

City of Pomona

505 S. Garey Ave
Pomona, CA 91766

Regular Meeting Minutes

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION



*Vice Chair Julian Ibañez Mandujano
Commissioner Norma Quinones
Commissioner Alexandra Oliva
Commissioner Anthony Guzman
Commissioner Sonia Ballardo*

VISION STATEMENT

*Pomona will be recognized as a vibrant, safe, beautiful
community that is a fun and exciting destination and the home of
arts and artists, students and scholars, business and industry.*

Thursday, February 20, 2025

6:00 PM

Ralph Welch Park Community Center

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Ibañez-Mandujano called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Ibañez-Mandujano led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Present: Vice Chair Julian Ibañez-Mandujano
Commissioner Norma Quinones
Commissioner Alexandra Oliva
Commissioner Anthony Guzman
Commissioner Sonia Ballardo

STAFF PRESENT

Mike Osoff, Community Services Manager
Danny Whaley, Parks and Facilities Manager
Monica Belloso, Management Analyst

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Alexander Romero, a high school senior at Ipoly high school spoke about his efforts to create a petition to advocate for more green space for community gardens, parks, and vacant lots. As part of a research school project, he hopes to present his findings at a city, county, or statewide level.

V. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

Commissioner Quinones stated there is a community meeting this evening hosted by the Water Department, and said she would have attended it had it not conflicted with the commission meeting. She asked if there was a calendar of city events and meetings. Staff responded that the city manager's weekly report has a calendar of events and meetings. She said she did a walk-through of Ganesha Park with Councilmember Martin, and they would like to host a cleanup event on April 26th.

Commissioner Oliva stated she used the Pomona Go app and her experience was positive, and she was very pleased with the prompt response time. She encouraged her neighbors to download the app to report issues.

Commissioner Ballardo said she uses the Pomona Go app often and asked staff if the HEART Team can be connected directly to the app.

Vice Chair Ibanez-Mandujano commended the ribbon-cutting event for MLK Park and said he likes the color of the brown rubber surfacing for this park, and likes how each park has a different color theme and vibe. The Latino/Latina Roundtable is planning their annual Cesar Chavez pilgrimage for April 19th or 26th. He said everything is looking good, including the restrooms at Tony Cerda Park with less tagging, and he is happy to see the progress at the parks.

Commissioner Guzman shared that Ultimate Frisbee is going well with 44 signups, about 32 paid registrants, and about 25 players showing up each wee for play.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

It was recommended that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the meeting minutes of January 16, 2025. **MOTION BY CHAIR IBANEZ-MANDUJANO, SECOND BY VICE CHAIR OLIVA, CARRIED 5-0.**

VII. DISCUSSION CALENDAR

1. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Management Analyst Monica Belloso led the item and informed that the bylaws state that the selection of Chair and Vice Chair should be conducted in February and provided an overview of the responsibilities and duties of each role. Commissioner Oliva nominated Vice Chair Ibanez-Mandujano for the role of Chair, in which he accepted the nomination. As there were no other Commissioners that expressed interest in serving as Chair, Ms. Belloso took a vote of the Commission, and the selection passed 5-0. Chair Ibanez-Mandujano nominated Commissioner Oliva, in which she accepted the nomination. As no other Commissioners expressed interest in serving as Vice Chair, Ms. Belloso took a vote of the Commission, and the selection passed 5-0.

VIII. STAFF COMMUNICATION

- Staff responded to a comment made during commissioner communication about the HEART Team requests being compatible with the Pomona Go app. Staff said they would look into that.
- The installation of the first ninja-style obstacle course playground at Ralph Welch Park is completed. At Ted Greene Park, staff completed a walk-through for the new playground and its opening day will be March 4th. Jaycee Park will have an opening day soon, and Washington Park project just broke ground, and Country Crossings Park has started.
- Staff had a construction meeting for the restroom replacement project, which includes Washington, Tony Cerda, Kennedy, Palomares, and MLK. Staff will be presenting an item to City Council on March 3rd for consideration of the Ted Greene restrooms. The project is expected to break ground either May 1st or June 1st.
- A kick-off meeting for the TCC grant was yesterday, and Mr. Whaley stated he is involved with the planting of 1,000 trees over five years.
- The Youth Commission is accepting applications for the 2025-2027 term. Applications are online on the City website, and the deadline is April 30, 2025. Staff will be hosting an info night on Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 6pm at Council Chambers.
- Staff is preparing several grant applications for funding through the offices of Congresswoman Norma Torres. Projects include the Ted Greene restroom/concession building, MLK basketball courts, pickleball courts at Washington Park, and a skate space, basketball court, and playground at Montvue Park.
- The Egg Hunt is coming up and will be held at four parks concurrently at Kennedy, Palomares, Washington, and Westmont. For the first time, there will be a teen egg hunt.
- Ultimate Frisbee is going really well and is encouraging staff to offer more recreational sports opportunities for adults.
- Summer planning is underway with Movies at the Park and Concerts in the Park. Due to limited funding, there will be one concert this summer and it will be at the Ganesha Park bandshell because of the construction at Civic Center Plaza. The concert will be on Saturday, June 28th and movies will be on the next six Saturdays.
- Staff is currently working on year-end budgets and found funding that can be used to resurface a few sports courts.
- A partnership with the City and School of Arts and Enterprise will be offering free dance classes for After School Recreation participants.
- Next fiscal year will be challenging due to the passing of Measure Y. The City will not its reserves by 2030, if no changes or cuts are made.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ibanez-Mandujano adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m. to the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, March, 20, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Ganesha Park Community Center, 1575 N. White Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

Monica Belloso
Management Analyst

Chair/Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation
Commission