

**MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance Community Services Commission convened in a regular adjourned session at 7:07 p.m. on Thursday, November 17, 2005 in the City Manager's Office Conference Room at Torrance City Hall.

**2. ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE**

Present: Commissioners Adams, Gilbert, Hazell, and Chairperson Orpe.

Absent: Commissioner Ning.

Also Present: Senior Recreation Supervisor Kelso.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Hazell moved to grant an excused absence to Commissioner Ning for the November 17, 2005 Commission meeting. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**3. FLAG SALUTE**

Chairperson Orpe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Adams, with a second by Commissioner Gilbert, moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Ning).

Chairperson Orpe introduced Torrance Youth Council members Nina Sawhney and Vickie Hsieh.

Community Development Department staff members Carolyn Chun, Greg Lodan, Kevin Joe, and Linda Cessna were welcomed to the meeting.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: OCTOBER 27, 2005**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Gilbert moved for the approval of the October 27, 2005 Torrance Community Services Commission meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hazell and passed by unanimous voice vote approval (absent Commissioner Ning).

**6. GENERAL PLAN UPDATE: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Senior Planning Associate Chun provided an overview of the purpose and goals of the General Plan and the General Plan update process that includes a Parks and Recreation Element. She reported that the General Plan, last updated in 1992, is a document that guides the physical development of the City and outlines land use, circulation, environmental, economic, and social goals of the community for the next 20

years. She stated that the City is currently collecting information and community input that will be used to formulate the goals and policies of the General Plan and that completion of the update process is anticipated by fall of 2006. She reported that State law requires that seven elements be included in the General Plan: land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open space, noise, and safety. She stated that Parks and Recreation, an optional element, currently contains the City's parks and recreation facilities and functions, including goals, objectives, policies, and programs.

Environmental Services Administrator Cessna stated that the current Parks and Recreation Element focuses mainly on parks and park facilities and that their goal was to expand the Element to include and address needs of recreational, cultural, community, libraries, and seniors. She requested that Commissioners review the current Parks and Recreation Element included in the material of record and offer any suggestions or comments that they feel will be helpful in the revision process. She advised that their ideas would be recorded and they would then be asked to prioritize the most important issues by placing dots next to them.

Commissioners and Youth Council members made suggestions and comments that were listed by Community Development staff.

Commissioner Hazell suggested that swimming pools and gymnasiums be built at Torrance Unified School District schools and the installation of a swimming pool in the Torrance parking lot area of El Camino College. He also suggested expanded use of El Camino College's recreational facilities by Torrance residents, expanded bike paths in the City, sailing classes at Torrance Beach, and utilization of existing sump areas.

Commissioner Gilbert stated that City libraries were in need of refurbishment and more advanced technology.

Commissioner Hazell noted that portable classrooms were taking up much play area at City schools and suggested better lighting at school sites. He also suggested that libraries and school classroom sites be used at night for recreational activities.

Chairperson Orpe suggested that bingo be legalized in the City to raise money for youth athletic programs and non-profit organizations.

Commissioner Adams recommended more public access to multi-purpose meeting/reception halls. He discussed the possibility of converting land to other uses in the future.

Commissioner Hazell suggested that the City provide incentives for donors or developers to provide recreational facilities and that the City annex El Camino College and Alondra Park.

A brief discussion centered on the need for an open seating stadium for soccer, conventions, and concerts as well as alternative land uses on Torrance Airport property.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Kelso suggested utilizing the Madrona Marsh for youth overnight camping.

Commissioner Adams suggested that the City gain control of public streets that are currently under the jurisdiction of Cal Trans.

Environmental Services Administrator Cessna distributed six dots to each Commissioner and they prioritized their most important ideas. She stated that the results would be forwarded to the General Plan consultants and that the draft element would be brought back to the Commission in spring 2006 for further review and an opportunity to provide additional input. She encouraged them to attend upcoming General Plan Update workshops.

**7. STANDING COMMITTEES**

**7A. HARVEST HEALTH FAIR**

Commissioner Hazell stated that the Harvest Health Fair was well organized and well attended.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Kelso commended Phil Duthie for his contributions to the fair and estimated that there were 2,500 attendees. He recommended that in the future the event start a half-hour earlier and end a half-hour earlier.

**8. GRANT PROGRAM FOR NON-PROFIT SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCIES**

**8A. MOTION TO FORWARD COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS TO CITY COUNCIL**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Hazell moved that the Commission's recommendations for the 2005-2006 grant funds be forwarded to the City Council with funds awarded to Being Alive – South Bay (\$3,000), Behavioral Health Services, Inc. (\$4,000), Community Helpline (\$2,000), Harbor Interfaith Services (\$1,000), H.E.L.P. (\$5,000), H.O.P.E. (\$3,000), National Council on Alcoholism (\$1,000), New Life Advocacy (\$3,000), RSVP of South Bay (\$4,000), Society to Aid Retarded, Inc. (\$2,700), South Bay Children's Health Center (\$2,500), Torrance Lomita Meals on Wheels (\$3,300), Torrance-South Bay YMCA (\$3,000), and Wellness Community – South Bay (\$2,500). The motion was seconded by Commissioners Adams and passed by voice vote (absent Commissioner Ning).

**9. YOUTH COUNCIL ACTIVITIES**

**9A. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

No report.

**9B. YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT**

Youth Council members reported on the Youth Council's rock climbing retreat at Adventureplex and upcoming events that include the Turkey Trot, Christmas Boutique, and Rose Float decoration.

**9C. COMMISSIONERS' ASSIGNMENTS**

None.

**10. HOLIDAY DINNER**

The holiday dinner was scheduled for December 16, 2005 at Andre's Restaurant, Torrance Hilton Hotel, at 6:30 p.m.

**11. ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**11A.** Commissioner Hazell stated that the El Camino College football team was ranked #1 in the country and #2 in the State and encouraged Commissioners to participate in the Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning.

**11B.** Commissioner Adams stated that he enjoyed participating in the El Camino College homecoming.

**11C.** Commissioner Gilbert stated that she saw former Commissioner Hachmeister, announced a light parade on December 3, 2005, and shared information about the Torrance Library Foundation.

**11D.** Chairperson Orpe wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving holiday.

**11E.** Senior Recreation Supervisor Kelso stated that he was going on a 17-day vacation in Hawaii.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 8:50 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Thursday, January 26, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the West Annex meeting room.

Approved as Amended January 26, 2006 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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