

MINUTES

of a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Redlands held in the Council Chambers, Civic Center, 35 Cajon Street, on October 19, 2004, at 1:30 P.M.

PRESENT

Susan Pepler, Mayor
Gilberto Gil, Mayor Pro Tem
Pat Gilbreath, Councilmember
Gary George, Councilmember
Jon Harrison, Councilmember

ABSENT

None

STAFF

John Davidson, City Manager; Daniel J. McHugh, City Attorney; Beatrice Sanchez, Deputy City Clerk; Jim Bueermann, Police Chief; Jim Drabinski, Battalion Chief; Tina Kundig, Finance Director; Ronald C. Mutter, Public Works Director; Marjie Pettus, Administrative Services Director; Gary G. Phelps, Municipal Utilities Director; and Jeffrey L. Shaw, Community Development Director

WORKSHOP

Redlands Sports Park - Project Engineer Bill Hemsley presented a history and current status report of the Sports Park from February 1994 to September 2004. He then reported on what the Sports Park schedule would have been without the discovery of the presence of the endangered San Bernardino Kangaroo Rat in June 2002 and the involvement of United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). It originally was anticipated that the grand opening would have been in July, 2004. Staff proposes three options for the Council to consider: Option 1 is to accept FWS's proposal to manage onsite temporary mitigation land until offsite mitigation land is set aside and to build the Big League Dream facility and soccer fields; Option 2 is to sell the current sports park property and purchase property near the proposed Redlands High School site and construct Big League Dream and soccer fields there; and Option 3 is not to build. Additional two versions were presented: Option 1b proposes to build the sports park at the current location without Big League Dreams along San Bernardino Avenue and Option 2b proposes to purchase the 20 acres site between the new Redlands High School site and the Interstate 30 boundary and develop soccer and baseball fields there as a shared use facility. Pros and cons of the proposed options were then presented. Comments were received from Dave Eason and Kyle Larick representing AYSO, Rick Odekirk representing Big League Dreams, and Louis Fletcher. Councilmember Gil stated he could not select an option until the cost of land in Option 2 and sale of sports property land dollar figures are known. Councilmember Harrison questioned if there is any legislation which may prohibit locating a youth sports facility in close proximity

to the 210 Freeway. Councilmember Gilbreath stated her preference is Option 1b or 2b. Mayor Pepler stated her choices are Options 2a and 2b. On motion of Councilmember Harrison, seconded by Councilmember George, Council unanimously continued further action on the Redlands Sports Park indefinitely.

Agreement - Redlands Sports Park - Because of the above action, no action was taken on a consultant services agreement with Michael Brandman Association to complete Section 7 of the consultation process for the Redlands Sports Park.

Overview of Existing Grant Programs - Public Works Director Mutter presented an overview of the grant programs. He also covered sources of other funds that could be redirected to the completion of the Mission Gables project such as CDBG funds, Union Avenue reconstruction, Cypress Avenue lighted crosswalk and upgrades to make the Civic Center handicapped accessible; and temporarily moving development impact fees away from the Sports Park because it will be so long until it is ready for construction. Mr. Jeffrey Waldron, Project Manager for the Mission Gable Bowl House, and Marsha Gabera, Redlands Community Music Association, stressed to the Council the urgency about completing this ten-year effort by the City, the Redlands Conservancy and the Redlands Community Music Association. In September, 2004, the City solicited bids to complete the project. Only one was received in the amount of \$1.331 Million which is \$750,000 above the funds collected to date. Both Councilmembers Gil and George did not want any funds reprogramming to have an effect on the CDBG projects for Union Street and the Civic Center ADA project. City Manager Davidson advised Councilmember the agenda is not set up for Council action, only an overview. Public Works Director Mutter stated the only flexible funding is the Park Development Fund and he could come back on November 16, 2004, with a funding plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Emery B. Milroy suggested the Council consider constructing freestanding restrooms for the Bowl behind Mission Gables and forget about fixing the old house.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the City Council meeting adjourned at 4:05 P.M.

Deputy City Clerk