

**Advisory Committee on Joint Use of Recreational Property
MINUTES**

Sinsheimer Park / SLO Swim Center

902 Southwood Drive

Tuesday, July 28, 2009 12:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Michael Parolini called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Committee Members Nancy Cochran, Stew Jenkins, Colin Jones, Stephen Cairns, Jesse Bilsten, and David Hensinger (representing PRC)

ABSENT:

STAFF: City of San Luis Obispo: Betsy Kiser, Director; Linda Fitzgerald, Recreation Manager; and Marti Reynolds, Supervising Administrative Assistant

1. Public Comment

Terry Conner, San Luis Obispo Expressed need for SLO Rugby to have a practice field within the City of San Luis Obispo for adult rugby. SLO Rugby meets mid-October through mid-May on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. and provides their own lighting. Most City fields are undergoing maintenance from December through April. Last year, the group lobbied with San Luis Coastal Unified School District (SLCUSD) for use of Old Pacheco's field but their request was declined as it was in use by Babe Ruth Baseball. Mr. Conner plans to approach the Board of Trustees requesting use of Old Pacheco field again this year and requests support from the Joint Use Committee (JUC) as well as the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC).

Chair Parolini requested Mr. Conner email information and schedule details. Requested item be added to the JUC agenda for August or September's meeting.

2. Consideration of Minutes

MOTION: (Parolini/Cochran) Approve the May 26, 2009 minutes as submitted.

Approved 7 Yes: 0 No: 0 absent

3. Priorities for Use of Sinsheimer Park Facilities

At the last meeting, the committee approved the Priorities for Use of Sinsheimer Park for the Baseball Stadium, Swim Center and Stockton Baseball Field. The committee tabled the Tennis Court Priorities until this meeting so that it could be held at the Swim Center and the local tennis community could be invited.

Recreation Manager Fitzgerald reviewed existing Priorities for Use and read a section that has not been amended since 2004. Explained that she received emails which prompted her to go back to the original recommendation(s) given on May 26.

The Chair opened the floor to public comment.

Carol Hall, San Luis Obispo, Central Coast Women's Tennis League (CCWTL), does not understand new conflict/change in use of courts. Permits were taken out as in past but were recently informed of liability insurance requirement that had not been part of previous agreement with CCWTL.

Karen Gray, San Luis Obispo, CCWTL, explained in 2003 number of teams grew and usage went up; therefore, met with other users and came up with agreement for use, namely that on Tuesdays the ladies would begin at 10 a.m. after the men. Does not believe there is an issue. Wishes to keep what was agreed upon in 2004 with the City or amend to allow to continue as agreed to at that time. The CCWTL also meets at 9 a.m. Wednesdays and only from September through May.

Roger Card, San Luis Obispo, part of Tuesday Men's Tennis group. Feels rules of 2004 agreement have not been enforced and that it only works because users go along with it. Supports the women's group comments. Does not want to have to request 8 to 10 a.m. with the City every week. The groups do not reserve due to their rapport with each other. Currently the men's group meets 8 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays, 8 to 9 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, and 8 to 10 a.m. Thursdays and Fridays. Would rather keep than have a straight 8 to 10 a.m. schedule.

Dodie Williams, San Luis Obispo, does not see problem with Tuesday schedule as both leagues have worked it out. Husband plays on Tuesdays and she supports their 8 to 10 a.m. Tuesday schedule.

Susan McKee, San Luis Obispo, her group of eight has played for 25 years and goes to Avila on Tuesdays (8:30 to 11 a.m.). Sinsheimer is only place where two courts are available in San Luis Obispo. Asked if the league could look to Arroyo Grande so as not to impact other the availability of the Sinsheimer courts. Does not believe their group should reserve due to cost.

Robert Williams, San Luis Obispo, feels JUC should endorse what groups want and have agreed to on own since they have made it work for many years so wished to leave things alone.

Karen Meertens, San Luis Obispo, has played on league for seven years and only turned away once. Offered the courts are usually not full on Wednesdays.

Lisa LaFail, San Luis Obispo, is in her third year on league. Likes the opportunity to compete without joining a country club. In season, there were six days they had to reserve. (Six dates were away games in clubs, five were on Wednesdays.)

Consensus from the general public comment is that whatever is decided, it be posted at the tennis courts.

End of Public Comment.

Committee Member Jenkins clarified fee is \$7.25 per court/hour (per organization) to reserve as opposed to drop-in play and inquired as to cost of maintaining courts and discussed leagues ability to reserve. Fitzgerald explained City does not get requests for drop in play. The courts were built for public by public with intent to try and keep two courts always open. Rarely are there six courts reserved. Reserved time lets others know when they are going to be there.

Committee Member Cochran asked for background on situation which Fitzgerald explained. Cochran queried logic of reinforcing what's been working as opposed to a new plan. Fitzgerald explained that if the restriction is amended to begin at 10am that the Wednesday permits would have to come back to the JUC for approval as their starting time is 9am. Having to bring back the requests each year would keep the JUC apprised of the tennis court scheduling.

Discussion by all Committee Members continued.

Rosters for CCWTL are due August 5 to be followed by schedules. Fitzgerald clarified that presenting a schedule establishes the group as a league.

Chair Parolini requested that the tennis court schedule be made available online; Fitzgerald indicated that information on court reservations is already available through the City's online facility reservation system and staff posts the schedule throughout the year.

MOTION: (Jenkins/Cairns) *Recommend amending the current policy in that any organization may reserve up to four courts upon a non-refundable payment of the current hourly fee per court up to 7 months in advance provided no reservations are before 8 a.m. or after 10 p.m. Policy does not obligate the City to provide lighting. Applications will be reviewed under the discretion of the JUC and those which conflict with priorities of use will be reviewed and determined through the JUC.*

Failed - 3 Yes: 4 No (Cochran, Jones, Parolini, Hensinger): 0 absent.

MOTION: (Jones/Jenkins) *Recommend adopting Alternative #1 in staff recommendations to amend the Priorities for Use of the Sinsheimer Tennis Courts to restrict the time for court reservations from 8 to 10 a.m. weekdays.*

Approved - 6 Yes: 1 No (Cairns): 0 absent

4. Facility Enhancement Grant Request

Recreation Manager Fitzgerald gave background information to Committee Members on the SLO Youth Sports Association annual request for facility enhancement funds to fulfill their obligation to the School District to provide site improvements in lieu of payment for facility use fees.

MOTION: *(Jones/Parolini)* Approve request from the San Luis Obispo Youth Sports Association for \$20,000 for their annual allocation to go towards improvements at Laguna Middle School.

Approved 7 Yes: 0 No: 0 absent

5. Staff Reports

Sinsheimer Park Swim Center Report –Perrin

Recreation Supervisor Robin Perrin gave an overview of the SLO Swim Center operations to committee members and reviewed the history of the pool in light of its recent 30th anniversary. Many statistics were illustrated, but of particular note was that user numbers are coming back to use the pool, up from a decrease in 2005 when Kennedy Club Fitness first opened. This is believed to be particularly due to the installation of the therapy pool at the Swim Center.

Committee Members discussed marketing the Therapy Pool but were assured that the number of uses implies no need to promote the facility further. Also discussed were extending hours but Perrin explained the need to consider increase in maintenance and staffing costs potentially outweighing revenue and that unfortunately there is no funding to risk those types of budgetary trials.

6. Additional Items

No additional items.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m. to the August 25, 2009 Joint Use Committee Meeting to be held at 12:00 p.m. at the Ludwick Community Center.