

## **RiverPark/ TownCenter Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes**

Monday, March 8, 2010@ Rio Vista Middle School

Call to order at 6:35 p.m.

### **RiverPark Board Members:**

Michelle Pyfrom, Chair – Present  
Kristen Looby, Vice Chair – Present  
Pamela Adams, Member at Large - Present  
Nissa Hales, Secretary/Treasurer– Absent  
Theo Schmeackle, Member at Large – Present

### **Guests:**

Michael Henderson, District Superintendent  
Dean Yamamoto, RiverPark Parks/Landscape Manager  
Patrick and Heather Behrens, EF Homestay

**RiverPark Residents:** Sign In Sheet On File

**Welcome:** Michelle Pyfrom at 6:35 PM

**Beat Officer's Report:** Senior Beat Officer Daniel Shrubbs, Beat 12 Coordinator, Oxnard Police Department

- Month of Feb 8 – March 7
- 385-8241 - Office; 385-7740 – Dispatcher
- 9 incidents – 8 of them located with the Serenade Apt complex
- Mostly related to GPS on dash, people leaving cars unlocked, leaving valuables in sight – DON'T DO IT!
- Other break-ins in the apartment complex involve people not locking or securing their garages – easily broken into and targeted per Officer Shrubbs
- 1 break in on Feather River – leaving valuables in car

### **Questions:**

- Follow up on traffic bollards? Trying to work out between city and developer who installs – progress is being made.
- No parking signs on Moss Landing – who's doing them? Working with city and developer to figure this out – suggested bringing back traffic engineer Jason Samonte for update.
- Chipped curbs due to construction – who fixes them? – City won't pay, streets are not turned over yet. Developer will have to address prior to city accepting streets as "completed".

Michael Henderson / Dean Yamamoto – RiverPark Parks and Facilities Update – DOG PARK DISCUSSION

### PowerPoint Presentation

- We pay special taxes that are not part of general fund (part of CFD) that keeps our parks looking nice
- Currently working with schools to complete baseball fields for the public to use at the schools
- ALL parks are PUBLIC – never meant for them to be PRIVATE at ANY TIME

### What can YOU do to keep the parks and fields SAFE?

- Report problems to PD right away
- Vandalism / Graffiti / Excess water where it should not be / damage to property / vehicles in the park – all examples of what should be reported

### Bathrooms at park and their use

- Currently only on weekends and holidays, however, it was suggested that we revisit the issue again as it has been a year since the last decision to close them during week to eliminate drug use / drug sales / graffiti / vandalism / prostitution in our public park restrooms

### Community Garden

- Up for review and would need to be part of HOA designated and owned plots ONLY!
- HOA is private property, and would be the only option for a community garden if the people / HOA choose to take on the responsibility

### Dog Park (General)

- Can be fined if no leash / no poop bag present – fine is approx \$80
- Would be two separate areas – one for big dogs and one for small dogs, in the same general park area
- Would need to have some source of water / potential for shade
- [www.apdt.com](http://www.apdt.com) is a good reference for dog parks

### Dog Park (RiverPark specific)

- Current proposed piece of land is a 6 acre retention basin near Lakeview Ct and Moss Landing, near “Meridian” and “The Landing” developments
- Questions were brought up by residents in regards to the possibilities of other future dog parks to be planned in Oxnard – answer given was YES, although nothing specific in the works
- How would the dog park be paid? – Answer given was through current special assessments already paid by RiverPark residents
- Unclear on the overall cost of a dog park at this time
- Liability insurance – is it needed to protect RiverPark residents from lawsuits should any dog attacks occur – answer given was that it would

fall on the individual owner of the specific dog, and that it would possibly be covered under a homeowner's policy

- If we have a dog park, can it stay just for RiverPark residents? – Answer given was absolutely NOT. It would have to be public dog park available for any and all to use. This means that it would attract visitors from all over Oxnard, Camarillo, Ventura, Thousand Oaks, etc.
- No plans for any additional parking for the dog park. This means that if there is a dog park, and word gets out among dog owners of the popularity of our park, there would be a heavy influx of traffic and additional congestion to the area
- Other parts of RiverPark were considered for the potential of a park, not considered due to size constraints
- If a dog park was constructed, and the residents of RiverPark decided that we no longer wanted it in our neighborhood, we were given NO GUARANTEE of the ability to request its removal, as it would be a PUBLIC park, despite it being inside of the RiverPark development

#### Dog Park – Summary

- Many residents were skeptical of the potential for cost, increased traffic, and the general influx of additional non-RiverPark residents taking over parts of our development
- It was suggested to possibly have an “informal” type dog park – nothing formalized and designated as a dog park, but something that is worked out and agreed upon solely between RESIDENTS of RIVERPARK. This idea was met with some agreement by many who were present, although the specifics of this idea were not explored during the meeting

#### Topics to be carried over to future meetings:

- Discussion of “informal” dog park between RiverPark residents only
- Option of keeping the park bathrooms open more than just the weekends and holidays
- These items will be brought up for vote by RiverPark residents at future meetings – and it will be noted on flyers that are passed across neighborhood when these votes would be taking place

#### EF Homestay – Hosting a foreign exchange student

- Runs July 1<sup>st</sup> to July 27<sup>th</sup>
- Students coming from the following countries: Finland, France, Italy, Russia, Spain and Sweden – 160 total, ages 14-17
- Each student goes through an English proficiency test to make sure they have some understanding of the language
- Host family can be provided biography and picture of students that are coming over to help select a student that would blend well with the host family/other children in household
- Sweden's students come in from 30th of June to the 26th of July
- Not paid – all volunteer

- All host family has to do is provide 3 meals a day, as easy as cereal, meat and cheese for a sandwich, and dinner with the family at night
- Students are gone M-F, approx 7:30 am – 5:30 pm, as they will be at a school in Thousand Oaks
- High probability of there being an organized bus stop at the Esplanade Plaza for host family to drop off and pick up from.
- Weekends are meant to be fun with the host family, experience American culture
- Website for more info is: <http://www.efhomestay.org/>

Adjourn @ 8:20 p.m.