



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Adjourned Regular Meeting held
March 28, 2000

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:32 p.m. by Mayor Piercy in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Wayne Piercy
Vice Mayor Robert Wagner
Council Member Joseph Esquivel
Council Member Marc Titel
Council Member Larry Van Nostran

MONTE VERDE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Director of Recreation and Community Services, Dave Rodda, stated that what had started off eleven months ago as an idea to improve Monte Verde Park, had developed into a full-blown project. The City had received notice in June, 1999, of State grant funding and had assembled a design team which included Lisa Rapp, June Anderson, Joan Biegel and Al Williams. He introduced the landscape architect and project principal, Steve Lang, and the building architect, Ron Yeo, or Purkiss-Rose/RSI.

Mr. Lang displayed an aerial photograph showing the proposed layout of the park. He noted features such as the increased parking area designed for more efficient traffic flow, and a pathway that would wind throughout the park and include seating areas. He stated that they would make every practical attempt to disturb as few mature trees as possible and to save the 40-year-old wisteria vine at the park entrance. He confirmed for Council Members Esquivel and Titel that the entrance, although expanded, would be in the same location and that the park would still be fully fenced.

Council Member Esquivel asked about the usage of the DWP right-of-way adjacent to the park. Mr. Rodda responded by stating that the easement required a minimum amount of footage around the towers and that an objective of the project was to limit impacts on neighboring residents as much as possible.

Responding to a question from Council Member Titel, Mr. Lang stated that the hill presently used as an amphitheater would be terraced with seating walls to accommodate 75 to 100 persons.

MONTE VERDE PARK IMPROVEMENTS - Continued

Mayor Piercy questioned whether the material proposed for the pathway would be practical from a long-term maintenance standpoint. Mr. Lang advised that the decomposed granite material would be coated with a sealer that would cause it to set as hard as concrete.

Mr. Yeo displayed elevations for the proposed building showing the terrace, great hall, storage areas, restrooms and office area. He stated that a goal in the design was to keep the rustic, cabin feel of the existing building, but be more functional. The terrace area would provide a space where day campers could be outside and still protected from the sun. He noted that it did not contain a full kitchen, but provided ample staging area for groups bringing in food.

Responding to a question from Council Member Titel, Mr. Yeo stated the restroom facilities were designed for accessibility without having to have the rest of the building open. Mr. Rodda advised that the picnic area would be much more functional, with a sink and cooking area.

Assistant Director of Recreation and Community Services, Joan Biegel, reported on the plan for Summer Day Camp 2000. She stated that Day Camp would be temporarily relocated to Rynerson Park with a modular trailer being temporarily placed at the turn-around at the end of the parking lot. Day Camp would also be utilizing two of the three picnic shelters during the weekdays and staffing would be increased to assure security. She concluded by stating that a letter would be going out to the parents of last year's day campers regarding the temporary change in locations.

Public Works Director Lisa Rapp stated that the project was on a very tight time frame with the bidding process starting in the next week with the distribution of the notice to bidders and the award of bid scheduled for May 23rd. She advised that construction was scheduled to begin in June and take approximately eight months to complete.

IACOBONI LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS

The Director of Public Works stated that the Iacoboni Library was an exciting project, but had been a challenge to update as it had received little modernization since its construction in 1972. Project architects, Charles Walton Associates, Inc., had been working on the redesign.

June Anderson, Project Manager, stated that the project included no exterior work, but would include new finishes and upgraded furniture, a new circulation desk, refurbished restrooms with handicapped accessibility, electrical and communications accommodations added and a new space set aside for the Friends of the Lakewood Libraries. She displayed samples of the types of proposed materials to be used in the remodel and stated that the total cost of the project as proposed was \$800,000.

IACOBONI LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS - Continued

In response to a question from Council Member Titel, City Administrator Howard Chambers stated that staff was working with Supervisor Knabe to structure an appropriate budget for the project.

Ms. Rapp noted that the floor plan would be altered so that the children's section would be relocated closer to the front section of the building where the government section was currently located and other areas would be designed for better traffic flow. She noted that the County had determined that the existing air conditioning system was sufficient and since the roof was nearly new, the improvements would focus on the public areas of the library where library patrons would noticeably benefit. She concluded by stating that the project was scheduled for completion in February of 2001 and that due to the scope of the project, the Iacoboni Library would be closed, with its collection in storage, for four to five months.

The City Administrator noted that during the construction, the Nye Library would offer extended hours and a bookmobile would be made available.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Piercy adjourned the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC
City Clerk