. This cost would be \$30 per child per week, as an alternative. The City Council did not decide to do that. They are allowing the program to continue to the end of the

year to give parents an opportunity over the next three months to look for alternative sites.

Ms. Andrea Thrush said that she lives in the El Dorado Estates area. She asked if the contracts received more than a CPI increase, for example the picnic concession contracts.

Mr. Hester stated that the way the contracts are written, the City receives a guaranteed minimum fee or 10 percent of their gross, based on the amount of the picnics they run. The City shares in their revenue.

Ms. Thrush asked if contracts provide a fairly good revenue stream for the Department.

Mr. Hester responded that the revenue is not very significant.

Mr. Squires stated that the Department has over 300 contracts, where the Department is providing a service more than providing revenue. Staff is looking for additional partners to bring in more revenue.

Mr. Kevin Loper said that he represents the Long Beach Semi-pro Aqua Bells, a synchronized swim team for girls, ages 8 through 18. He said that they compete in national synchronization competitions and are trying to start in Long Beach. He asked if the fees for the pools are going up. He said that they are trying to start up in Belmont Pool, but the costs are extremely high for them and they are trying to get some help from the Department.

Mr. Squires said that Belmont Pool fees are in Tidelands, which have been approved by the City Council. There are no fee increases here for Belmont Pool.

Mr. Hester asked if Mr. Loper met with staff.

Mr. Loper responded that he met with staff. The problem is that they are a nonprofit organization funded by parents. They have four national level swimmers on their team and are trying to bring in other girls. The problem is that the pool fees are \$20 per lane per hour and they need at least two lanes to practice. They would also need the whole deep end for the whole team, which would cost them thousands of dollars. He said that what they bring to the city is a professional synchronized swimming team for youth and would be able to bring in national and regional events.

Mr. Hester asked that he give staff his name and number to meet with him. He said that the City is looking into rehabilitating the Belmont Pool and making it more energy efficient. This would bring the costs down. He again asked for Mr. Loper to leave his contact information with staff.

President Saltzgaver asked for additional comments from the audience. There were none. He then asked for comments from the Commissioners. There were no comments, so he closed the public hearing on fees.

**It was moved by Vice President Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Sangmeister to adopt a resolution and approve the proposed changes to fees and charges and make such changes effective October 1, 2007. The motion carried unanimously.**

## **VI. COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS**

### **A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE President Saltzgaver, Chair**

President Saltzgaver stated that the Committee met and discussed the agenda.

### **B. FINANCE AND APPEALS COMMITTEE President Saltzgaver, Chair**

President Saltzgaver stated that the Committee did not meet.

Mr. Squires went over the monthly financial report. He said that all the bureaus have worked extremely hard to get their expenses down. The Department's budget should close this year in good standing and revenue will exceed the budget.

President Saltzgaver requested a report on the Budget Hearing.

Mr. Hester stated that the Department was told to make number of reductions to the budget. The City Council asked the Department, along with a few other departments, to make specific presentations, more detailed than in the past. There were a number of major discussion items, which were about the loss of some of the programs. The City Councilmembers were concerned about those programs not being funded. The Budget Office also increased the Department's revenue commitment and with an added on administrative cost, the salary savings have been wiped out for the Department. This leaves no flexibility to run unfunded programs, so the Department is looking for sponsorships for a number of programs. The extended day care program was expanded for three months and then will be eliminated.

President Saltzgaver said that it is one of the Parks and Recreation Commission's priority to make the point that public safety includes parks and recreation, or that parks and recreation is critical to public safety.

C. PARK SAFETY COMMITTEE  
Commissioner George, Chair

Commissioner George stated that the Committee did not meet this month.

Mr. Greco discussed the new first aid kits purchased for the park rangers. He mentioned that they would also be purchasing electric flares for use in place of regular fire flares, to be more environmentally conscious. He said that on September 12, two park rangers went to Camp Oakes and taught kids from the Long Beach Adaptive Recreation program to fish.

Commissioner Livingstone said that for the second time, there was a gang party broken up inside the restaurant at Heartwell Golf Course. He asked if they rent that facility out.

Mr. Hester responded that they do rent out that facility and due to problems, staff met with American Golf staff to develop some new criterion for that facility.

D. PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE  
Commissioner Guerra, Chair

Commissioner Guerra stated that the Committee did not meet. He said that there was the FOR Long Beach report was received this morning.

Mr. Hall went over the report and said that the totals for the year are very good.

Mr. Hall mentioned that Department management staff would be meeting with the FOR Long Beach consultant to go over the objectives.

Mr. Hester mentioned that the Commissioners might also want to attend on the morning of November 29.

E. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS COMMITTEE  
Vice President Satariano, Chair

Vice President Satariano stated that the Committee would meet next month.

F. CITY SCHOOLS/JOINT COMMITTEE  
Commissioner Tong Sangmeister, Chair

Commissioner Sangmeister stated that the Committee would meet next month.

Mr. Squires stated that the reciprocal use agreement group met and they are scheduled to meet next month. They have a good framework for the new agreement. They anticipate that an agreement will come before the Commission and the City Council before the end of the year.

President Saltzgaver asked how that fits with the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) Master Plan.

Mr. Squires responded that they have not delivered their master plan to the City yet. This reciprocal use agreement is about having an understanding of the process of how we access each other's property. The current agreement will expire on December 31, 2007. A lot of the conversation is about how we deal with disagreements that we have had in the past. We are putting the process into place on how to contact the School District during the summer. There are some new financial issues that they are discussing and they should be moving to an agreement that both parties can live with.

Mr. Hester recommended that President Saltzgaver meet with the Superintendent of LBUSD, as a follow up to the letter that was sent in July.

G. **SPECIAL EVENTS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
Commissioner Livingstone, Chair

Commissioner Livingstone stated that the Committee did not meet.

**VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COMMISSION**

A. **DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – AUGUST 2007**

President Saltzgaver asked for any questions on the monthly report.

Commissioner Livingstone asked if Special Olympics moved into their new facility in Long Beach.

Mr. Hester responded that the Director and some staff have moved in.

President Saltzgaver asked where the Junior Golf program has been moved.

Mr. Shippey responded that they are looking to expand the Heartwell Golf Course building for the Junior Golf program.

Commissioner Guerra asked about the RiverLink plan.

Mr. Hester responded that it is moving along quite well. Supervisor Knabe gave \$5 million to purchase some property between Drake and Chavez Parks. They met with Redevelopment regarding their projects in the area, to make sure they are aware of what the Department wants to do with the RiverLink plan and to make sure Redevelopment projects are consistent with the RiverLink plans.

Commissioner Guerra asked why there is no information included in the monthly reports on the Rancho Los Alamitos.

Mr. Hester responded that the Department only manages their agreement, but we could ask them for information to be incorporated into the monthly report.

President Saltzgaver stated that the public relations component for the Rancho Los Alamitos has been scaled back.

**It was moved by Commissioner Livingstone and seconded by Commissioner George to receive and file the Director's Monthly Report for August 2007. The motion carried unanimously.**

#### **VIII. CORRESPONDENCE**

President Saltzgaver said that a letter was received from Mr. Denevan regarding the Civil War cannon. Several months ago, Mr. Denevan brought this forward and he would like an up update on the issue.

Mr. Hester stated that staff would respond to the letter. So far, the Department has not done anything because the Lincoln Park project is on hold waiting for a visioning project. We don't have answers to a number of his questions, but staff will prepare a letter for your response to him.

#### **IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

President Saltzgaver stated that there was no unfinished business. He said that work has begun on the Bixby Park band shell.

#### **X. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A. URBAN FOREST MASTER PLAN**

Mr. Eschen stated that Public Works Department is the head of an effort to direct the development of an Urban Forest Master Plan.

Mr. Hester introduced Mark Christoffels, the City Engineer.

Mr. Christoffels stated that the trees in the park, on the parkways, and on the medians are collectively the City's owned and maintained urban forest. The trees are roughly 50 to 60 years old. They are fairly mature at this point. We are reaching a turning point because a lot of these trees are reaching the end of their lifespan. A lot of the trees were planted in inappropriate places. Some trees were planted that were not meant for this environment or climate. What



we have learned about trees has evolved over the years. A lot of the trees have been lost to disease and age and we have not replaced them. We were looking at where do we go from here and one of the things that we need is a master plan. Public Works has taken the lead, but we are working closely with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine. We have hired a consultant to do an Urban Forest Master Plan in two phases. The first phase is the Golden Policy, what do we want to do with the Urban Forest. The second phase where we will lay out the details of implementing the Golden Policy. We have hired Melendrez and Associates for doing the Urban Parks Plan and they brought in HortScience as a sub-consultant, who are both present. We are meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission to kick this off. What we are looking for from the Commission are ideas and thoughts to get the process started. Once the document is drafted, it will be brought back to the Parks and Recreation Commission for full consideration.

Ms. Melanie Smith introduced herself and said she is also a resident of Long Beach and a Planning Commissioner.

Mr. Jim Clark introduced himself and said he is here as part of the team to provide technical expertise about trees and urban forest management. They are here to help transfer the 50 to 60 year old forest into something that the City can sustain for the future.

Ms. Smith said they are not here to present any findings, they would like to get input to start out with. She said that they would also meet with the City Street Tree Committee and other departments.

Mr. Clark asked if there are any policies that the Department currently has in place regarding trees.

Mr. Hester responded that the Department does not have any policies regarding trees, and that this really goes back to no available funding and a reduced workforce. There is some one-time funding for trimming of trees over playground areas and concert areas. The Department is very supportive of an Urban Forest Master Plan.

Mr. Christoffels stated that the City really doesn't have a formal policy. Tree trimming and removal is mostly driven by resident complaints.

Ms. Smith stated that they are also looking at partnerships, such as Partners of Parks and community involvement.

Mr. Hester stated that the problem is not getting trees to plant, the problem is getting donations toward trimming trees, tree maintenance, and fixing the irrigation systems.

Commissioner Livingstone suggested that maybe 10 percent of donations for trees could go toward the maintenance of the trees. Donations toward tree trimming or irrigation would be hard to sell. Most people who donate want to see a plaque to go on something to acknowledge their donation.

Mr. Shippey said that birds are now nesting in trees that are not normally a part of their natural habitat. Staff now has to check all trees before having them trimmed, which is another whole conflict.

Mr. Christoffels stated that the Department and the Parks and Recreation Commission would have to think about balancing the need for active park areas vs. passive park areas, which will accommodate trees, for existing parks as well as new parks being built.

Mr. Eschen stated that a lot of the planned use of park space is driven by funding sources. Right now, more funding is available for passive parks.

Mr. Hester brought up that trees were planted in many of the parks, such as DeForest Park Nature Center, without a thought as to what type of trees the area could support. The Department is going to have to take most of them down and create a plan.

President Saltzgaver stated that the Department's and the Parks and Recreation Commission's perspective is different from the Department of Public Works, residents who want their sidewalks repaired, and environmentalists who want to plant every tree they can, regardless of its type.

Commissioner Livingstone stated that it might just be a matter of educating the public as to what needs to be done for the long term.

Commissioner Sangmeister suggested that they also reach out to Long Beach Unified School District, who is in the middle of their master plan. It sounds like for the Department, it is less about putting trees in, it is how we maintain them and what kind of plan we can have with environmental groups or people who are concerned about sidewalks. She was hoping this plan could help explain to the public and be a little more informative.

Commissioner Guerra suggested a partnership with Edison, who cuts trees down that are under the power lines. Perhaps a park could be divided up and create an adopt-a-park sponsorship.

**It was moved by Commissioner Livingstone and seconded by Vice President Satariano to review the Urban Forest Master Plan, and urge the consultant team to include the Planning and Building Department in the process, and to include a tree replacement policy in the master plan.**

**XI. COMMENTS**

**A. AUDIENCE**

President Saltzgaver asked for comments from the audience.

Ms. Alexis Morero stated that she lives near Stearns Park and they used to have a Citizens Advisory Committee that met regularly with park staff. She asked if this is something that could be resurrected? She said they are concerned about the use of their park. The park used to be about 50 percent passive or natural park and 50 percent sports or active park. It is now becoming more of a sports or active park and she was wondering if this is happening to more parks in the city.

President Saltzgaver responded that he believes creating such a committee would be created through the City Council offices.

Ms. Marshall responded that public committees could be created through a combination of a few things. Normally, Department staff discusses issues with the public through surveys and through neighborhood meetings that staff attends. She said that if there is an interest in the community, the meetings could certainly be reactivated.

Ms. Morero suggested that an advisory group be created for each park to make suggestions.

President Saltzgaver said that was a good suggestion. The issue is getting people like yourself who are interested in being involved.

Mr. Hester stated that there are a number of parks that have advisory groups and the Department does need help from the community to report graffiti and other issues.

President Saltzgaver stated that perhaps this would be something that could be addressed in the Planning and Performance Committee.

Mr. Ed Morero stated that he would like an update on the structural integrity of the community center building at Stearns Park. He understood that there was an issue of a wall buckling and the columns infested with termites.

Mr. Eschen responded that Public Works did a facility assessment of all facilities in 2003 and 2006 and found the Stearns Park building to be structurally sound. The beams are visually warped, but they are sound.

Mr. Hester stated that there are problems with the windows at that building, which will be replaced.

Mr. Shippey stated that they treated the building for termites and did some repairs on the beams. The damage was not severe.

B. STAFF

President Saltzgaver asked for comments from the staff. There were none.

C. COMMISSIONERS

President Saltzgaver asked for comments from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Waterfield thanked Mr. Squires and Partners of Parks for the Angels outing.

Commissioner George suggested that a letter of commendation be sent to Billie Jean King in appreciation for all she has done for Long Beach. She is one of the speakers at the National Recreation and Park Association Conference at the end of the month.

Commissioner Sangmeister said she was approached by Naples residents who were upset that two trees were going to be taken down.

Mr. Shippey responded that the two trees are cracked and hazardous, but two trees will be planted to replace them in late October.

Commissioner Sangmeister asked if the Commission could receive a report on Sea Festival, possibly at the next Commission meeting.

Mr. Hester responded that it could possibly be reported to the Commission in November.

Commissioner Guerra said that he took his boy scouts to the beach cleanup on Saturday. The staff exhibits were very good, especially the car oil exhibit. He commended staff for their work.

Commissioner Livingstone stated that Partners of Parks is restructuring their organization and they will be advertising for an Executive Director.

President Saltzgaver said that there would be a fundraising event on September 29, to raise money for the tot lot at Livingston Park. They are charging \$100 per person for a beach party.

President Saltzgaver distributed a flyer for a California Park and Recreation Society District X Administrators Section and California Association of Park and Recreation Commissioners and Board Members training on October 27, if any of the Commissioners would like to attend.

President Saltzgaver requested a copy of the City's travel policy for Commissioners.

Mr. Squires stated that staff would distribute the travel policy.

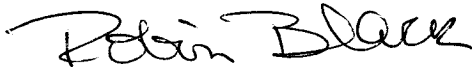
**XII. NEXT MEETING**

President Saltzgaver stated that the next meeting would be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 18, 2007, at El Dorado Park West in the Senior Center Library, 2800 Studebaker Road, Long Beach.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

President Saltzgaver adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin Black  
Executive Assistant to the Director

c: Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine