

Regular Meeting Minutes

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION



*Chair Fabian Pavon
Vice-Chair Cynthia Marino
Commissioner Juanita Preciado-Becerra
Commissioner Noel Mendez-Zamudio
Commissioner Vince Carpio
Commissioner Donna Otero
Commissioner Ion Puschila*

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, July 15, 2021

6:00 PM

Teleconference via Zoom

6:00 P.M. Teleconference Meeting via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Pavon called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Pavon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Fabian Pavon (District 2)
Vice Chair Cynthia Marino (District 5)
Commissioner Noel Mendez-Zamudio (District 3)
Commissioner Vince Carpio (District 4)
Commissioner Donna Otero (District 6)
Commissioner Ion Puschila (Mayoral Appointee)

Absent: Commissioner Juanita Preciado-Becerra (District 1)

Staff Present: Benita DeFrank, Neighborhood Services Director
Mike Osoff, Community Services Manager
Danny Whaley, Parks and Facilities Manager
Monica Belloso, Technical Specialist II

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Staff pulled item due to incorrect meeting minutes.

MOTION BY CHAIR PAVON, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CARPIO, CARRIED 6-0, to move the order of items to Public Comment, Unfinished or New Business, and Commissioner Communication.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Staff read an e-mail comment submitted by Humberto Vega, about local skate parks having gone ignored for over a decade and that the last adjustment was privately funded.

Staff read an e-mail comment submitted by Martin Perez asking about Hamilton Park updates.

Edward Samaniego spoke about his petition to rename Hamilton Park to Dr. Henry Ramirez Park.

UNFINISHED OR NEW BUSINESS

Pomona Parks Playground Surfacing

Parks and Facilities Manager Danny Whaley presented an overview of current park playground surfaces, options/types of playground surfacing, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance surfaces, costs, and a proposed plan to implement rubberized surfacing in the future.

Public Comment

Resident Martin Perez asked how old the deteriorated playground surfaces that were presented are. He agreed with staff's budget recommendation for replacing playground surfacing and asked if Measure A allocations could be used to update deteriorating playground surfacing.

Commissioner Otero stated she visited Ted Greene Park and spoke to moms that said that people hide things in the holes of rubberized surfacing. She stated she likes how the rubberized surfacing feels and supports moving toward this option for playgrounds.

Commissioner Carpio stated he supports staff's budget proposal for replacing playground surfacing to rubberized surfacing.

Commissioner Puschila asked if developer fees could be used as revenue for parks.

MOTION BY CHAIR PAVON, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER PUSCHILA, CARRIED 4-2, a recommendation to City Council to continue seeking revenue to improve park playgrounds.

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

Commissioner Otero stated she attended Coffee with a Cop, visited her parks, and inspected little libraries. She noted that some of the doors are having issues with staying closed.

Commissioner Carpio said that some of the lights at Jaycee Park are not working.

Commissioner Puschila spoke on the need for drought-friendly trees and landscaping.

Chair Pavon stated the Latino/Latina Roundtable is hosting free Danza Azteca classes at Tony Cerda Park, every Thursday in July, at 7:00 p.m. and every Thursday in August at 7:00 p.m. at Cesar Chavez Park. The free community library at Powers Park will be installed soon. The free community library at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park was vandalized and the steward is making repairs. Chair Pavon stated a resident said that transients at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park were throwing trash and throwing feces around the restroom. He asked staff if they could do something about that. He stated that he and Commissioner Preciado-Becerra are organizing a cleanup/beatification day at Cesar Chavez Park on Saturday, July 31, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Community Services Manager Mike Osoff reported the following updates:

- The summer recreation guide was mailed out to residents.
- The Community Services Instagram account now has 583 followers.
- The weeklong, overnight camp in Big Bear, provided by Community Services and Camp Oakes, is going well.
- City pools are opened.
- Interviews for the Recreation Coordinators positions begin next week.
- A class proposal form for in-person and virtual classes are now being accepted.
- Mt. SAC is finalizing a class schedule.
- The City's Heroes of Pomona Speech Contest concluded. Funds awarded by Tri-City Mental Health Services assisted with awarding nearly \$2,000 in scholarships.
- A two-week writing camp, provided by Inland Area Writing Project through UC Riverside also concluded.

Neighborhood Services Director Benita DeFrank reported that the City was awarded \$1.1M in funding from the State for a Civic Center Plaza improvement project; plans will brought to the Commission for input.

MATTERS INITIATED BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Pavon adjourned the meeting at 7:21 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

Mike Osoff
Community Services Manager

Fabian Pavon
Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission