

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE HOLTVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION
May 16, 2011**

The meeting of the Holtville Planning Commission was held on Monday, May 16, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the Civic Center. Commissioners present were Vikki Dee Bradshaw, Javier Ramos, Jim Predmore and Federico Garcia. Ginger Ward was absent. Staff member present was Glyn Snyder. Laura Fischer was absent. City Attorney Steve Walker and City Planner Justina Arce were also present.

PLANNING COMMISSION CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairwoman Vikki Dee Bradshaw called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Federico Garcia.

VERIFICATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA:

Glyn Snyder, Secretary verified that the agenda was duly posted at City Hall on May 13, 2011.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Commissioner Ramos and seconded by Commissioner Predmore to approve the minutes of the regular meetings of February 22, 2011. All members present were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS:

City Planner

A written report was provided and reviewed by the City Planner.

City Attorney

The City Attorney reported that the Browning Trailer Park case will be going to court on June 16th.

REPORTS FROM PLANNING COMMISSIONERS:

Vikki Dee Bradshaw reported Commissioner Ward, Commissioner Garcia and herself attended the Planner's Institute in March. The information they received was very informative and she expressed her appreciation to the City for giving them the opportunity to attend this conference.

Commissioner Predmore visited Mack Park.

Commissioner Garcia drove by Marini Farms.

Commissioner Ramos stated that both Mack Park Field and Samaha Field look very good and are well taken care of by City Staff.

Information Only:

- a. **Discussion/Related Action On Mack Park Improvement Recommendations – Justina Arce, City Planner**

City Planner provided an overview of the Mack Park Staff Report to the Commission.

Chairwoman Bradshaw invited public comments prior to entering into further discussion.

Ms. Mireya Flores, 1841 East Thiesen expressed her support of playground equipment at the park and offered to volunteer her time to the project. Chairwoman Bradshaw discussed the volunteer services that had been received for the Holt Park Tot-Lot.

Ms. Susan Massey, 816 E. 7th Street, would like to see a Tot-lot. She has spoken to a lot of kids from the area. She informed the Commission that families have collected 165 signatures in support of the project and playground equipment. The petition was given to the City Clerk to be forwarded to City Council.

Commissioner Ramos discussed how as play-equipment has been removed from Mack Park, it was his understanding that the intention has always been to replace them as resources were available. Commissioner Garcia concurred that the tot-lot was in his opinion a priority and that dual use at the school's playing fields should be maximized.

Commissioner Ramos communicated that he believed the amount of sports fields currently available were sufficient to support the existing demand and that it was his opinion the sports teams have met their growth limit.

Ms. Tere Romo, 1313 E. 7th St., Sp. 90 communicated in Spanish that her children don't care for sports and that playground facilities are a means for her children to be entertained for hours and engage in physical activity (translated by Commissioner Ramos).

Mr. Steve Walker commented on how the lack of ballpark lighting limited the use of sports fields throughout the Imperial Valley. Mr. Walker also communicated that the Little League is not opposed to the Tot-lot but would rather have it located to the south of the park instead of the north.

Chairwoman Bradshaw asked Public Works Supervisor Matt Hughes for comments regarding the location of the Tot-lot. Mr. Hughes commented that parking along 7th Street (which only improved to half width along that segment) should not be encouraged. Staff discussed how Architerra had designed the Tot-Lot at the north end of the park for design safety. There was much discussion by a number of the Commissioners regarding the proposed improvements and location of features. It was the consensus of the Commission to recommend retaining the Tot-Lot at the north-end of Mack Park.

The Commission expressed challenges with overall costs and agreed that the project should be approached in phases as proposed by Architerra. Commissioner Garcia expressed his concerns over Phase One not incorporating the Tot-Lot Improvements. It was the consensus of the Commission to incorporate the Tot Lot feature into Phase One.

The Commission discussed the funds available. Chairwoman Bradshaw communicated to the rest of the Commissioners that the Holt Park Restrooms needed to be improved and that she felt those funds should not be touched. The rest of the Commissioners agreed that Holt Restrooms needed to be improved.

Staff summarized the Commission's recommendations as follows:

- Improvements should be completed in phases, as resources allow.

- Phase One is recommended by the Commission as proposed by Architerra. However, the Commission wishes to incorporate Tot Lot Improvements.
- If any features are to be eliminated from Phase One, it is the Commission's recommendation to eliminate the far eastern improvements.
- The proposed Phase One would necessitate a budget increase and as such it was the Commissioner's recommendation that the Redevelopment Agency consider a budget modification.
- Upon review of available resources and projected projects, it was the Commission's recommendation to shift funds from Doris Butler and the Downtown Revitalization Program to compensate for funding gaps from the final costs of the Mack Park Improvements.

Commissioners concurred with the recommendations 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Bradshaw adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Vikki Dee Bradshaw
Chairman

Glyn Snyder
Secretary