TENNILLE ADAMS	JEFF BLICK	JOHN BONNETT CHAIR	KEVIN DANE	ROLYNNE HENDRICKS	RYAN HORSLEY	BRENT JUSSEL	BILL MERRITT VICE-CHAIR	PAULA BROWN SINCLAIR

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

TOM COURTNEY	**CITY MANAGER**
TRIP CRAIG	**COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**
DENNIS BOWYER	**PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR**
MITCH HUMBLE	**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

TWIN FALLS CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

September 8, 2009* * * * * 11:30 am * * * * * City of Twin Falls Council Chambers

Members Present: **Tennille Adams, Jeff Blick, John Bonnett, Kevin Dane, RoLynne Hendricks, Brent Jussel, Bill Merritt and Paula Brown Sinclair**

Members Absent: **Ryan Horsley**

Council Absent: **Trip Craig**

Staff Present: **Dennis Bowyer and Mitch Humble**

Guests: **Liyah Babayan, representing the Twin Falls Armenian American Community and Fritz Wonderlich, City of Twin Falls Attorney**

MINUTES

Chairperson John Bonnett called the meeting to order at 11:36am.

Item #1 Approve minutes of the August 11th, 2009 meeting

A motion was made by Jeff Blick to approve the minutes of the August 11th, 2009 meeting. Paula Brown Sinclair seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item #2 Recreation Report

Dennis went over the recreation report. Fall Soccer has begun. There are approximately 600 players enrolled, which is a decrease over last year's numbers. Girls Basketball registration has been extended for another week and will end September 11th. Perrine and Bickel are allowing us to use their gyms for practices this year.

There will be an Adult Volleyball meeting tonight at 6:00pm. They play at the First Presbyterian Church. Brandy is working on having some games played at CSI.

The 3rd Movie's in the Park was held on August 28th. There were approximately 250-300 people who came out to watch the "Parent Trap". There will be two more movies shown on September 25th and October 30th. We will show "The Rookie" on September 25th and the 1931 version of "Frankenstein" on October 30th. Advertising for the movie was on the front page of our website and an e-mail was sent out to everyone in the database.

The Fall and Winter Guide has been sent out to residents of Twin Falls.

Item #3 Parks Report

Parks staff has been doing repairs on the boat dock at Dierkes Lake. They are still working on construction of the new restroom in the Harmon Park Recreation Building.

Item #5 Drury Park Update

Dennis updated the Commission on Drury Park. The first two pieces of the playground equipment has been installed. Staff will be installing the last piece of equipment on September 15th. The concrete pad has been poured and the tables have been ordered. The trees directly west of the concrete pad will be moved to the east side of the park in two to three weeks. Dennis and Paula will be meeting sometime soon to go over the fencing that will be installed along Washington St.

Paula asked to invite Beth Olmstead or a representative of the PTA to attend the next meeting to explore some ideas for fundraising for the park.

Item #4 Armenian Donation Request – 12:00noon Liyah Babayan

The Commission unanimously denied the request from the Twin Falls Armenian American Community for a donation of a tree with additional text on the plaque remembering the Armenian Genocide at the last meeting. City Council tabled the request on Monday, August 24th and recommended the Commission revisit the request with the applicant making a presentation. Mitch explained to the Commission that Council brought it back to the Commission because they felt they received more information from the applicant than the Commission did.

Liyah Babayan presented to the Commission why the Armenian American Community wants a plaque with the inscription of "In memory of the Armenian Genocide" or "In remembrance of the 1915 Armenian Genocide". She explained that following the 1915 Armenian Genocide, thousands of Armenians immigrated to the United States. Many of the descendents came to Idaho due to agriculture. The CSI Refugee Center brought many of the Armenian immigrants to Twin Falls in the 1980's and 1990's.

Fritz Wonderlich explained to the Commission that with someone wanting to donate a tree, etc. with no speech component, it is easy to accept that donation. This becomes more difficult with a speech component, such as, an inscription. This would represent public speech and the City of Twin Falls would have to accept what is inscribed on the plaques. He informed the Commission that they would need to decide if the inscription of the plaque ties in with the community.

After a lengthy discussion, Brent Jussel made a motion to approve the request of the donation as written for either proposed inscription. Bill Merritt seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed Jeff Blick and Bill Merritt in favor of the request. Kevin Dane, Brent Jussel, Tennille Adams, RoLynne Hendricks, John Bonnett and Paula Brown Sinclair voted against the motion. The vote on the motion failed 2-6.

Kevin Dane made a motion to accept an additional inscription on the plaque that "recognized the contributions from the Armenian Community to the Twin Falls community and that recognized the CSI Refugee Center". Paula Brown Sinclair seconded the motion. Roll call vote showed Brent Jussel, Tennille Adams, RoLynne Hendricks, John Bonnett, Paula Brown Sinclair and Kevin Dane in favor of the motion. Jeff Blick and Bill Merritt voted against the motion. The motion passed 6-2.

Item #6 Review of Long Term Plans

This item will be on the agenda for the next meeting. Paula asked the Commission to visit each park and walk around them so when the Commission is discussing these properties, everyone on the Commission will understand where they are.

Item #7 Other Items from the Commission

Jeff brought up an issue with charging the junior high school Cross Country team entrance into Shoshone Falls. Dennis explained to the Commission that if they call him, he will arrange for them to have free entrance into the park. Jeff suggested calling all the coaches to inform them of this. Mitch stated that it can probably be addressed in one phone call to the district office.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:02pm.

The next meeting of the Twin Falls Parks & Recreation Commission will be October 13th, 2009 at 11:30am at the City Council Chambers located at 305 3rd Avenue East.

Christi Green

Christi Green
Administrative Assistant
Parks and Recreation