

MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

**CITY OF POMONA
PALOMARES PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
499 EAST ARROW HIGHWAY
POMONA, CA 91767**

**THURSDAY, JANUARAY 17, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ayala called the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE

Chair Ayala led the flag salute.

III. ROLL CALL

Chair Ayala asked staff to call roll.

Present:

Ion Puschila,	Mayoral Appointee
Melissa Ayala, Chair	District 1
Noel Mendez, Commissioner	District 3
Jeff Sanchez, Commissioner	District 4
Cynthia Marino, Commissioner	District 5
Remington Cordova, Commissioner	District 6

Absent:

Fabian Pavon, Commissioner	District 2
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Staff:

Meg McWade, Public Works Director
Michael Sledd, Parks and Facilities Manager
Donyielle Holley, Homeless Programs Supervisor
Pomona Police Lieutenant Anthony Catanese
Monica Belloso, Technical Specialist II

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Ayala presented the draft minutes of November 15, 2018. **Chair Ayala made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Puschila and carried by a vote of 6-0-1-0.**

V. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

Commissioner Puschila stated that the park dwelling tax should be amended; hoped everyone had a nice holiday break and looks forward to a new year.

Chair Ayala wished everyone a happy new year; is looking forward to working with the new Commissioners; and expressed excitement regarding a grant opportunity for Hamilton Park.

Commissioner Mendez stated he is honored to be a part of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Sanchez wished everyone a happy new year and welcomed the new Commissioners. He sees many positive changes in the parks and looks forward to seeing more. He congratulated Public Works Meg McWade and thanked her for her service and said she will be missed.

Commissioner Marino introduced herself and stated she was appointed by Councilmember Lustro.

Vice Chair Cordova thanked Public Works Director Meg McWade for all her work in the City.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – NON AGENDA ITEMS

Garey High School student Michael Tran Sanchez recommended fixing and beautifying local parks through art on basketball courts. Chair Ayala proposed Mr. Tran to present this to the Cultural Arts Commission for approval of artwork and funding. Public Works Director recommended the Parks and Recreation Commission to place this as a discussion item to talk about the selection and conditions of potential sports courts, and partnering with the Cultural Arts Commission to request funding for a sports court renovation. **Commissioner Puschila made a motion to discuss art on sports courts, seconded by Commissioner Sanchez, carried by a 6-0-1-0 vote.**

Chris H. Toovey, representative of the dA Center for the Arts and committee member of the Cultural Arts Commission asked for assistance and clarification of the policies and procedures for art in public places to access funds for art programing in parks. **Commissioner Puschila made a motion for the Parks and Recreation commission and the Cultural Arts Commission to meet to discuss murals and art in parks, seconded by Chair Ayala and carried by a 6-0-1-0 vote.**

VII. OLD AND/OR NEW BUSINESS

Chair Ayala made a motion to hear presentations first and then conduct the selection of Chair and Vice Chair, seconded by Commissioner Puschila, and carried by a 6-0-1-0 vote.

1. HEART Program

Pomona Police Lieutenant Anthony Catanese presented an overview of the HEART program and its efforts to handling and managing issues related to homelessness in the City. The HEART program focuses on providing information, tools and resources to help homeless individuals get off the streets. The program is a partnership between the Pomona Police Department and the City's Public Works Department. The police department serves as a point of contact for citizen inquiries, complaints, warnings, arrests and property preservation and Public Works responds to and clears out encampments. The HEART program also includes a mental health evaluation team. Lieutenant Catanese discussed the opening of the shelter and stated officers will be stationed there to provide mentorship and positive support.

2. City of Pomona's Hope for Home Service Center

Homeless Programs Supervisor Donyielle Holley gave a presentation on Hope for Home Service Center and spoke on its efforts to address homelessness in the City. Ms. Holley provided photos of the shelter, discussed building phases, provided data and explained the shelter's coordinated entrance and assessment system. Ms. Holley talked about the two programs offered at the shelter; the Hope for Home Crisis bed program and the winter shelter. Ms. Holley stated the shelter offers variety of services to be accessed in one location serving as a bridge to permanent housing.

Ms. Holley answered Commissioners' questions regarding opening day, identification requirements, status of the phases, and if families are allowed at the shelter. Ms. Holley stated that the shelter opened on December 5, 2018; identification is required and if needed, assistance is given to obtain identification, the completion date is scheduled for April, and the shelter is for adults only.

Vice Chair Cordova asked if warrant checks are conducted and if surrounding cities provided funding for the shelter. Ms. Holley responded that warrant checks are not done, but the HEART team is on site and drugs and weapons are not allowed on the premise. Ms. Holley stated other cities have not paid into the shelter, but 100 beds were funded by Measure H, as well as Tri-City Mental Health Services and the Pomona Police Department.

Ms. Holley provided information about LA-HOP, an organization designed to assist people experiencing homelessness with outreach services. Ms. Holley invited the Commissioners and public to be a part of the homeless count on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

3. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair for the Parks and Recreation Commission

Chair Ayala introduced the agenda item to select a new Chair and Vice Chair. Staff member Monica Belloso informed the Commissioners that according to the Bylaws, Commissioners who have served in the Commission for at least one year can be selected for Chair or Vice Chair with a majority vote. Commissioners with at least one year in the Commission are Chair Ayala, Vice Chair Cordova, and Commissioner Sanchez. Ms. Belloso advised that Commissioners with less than one year in the Commission would need a 6/7 vote if they would like to serve as Chair or Vice Chair. After Commissioner discussion, **Chair Ayala made a motion to move the item to the following meeting, seconded by Vice Chair Cordova, and carried by a 6-0-1-0 vote.**

VII. STAFF COMMUNICATION

Park and Facilities Manager Michael Sledd stated Beautification Day meetings have begun and the next meeting is Wednesday, January 30, 2019 at 3:30p.m. at the Day One office located at Tony Cerda Park.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Chair Ayala adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Ralph Welch Community Center, 1000 Buena Vista Street, Pomona, CA 91766.



Michael Osoff
Community Services Manager



Chairperson
Parks and Recreation Commission