

**BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION MEETING**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 24, 2011 – 4:30 P.M.**

**City Hall**  
**818 E. Edison Ave., Sunnyside, WA 98944**

**SPECIAL MEETING – 4:30 P.M.**

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Kari Zapata at 4:30 PM.

Present: Board Member Robert Sarmiento, Chairperson Kari Zapata, Board Member Dorothy Aiken

Absent: Board Member Pat Maynard, Vice Chair Doug Rogers

Staff Present: Shane Fisher

Others present: Danni Jo Kranz (student), Jennie McGhan (DSN), Council Member Farmer, Roy Anciso (citizen)

1. ACTIVE AGENDA:

- A. Discuss Parks & Recreation Director proposal for City Council review.

**Board Member Aiken wanted to know what Mr. Tom Byers' salary was before he left. Council Member Farmer stated he thought it was about \$80,000.**

**Chairperson Zapata asked the board if an interim basis is what the board wants. There was general round table discussion about if someone would come to work for 3 months or one year and how they would go about finding such a person to fill the position. Board Member Aiken thinks the city/board should talk to the local/regional colleges for possible post-graduate that would be interested in such a position.**

**Chairperson Zapata thinks adult sports influences the kids to play sports. She also talked about the director organizing quilting programs, maybe through the local churches. Board Member Sarmiento offered to organize the schedules for softball/baseball programs.**

**Chairperson Zapata asked Council Member Farmer his opinion on the Parks and Recreation Director. He said it would be tough to find right now with budget constraints. But he is all for a Parks and Recreation Director and programs. He said that someone with a degree might not be needed; we may just need to find a committed person to lead it.**

**Board Member Aiken passed around an article about the Grandview Parks and Recreation programs for everyone to see.**

**Chairperson Zapata moved to open the meeting to public comment, second by Board Member Sarmiento.**

**Roy Anciso stated the city needs a good people person to bring back the programs. It's going to take a lot of effort to bring back these programs. Council Member Farmer said if the city were to hire someone as a city employee, the city would have to pay all the benefits as well. He thought it might be better to hire a contract person instead. Board Member Aiken suggested someone call one of the universities to determine the pay range. Council Member Farmer said he was shocked when he learned of Tom Byers' salary. Chairperson Zapata said she might know a retired Marine that might want to do the job. She also asked Council Member Farmer if they would need to go through the regular hiring process and he replied, yes. Council Member Farmer suggested to the Board they should have all their info and plan of attack before they make their presentation to City Council.**

**Chairperson Zapata asked why the Board of Parks and Recreation has been bumped from meetings for so long. Council Member Farmer said he would find out why that happened.**

**Chairperson Zapata asked Board Member Sarmiento and Board Member Aiken if they thought an August meeting to present to City Council would be ok. They both agreed it would be a good idea.**

**Board Member Aiken thinks they should try to find sponsors for the sports uniforms to help offset the costs.**

**3. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

**Chairperson Zapata would like Board Members to write down pros/cons of the Boys and Girls Club. She also said that Mr. Gervasi is really pushing for the Boys and Girls Club. Board Member Aiken asked how much it costs to run a Boys and Girls Club to which Chairperson Zapata replied \$250,000. Board Member Aiken would like programs for all ages, not just kids, like would be for the Boys and Girls Club. Board Member Aiken asked how much the fees are for the Boys and Girls Club to which Chairperson Zapata replied \$25/year.**

**\*Citizen Roy Anciso asked why the city would pay \$250,000 for the Boys and Girls Club and then complain about paying \$80k for a Parks and Recreation Director. Chairperson Zapata asked Council Member Farmer how he feels about a Boys and Girls Club, where he stands with it, and how the Board of Parks and Recreation can push the issues. Council Member Farmer replied that Mr. Olson is the liaison to the City Council and City Manager and the board must utilize him.**

**Chairperson Zapata asked why the issues from the Board of Parks and Recreation don't make it to the City Council. Council Member Farmer said the staff facilitators are to help gather information for their use. He said he would check on the process.**

**4. ITEMS FROM STAFF MEMBERS**

**None**

**5. NEXT MEETING**

**Discuss items for discussion at the next Regular Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Committee.**

**Committee decided to hold the next Regular Meeting on Wednesday, July 20, 2011, at 4:30 PM at City Hall.**

**6. ADJOURN**

**With there being no further items to discuss, motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> received to adjourn the meeting; meeting was adjourned at 5:31 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Shane Fisher,  
Public Works Superintendent