

MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

**CITY OF POMONA
WESTMONT COMMUNITY CENTER
1808 W. NINTH STREET
POMONA, CA 91766**

**THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ayala called the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE

Chair Ayala led the flag salute.

III. ROLL CALL

Roll was taken by staff.

Present:

Ion Puschila	Mayoral Appointee
Melissa Ayala, Chair	District 1
Fabian Pavon, Commissioner	District 2
Cynthia Marino, Commissioner	District 5
Remington Cordova, Commissioner	District 6

Absent:

Noel Mendez, Commissioner	District 3
Jeff Sanchez, Vice Chair	District 4

Staff present:

Rene Guerrero, Interim Public Works Director
Michael Osoff, Community Services Manager
Monica Belloso, Technical Specialist II
Andrea Rodriguez, Office Assistant I

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Ayala presented the minutes of April 18, 2019 and made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Puschila and carried by a vote of 5-2-0-0.

V. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

Chair Ayala shared there were many events since the last meeting. She stated she attended the Pow Wow event at Tony Cerda Park; participated in cleanups at Hamilton Park and Cesar Chavez Park; and attended a placemaking meeting for Civic Center Plaza. She stated she attended a community summit meeting hosted by Pomona Unified School District (PUSD) where much of the discussion focused on parks, park safety, and early child development. She stated she is excited for the upcoming Children's Festival.

Commissioner Puschila stated he spoke to PUSD board members about teaching students STEM through community gardens, community kitchens, and involving local restaurants. He stated he also participated in placemaking meetings for Civic Center Plaza, participated in Pomona Beautification Day and said the event for Alejandro Aranda was "bomb".

Commissioner Pavon stated he led a Martin Luther King, Jr. Park project for Pomona Beautification Day. He commended on all the people that came out to help clean the park, especially all the mothers who brought their children, from babies in strollers to teens to help with the project. He stated the cleanup focused on restrooms, picking up leaves and general cleaning in the area. He stated he has been networking with community groups and organizations, like Just Us 4 Youth about potentially having monthly programming at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, organizing a car show, and possibly organizing an event for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. He stated he is currently working on utilizing the stage at Tony Cerda Park for concerts.

Commissioner Marino stated she attended the recent Commander Watch meeting and placemaking meeting for Civic Center Plaza. She expressed amazement at many of the low-cost and innovative ideas for Civic Center Plaza. She stated she participated in tree planting at the green belt in Phillips Ranch for Pomona Beautification Day. She attended a meeting at Ganesha Park to discuss cannabis. She attended Brown Act training. She said people have approached her about doing karaoke at the parks and she asked about the City's tree removal policy. She asked about grant opportunities for parks and low-income housing.

Chair Ayala asked if staff could forward the City's Street Tree Manual to the Commission.

Commissioner Cordova commended the City for putting on a great event on such short notice for American Idol contestant Alejandro Aranda. He thanked staff for inviting him to be a site judge for the Heroes of Pomona Speech Contest. He said all the participants did a great job and said it was difficult to judge because he wanted to give them all 20s. He stated Supervisor Curt Hagman invited him to the [Planes of Fame] Air Show and stated Mr. Hagman said many great things about Pomona. He said the Pomona Police Department participated with helicopters and swat vehicles and said it was great to see the City engaging with neighboring cities.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Ayala opened Public Comment for non-agenda items. There being were no public speakers, Chair Ayala closed Public Comment for non-agenda items.

VII. OLD AND/OR NEW BUSINESS

Measure A Updates – Reprioritizing Park Projects

Community Services Manager Mike Osoff provided the Commission with an updated infrastructure priority list for Measure A funding. Mr. Osoff reminded the Commissioners that Measure A is Los Angeles County funding that benefits parks. Mr. Osoff stated that on November 16, 2018, the Commission approved staff's recommendation to fund 10 projects concentrating on roof replacements, structural repairs, playground updates to comply with the American with Disability Act, and sports court resurfacing. The list was established by staff in Community Services, Public Works, and Risk Management considering factors such as amount of deferred maintenance, liability, safety, and protection of City property. Mr. Osoff stated the Commission also approved staff's recommendation for a proposed Park Ranger Program and a Parks and Facilities Master Plan. The recommended projects, ranger program and master plan totaled approximately \$946,000 or two years (FY 18/19 and FY 19/20) of Measure A allocations.

Mr. Osoff informed the Commission that staff did not take the list to City Council following the Commission's approval for several reasons. First, Measure A was challenged and a lawsuit was brought

forth against Los Angeles County. The lawsuit affected Measure A funds and although cities had the option to access funds, the City elected not to access funds until the matter surrounding the lawsuit was resolved. Second, staff confirmed with County representatives that a proposed Park Ranger Program and Parks and Facilities Master Plan would not qualify for Measure A funding. Also, the recent rains caused significant roof and structural damage to several buildings that were either not on the priority list or ranked lower in priority. Lastly, Mr. Osoff stated on May 6, 2019, City Council created a CIP project "City Facilities – Roof Replacements and Repairs" in the amount of \$1,188,000. Mr. Osoff stated a majority of the approved Measure A projects will be funded through the CIP project. In light of this information, staff reconvened and added several more park projects to the Measure A Priority List. Mr. Osoff stated the projects that fell off were high-dollar amounts making room to place several park projects. Mr. Osoff reiterated to the Commission that project estimates are based on staff's experience and includes a cushion for unforeseen costs for the list below.

Priority	Location	Project	Estimated Costs
1	Washington Park	Repair patio and front entrance	\$65,000
2	Philadelphia Park	Replace basketball court	\$200,000
3	Ralph Welch Park	Replace basketball court and surrounding area	\$60,000
4	Centennial Park	Replace basketball court and surrounding area	\$85,000
5	Willie White Park	Pavilion structure	\$30,000
6	Martin Luther King, Jr. Park	ADA/sand to woodchips	\$125,000
7	Ted Greene Park	ADA/sand to woodchips	\$105,000
8	Phillips Ranch	ADA/sand to woodchips	\$50,000
9	Country Crossings	ADA/sand to woodchips	\$50,000
10	Powers Park	ADA/sand to woodchips	\$75,000
11	Jaycee Park	ADA/sand to woodchips	\$65,000
12	Memorial Park	Resurface basketball court	\$10,000
13	Cesar Chavez Park	Resurface basketball court	\$10,000
14	Willie White Park	Resurface basketball court	\$10,000
TOTAL			\$940,000

**** Estimates do not reflect actual costs or additional structural work that may be needed.**

After Commissioner discussion, Commissioner Puschila made a motion to approve the updated Measure A Priority List. Commissioner Cordova amended the motion to exclude projects at Phillips Ranch Park and Country Crossings and discuss alternative park projects at same locations or elsewhere, in the equivalent amount of \$100,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Puschila, and carried by a 4-1-0-0 vote. (AYES: Cordova, Ayala, Puschila, Pavon) (NAYS: Marino).

VII. STAFF COMMUNICATION

Public Works Updates

Mr. Guerrero commended City staff and Downtown Pomona Owners Association (DPOA) in organizing American Idol contestant Alejandro Aranda's hometown visit and parade; the event went very well.

Mr. Guerrero stated that staff is preparing to submit a grant application for Proposition 68; the deadline is August 5, 2019.

Mr. Guerrero informed the Commissioners some incident reports received from citizens recently.

1. A citizen reported concern of the deterioration of the rubber material in the playground area at Ted Greene Park. Mr. Guerrero stated they are evaluating options for replacement or repairs.
2. A citizen reported lighting issues at Kiwanis Park. Staff investigated and determined that someone damaged a pole; staff is taking steps to resolve the issue.

Community Services Updates

Mr. Osoff stated the final competition of Heroes of Pomona Speech Contest was Tuesday, May 7, 2019 and stated he was pleased with the event. Mr. Osoff commended all the participants and described speeches ranging from light-hearted to serious with some touching on issues as such as addiction and death.

Mr. Osoff thanked Commissioner Cordova, Councilmembers Lustro, Preciado, Gonzalez, and Ontiveros-Cole for participating as site competition judges. Mr. Osoff also thanked representatives from Tri-City Mental Health Services, DPOA, University of La Verne, and PUSD and the City Manager for participating in the final judging. Mr. Osoff announced that Tri-City MHS just informed him they are granting funds for a second year of the project. Mr. Osoff shared that he plans to continue the project with partnerships and sponsors.

Movies in the Park begin July at six locations.

The After School Recreation soccer league just ended; Renacimiento vs. Philadelphia was 4-0; and youth basketball will be offered this summer.

Community Services submitted 10 applications through CDBG; about 70% of funds were approved for arts, sports, youth orchestra, youth employment; enrichment activities for the senior program and a two-week writing summer camp in partnership with University of Riverside Inland Area Project.

Three grant applications were submitted to Los Angeles County Arts Commission to host free summer concerts and we should hear back soon regarding status of the applications.

Mr. Osoff stated there has been staff discussion of potential summer events such as karaoke in the park or a video game tournament.

Mr. Osoff addressed Commissioner Marino's inquiry regarding grant opportunities through low-income housing and stated funding for that program has expired.


IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Chair Ayala adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is Thursday, June 20, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Council Chambers, 505 South Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA 91766.



Michael Osoff
Community Services Manager



Chairperson
Parks and Recreation Commission