ATTACHMENT 7

Commissioner Leece asked staff to look into the legality of keeping school campuses closed each day until the program is over to make it safer.

Ms. Raheb, responding to Commissioner Leece's comments and questions, indicated that staff will look at the law as well as public property being closed for a specific youth, since that would also close access for other avenues of the community to participate on the school grounds.

In response to questions and comments from Chair Feldman and Vice Chair Harris, Mr. Brunette indicated that when a parent or guardian wants to sign up their child in the program, they are given a waiver and release form. He indicated that parents are also given a flyer describing what the program is, a traditional drop in program, as well as a letter explaining what the program is in detail. Mr. Brunette indicated that staff communicates directly with the school office staff as well as the principals about the program.

Responding to a question from Chair Feldman, Mr. Brunette indicated that the program served 1500 kids this past school year.

Mr. Brunette indicated that every Playground program has a cell phone that staff has access to in the event of emergencies, or to report inappropriate behavior or illegal activity taking place on a school or in a park.

Commissioner Fisler indicated that Paularino Park has some tough characters, and that he had been accosted there. He said that he had seen the bullet holes and the graffiti in the area.

Responding to a question and comments from Commissioner Fisler, Mr. Brunette indicated that in the 4 years that he had supervised the program, there had not been any incidents where staff had to call the police, park rangers or field ambassadors in order to come out and assist with situations on the playground program.

Commissioner de Arakal noted that if the Commission is having staff look at the legality of closing Paularino School or any other campus during the after school program, they should also give this Commission an idea on how that is going to be enforced and whether it is reasonable or not.

Responding to a question from Chair Feldman, Mr. Brunette indicated that staff does not restrict anybody from being at a location where any of the City programs take place. He indicated that staff does restrict persons who are not signed up for a program or who have not paid to participate in a particular program.

MOTION

A motion was made by Vice Chair Harris, seconded by Chair Feldman, and carried 5 to 0, to have staff look into the legality of closing school campuses during the After School Playgrounds Program hours of operation, citing the safety of the participants, how staff would enforce closed campuses, and to report back to this Commission with the findings.

RECREATIONAL USAGE OF PAULARINO PARK

Mr. Steve Hayman made the presentation.

Responding to a question from Chair Feldman, Mr. Hayman indicated that section 12-45(b) of the Municipal Code refers specifically to golf because of the nature of that kind of projectile and where a

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gon that can go. He indicated it is a fairly common posting in parks. Mr. Hayman indicated that staff has never signed any park with 12-45(a) due to the lack of complaints or concerns at a particular park.

Responding to a question and comments from Commissioner Fisler, Mr. Hayman clarified why a group numbering 10 or more requires a permit as stated in Sec. 12.53. "Permits", of the Municipal Code.

Martin Millard, 2973 Harbor Blvd., showed a picture of the park, indicating it is a very small park. He indicated that the problem they are having now is groups of 8-10 to 15-20 people going out there every night, setting up cones, taking over the park and playing soccer, in and among the trees. He said that his wife's car was hit by a soccer ball while she was going down Paularino Street, and that about a month ago he had to slam on his brakes and almost hit a guy chasing a soccer ball into Paularino Street. Mr. Millard indicated that this type of activity should be stopped and suggested the following wording for CMMC 12-45 "No playing of games such as baseball, football, hockey, soccer, and the like". He also reported graffiti carved into trees, human waste in the slides and the smell of urine in the tot lot. He indicated that this was not a request for a restroom in the park, though.

Trudy Olig, 3080 Johnson, Costa Mesa, indicated that parks should be safe but also used. She indicated that she would love to see more harmony in the community and would like the park be used to the fullest by everybody.

Greta Anderson, 3080 Madison Avenue, indicated she had no problem with the kids playing soccer in the park. She suggested asking them to move deeper into the park to play, since the spot they use right now is right along the street, which is a dangerous area.

Responding to a question from Chair Feldman, Mr. Morris indicated that the rototilling of the sand is done every six months, and that the maintenance personnel look at all of the play equipment and apparatus and the sand area, at all parks first thing every morning.

Ms. Trudy Olig, 3080 Johnson, asked if her homeowners association could volunteer to be Community Ambassadors for this park.

Responding to a question from Chair Feldman, Ms. Raheb indicated that the Field Ambassadors main role is that of education, making sure everyone is getting along. She indicated that Field Ambassadors are scheduled after school hours, typically 4:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

Mr. Hayman noted that the Field Ambassador's phone number is 714 514-1110 and emphasized that the Field Ambassadors program is truly not meant to take care of anything that is going on in the community. He noted that they are part-time employees, and that staff initiated this program as a way to assist the City's Park Ranger program and add a degree of education and facilitation to that program

In response to Ms. Olig comments, Ms. Rehab indicated that she would be happy to meet with the homeowners association and share some of the educational techniques that Field Ambassadors use.

MOTION

A motion was made by Commissioner de Arakal, seconded by Chair Feldman, and carried 5 to 0, to have staff get together with the Park's neighbors regarding volunteering as Community Park Ambassadors. Staff to report back to the Commission on progress made.