

Mayor
Lois Wynne
Mayor Pro Tem
Jeff Chedester
Council Members
Ray Madrigal
Eddie Neal
William Siegel



**Parks & Recreation
Department**

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Parks and Recreation Commission

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

7:00 p.m. - Council Chambers - 429 'C' Street

Regular Session

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Public Comment and Inquiries**
- 3. Minutes – January 13, 2015**
- 4. Pal Program – Darrell Smith**
- 5. Foot Golf – Joe Simonson**
- 6. Discussion:**
 - Ethics Training**
 - Upcoming Events**
- 7. Commissioners request for information**
- 8. Adjourn**

Notice of ADA Compliance: If you or anyone in your party needs reasonable accommodation to attend, or participate in any Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting, please contact the Human Resources Office at City Hall 24 hours prior to the meeting. They may be reached by calling 924-6700 or by mail to 119 Fox Street, Lemoore, CA 93245

Any writing or documents provided to a majority of the Parks and Recreation Commissioners regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the City Clerks Counter at City Hall located at 119 Fox Street, Lemoore, CA during normal business hours. In addition, such documents will be posted on the City's website at www.lemoore.com

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

I, Sheila Taylor, Parks & Recreation Department Secretary of the City of Lemoore, do hereby declare that the foregoing agenda for the Lemoore Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting of Tuesday, February 10, 2015 was posted on the outside bulletin board located at City Hall, 119 Fox Street on Friday, February 6, 2015 at 5:00 pm.

Sheila Taylor, Secretary

Lemoore Parks & Recreation Commission

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers

Regular Session

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Sandoval called the Session to order at 7:05 pm

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Mariah Ramirez, Brandy Laws, Vernon Sandall, Ernie Smith and Recreation Director Joe Simonson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of the minutes for October 14, 2014.

INTRODUCTION:

Jerome Chappelle and Juan Cuevas were introduced to the Commission as the new Recreation Coordinators.

UPDATES:

Framework Racing updated the Commission on the progress of the BMX track.

DISCUSSION:

Commissions were informed about Foot Golf by Director Simonson and discussed the possibility of adding this feature to the Lemoore Golf Course.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION:

Commissioner Sandall inquired about the reopening of the Dog Park.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm

A Full audio recording is available on request

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**Police
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Staff Report

ITEM NO. _____

To: Lemoore Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Darrell Smith, Chief of Police
Date: February 4, 2015 **Meeting Date:** February 10, 2015
Subject: Police Athletics League Overview (PAL)

Discussion:

The Police Athletic League (PAL) is a juvenile crime prevention program that is dedicated to providing educational and athletic activities for all children 8 to 18 years old. We would primarily service high-risk kids and engage the youth in constructive activities. We surround the youth by the positive influences of responsible adults and police officers who dedicate their time as positive role models.

The Police Athletic League is a non-profit public benefit corporation. Its mission is to provide a safe environment for youth to reach their full potential, through partnerships with police and community; utilizing athletics and other programs which are geared to improving the quality of life of its participants. Thus, promoting confidence, self-esteem, civic engagement, academic achievement, and social principles that will aide them in becoming productive members of society.

The Police Athletic/Activities League (PAL) is a nationally recognized youth-oriented crime prevention program that places police officers, community members, and kids together in a controlled and supportive environment. Originally, PAL was created in 1917 by New York City Police Lt. Ed Flynn, who recognized that the youth hanging out on the street corners were craving structure and guidance.

Developmental issues associated with a lack of maturity can contribute to youth violence. Young people seldom understand the full impact of their behavior. This lack of awareness of consequences coupled with a tendency to respond with violence can be a lethal combination. Prevention strategies that help youth to understand the impact of and take responsibility for their actions and that demonstrate ways to handle problems without resorting to violence can be highly effective. Such programs should be available to high-risk youth between the fifth and sixth grades, when violence-prone attitudes appear to increase and become entrenched. With PAL, we would target these at risk kids from fifth to eighth grades.

Creating partnership with our stakeholders, Police and the Recreation Department personnel have the desire and commitment to ensure PAL will be a successful program. By utilizing our current recreational facilities, we have the benefit of top notch services and program offerings on day one of implementation. Parks and Recreation Director Joe Simonson and I have worked together to determine where the program would best fit within our current facilities. We met with KCAO Director Jeff Garner and have an agreement in place to acquire some building site space for our program.

Some of the challenges we must overcome are the expenses associated with construction costs to get the building space up to speed for the program. One option that may present itself is to construct a larger facility for Lemoore Crossfit, as they have outgrown their current facility and are looking to relocate

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elsewhere. If a site is constructed within the recreation facility to accommodate their needs, PAL could acquire the current Crossfit site which will be move-in ready on day one. Estimated costs for this plan would be \$60,000.00. According to Joe Simonson, this cost estimate would be the same whether the site is built for PAL or Lemoore Crossfit. The advantage of this option is that Lemoore Crossfit currently provides a steady revenue source for the General Fund. If they relocate, the City loses this revenue source.

Fund raising opportunities may present themselves to raise money to go towards the construction costs associated with this proposal. It appears we may be the recipient of a grant over the next three years that will contribute \$6,800.00 per year to our PAL Program which can be used for operational expenses.

I want to take a moment to share a real life story with you concerning one of our current police officer Alberto Avelar. Albert gave me permission to share his story. Albert grew up in Tulare California. His older brothers and cousins were active gang members. Albert was hanging around his brothers and cousins, exposed daily to the gang culture. One day in particular, they were hanging out at a local pizza parlor when some of the gang members started to break windows for no apparent reason. The Police responded and Albert was caught running from the scene. The police officer had past dealings with Albert's brothers and believed Albert required intervention as he was at the impressionable age of 12 years old. The officer gave Albert a ride home and told him he was heading down the wrong path. The officer told Albert that he was willing to take a chance on him, believing that Albert was a good kid, just hanging out with the wrong crowd. The police officer told Albert that he wanted to make a deal with him. The deal was for Albert to participate in the Explore program for one year, and if he liked it, he would have the opportunity to stay involved in the program. The police officer even offered to purchase the uniform for Albert. According to Albert, this intervention changed his life. Albert went on to becoming a police officer with the Lemoore Police Department and is currently assigned to the Detective Unit. This is just one example of how we as police officers have the ability to change lives by interaction with at risk kids.

IN SUMMARY

General Colin Powell, former Secretary of State, who also once served as the Chairman of America's Promise Alliance, says that children can be angels or devils, "depending on the kind of nurturing they receive from others. They can grow into responsible and contributing members of society, or they can become its dependents, predators and outcasts. The whole society has a stake in their destiny and a duty to help them grow up strong and confident." Let your mentoring program be a tool to give youths an ongoing relationship with a caring adult, and a healthy start for a healthy future.

About PAL

The Police Athletic League is built on the idea that a young person who respects police officers is much more likely to respect the laws they enforce. The concept began with sports programs, but today we propose to do much more. Afterschool programs, academic assistance, mentoring relationships, and leadership development programs are just some of the many opportunities, in addition to sports teams, that PAL will provide for children in our community.

Proven success

Statistics show that the hours from 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. on school days are prime time for youth to commit crimes and experiment with drugs, alcohol and sex. Combine that with the fact that across the United States 15.1 million children take care of themselves after school, and you have a formula for high juvenile crime — a formula that plays out in community after community, including Lemoore.

PAL will aid in helping to break the cycle by providing a safe place for underserved children to go after school. Engaging at-risk youth during these critically important hours contributes to a significant reduction in juvenile crime.

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PAL's unique approach

PAL is unique among youth development programs because it builds respect, trust and friendship between youth and law enforcement officers in addition to providing activities and programs for underserved children. By offering young people an opportunity to interact with and develop strong positive attitudes toward police officers, PAL is helping to build law-abiding citizens who will contribute to our community throughout their lives.

Our Mission

The Police Athletic League of Lemoore is determined to enrich the lives of children by creating positive relationships between law enforcement officers and the youth of our community through educational, athletic and leadership programs.

PROGRAM IMPLIMENTATION/DETAILS

In order to address a number of concerns pertaining to PAL, and specifically as it relates to the Recreation Complex and existing programs offered by the City I share with you my vision for the program:

- PAL will not interfere with existing program offerings by the City.
- Facility use other than the designated site for PAL, will be coordinated through the Recreation Department and scheduled around the existing programs.
- Police Officer presence is required for all PAL related functions.
- Normally, Police Officers will not be in uniform but occasionally uniform personnel will be present.
- After careful consideration and thought, the initial designated Athletic Program offering will be a Wrestling Program.
- The initial designated Educational Program offering will be an After School Tutoring Program for both boys and girls.
- All PAL participants and parents will be subject to a strict Code of Conduct Policy in order to remain in good standing with the PAL Program.

Attachments: http://nationalpal.org/content/chapter_start

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Staff Report

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To: Lemoore Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Joe Simonson
Date: February 10, 2015
Subject: FootGolf

Discussion:

In November of 2014 the recreation staff discussed the possibility of bringing Foot-Golf to Lemoore Municipal Golf Course. At the Lemoore City Council study session after some discussion it was recommended by council to first make this presentation to the Recreation commission, for the commission's recommendation for Council. This meeting as well as the November meeting were posted at the Lemoore Golf Course for more than 30 days asking for any thoughts or concerns of the golfing community to be heard tonight.

The Recreation Department is exploring new ways to generate revenue at the Lemoore Golf Course. One such avenue for increasing revenue would be to make the golf course a facility that also accommodates FootGolf and allows us to take advantage of a new demographic. FootGolf is a combination of two very popular sports. It combines soccer with golf. Instead of using a club to strike a golf ball towards the hole you use your leg, and strike a regulation soccer ball towards a designated FootGolf hole. FootGolfers will have a separate, 21 inch hole for their ball. FootGolf hole distances are shorter than regular golf course holes, and because of this it can fit 18 of its holes on 9 regulation golf holes or less. For our purposes we could fit the entire FootGolf course on the back nine of our current course.

FootGolf is one of the fastest growing sports in the United States. It was first introduced to the states in 2011 and already has just under 300 courses nationwide, with 48 courses in California alone. There are 3 FootGolf courses within a 90 mile radius, with one more on the way in Lindsay. Valley Oaks Golf Course began FootGolf in June of 2014 and has already generated \$10,000 in revenue not including food and beverage.

Staff would propose to start Foot-Golf at 12 noon on weekends and 11am on weekdays.

Budget Impact:

\$3,200 for cups and flags would come from the Golf Course Capital Improvement Fund which currently has a balance of \$72,471.00.

Recommendation:

For the Recreation Commission to recommend to Council at the Tuesday March 3rd meeting to include Foot-Golf at Lemoore Municipal Golf Course.