

Town of Yucca Valley
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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMMUNITY INVITED TO SUBMIT NAMES FOR NEW YV PARK

Yucca Valley's newest park has yet to receive its official name, but that should change in the near future. In its first twenty years of managing the community's business, the local government has not had to deal with naming a new park, but a park-naming policy was recently approved by the Town Council and the Town is accepting suggestions from the public. The new park has been referred to as South Side Park because of its location, but no official name has been assigned to it.

The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission worked with Town staff and finalized a policy recommendation earlier this month. The approach was to sift through policies used in other communities and compile those elements that make sense for Yucca Valley. The Town Council approved the policy recommendation at their September 18th meeting and naming of all new Town parks are now subject to the criteria and procedures specified in the approved policy.

The policy specifies certain criteria for the selection of park names: a) the location in the town; or the location within a subdivision tract; or the fronting on a street; or the presence of, or proximity to, a natural or geological feature; or the cultural or historical significance to the community.

Parks and recreation facilities may be named after a person, family or organization when: the person, family or organization has been primarily instrumental in obtaining or donating funds or land for the facility; or the person, family or organization has donated the land or funds to purchase the land, and desires to have the facility named in their honor; or a person

has been deceased for more than two years and the Town Council believes the person's contributions to the Town's parks and recreation program were of such a value that the person's memory should be honored by the naming of the facility.

To submit a suggestion for the name of the new park, residents are invited to pick up a proposal form at Town Hall or the Community Services Office, or to download an application form from the Town's website, www.yucca-valley.org. Completed forms must be dropped off, mailed or e-mailed no later than 5:00 pm Thursday, November 1, 2012. Name proposals will be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission on November 13th, and a recommendation will be forwarded to the Town Council.

The new park is located on the northwest corner of Joshua Lane and Warren Vista Avenue. It features a large playground, picnic area, dog park, restrooms and parking lot. The park will be open to the public beginning with a grand opening on Saturday, October 13th.

The seven parks that are currently in the Town's inventory were named while under the authority of San Bernardino County and managed by the Yucca Valley Parks and Recreation District. The district was dissolved shortly after the Town incorporated, and the parks became the responsibility of the new local government.

Two of the community's parks have been re-named since the Town incorporated. Hi-Desert Park, a 5-acre facility on the northeast corner of Onaga Trail and Hopi Trail, was changed to Jacobs Park in honor of an early Parks and Recreation commissioner who was instrumental in the development and upkeep of the facility. Triangle Park, a small, passive park on State Route 62 at Apache Trail was re-named Remembrance Park following the 9-11 national tragedy.

Other parks in the Town's inventory are Paradise Park at Indio Avenue and Barron Drive, Machris Park on Santa Barbara Drive in Sky Harbor, North Park and South Park which are mostly natural areas of BLM land the park facilities at the Community Center at SR 62 and Dumosa Avenue. The Little League park and the athletic field adjacent to the Boys and Girls Club are privately owned and operated, although many of the activities and events are open to the public. The 13-acre Brehm Sports Park under construction at Palm Avenue and Little League Drive is also a private development, but could be brought into the Town's park system upon its completion.

For more information regarding the naming of the new park, contact the Community Services Office at 760-369-7211.

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