

**MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**CITY OF POMONA  
RENACIMIENTO COMMUNITY CENTER  
2383 CHANSLOR STREET  
POMONA, CA 91769**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2019  
6:00 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER** Chair Ayala called the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

**II. FLAG SALUTE** Chair Ayala led the flag salute.

**III. ROLL CALL** Chair Ayala asked staff to take roll.

<b>Present:</b>	Ion Puschila	Mayoral Appointee (Arrived at 6:28 p.m.)
	Melissa Ayala, Chair	District 1
	Fabian Pavon, Commissioner	District 2
	Noel Mendez, Commissioner	District 3
	Jeff Sanchez, Vice Chair	District 4
	Remington Cordova, Commissioner	District 6

<b>Absent:</b>	Cynthia Marino, Commissioner	District 5
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**Staff present:** Benita DeFrank, Neighborhood Services Director  
Human Resources/Risk Management Director  
Michael Osoff, Community Services Manager  
Michael Sledd, Parks and Facilities Manager  
Monica Belloso, Technical Specialist II

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

**V. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION**

**Commissioner Cordova** thanked Pomona Police for their "Healthy Streets" initiative; thanked Parks and Recreation staff for providing free and low cost recreational programming for the community.

**Vice Chair Jeff Sanchez** stated he likes what Chief Olivieri is doing for the parks and patrol; thanked the public for their attendance.

**Commissioner Mendez** thanked City staff for responding to the issues at Washington Park and Philadelphia Park. He stated three weeks ago, the Ganesha Hills initiative for Pomona Beautiful began, and encouraged everyone's participation on Tuesdays and Saturday mornings.

**Chair Ayala** thanked City staff for offering numerous summer activities. She has been attending community events including Art Walk, Concerts in the Parks, and National Night Out. She stated she enjoys seeing the community come together, be engaged, and participate in activities hosted by the City and nonprofit organizations.

**Commissioner Pavon** stated he participated in the Art Walk and shared how great it was to see many people and families enjoying their time at Downtown. Commissioner Pavon stated he felt pride having the opportunity to contribute to the event. He stated he is working with students on a Chicano theatre play to help teach youth about Chicano history and culture. He thanked staff in assisting him through the special event process; he plans to utilize the stage at Tony Cerda Park on a monthly basis. He thanked staff for responding to his requests for trails and walking paths at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. He reported working with the dA Center for the Arts for another mural at Powers Park. He stated he has an agenda item for the Cultural Arts Commission for a proposed mural of Martin Luther King, Jr. at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. He stated he will be participating in a cleanup event at Cesar Chavez Park on September 7, 2019.

**Chair Ayala** stated she is collaborating with University of La Verne students to assist with the removal of vines that have grown over a mural at Cesar Chavez Park. She stated she is working with the original muralist to assess the condition of the mural and to see if it can be restored.

#### **VI. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Chair Ayala opened public comment for non-agenda items.

**Grace M. Rosales** stated she would like to see a teen center and other amenities at Tony Cerda Park. Ms. Rosales said youth need a safe place to go afterschool, to do homework, and to participate in fun activities. She also stated she would like to see a new restroom, a gazebo so that families can gather, a splash pad, a walking trail, and lighting for the basketball court.

**Donna Otero** thanked City staff for having many summer events, like Movies in the Park and Concerts in the Park this year. She said she has seen an improvement in the parks and sees many people utilizing the parks with positive activities including families, kids, youth sports leagues, and mothers during the school day. She commends the City, the Commissions and staff for working together to bring positive events to the parks. Ms. Otero shared information on the upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Indigenous People's Day at Ganesha Park. She is looking for vendors that sell hand crafted pieces and food vendors that have their health permits.

**Ashley Vega** stated she is the Vice President and coach for Pomona Southwest Little League at Ralph Welch Park. Ms. Vega stated that over the weekend, the snack bar was broken into and several items were stolen. She stated the benches at the dugout were also taken. She stated the homeless and gang members do not want to leave. She stated she cannot open the restrooms because she finds drugs and needles left behind. She stated she and her husband patrol the park several times a day. She sees graffiti and asked for signs that state "no dogs on fields" to prevent dog waste on the fields. Ms. Vega stated she has been volunteering with the league for six years and asked for the Commission's assistance regarding these issues.

**Vanessa Morales** stated she is selling chocolate bars for \$1.00 to help support her church with her First Holy Communion.

#### **VII. OLD AND/OR NEW BUSINESS**

## **1. Review of City Council Priorities and Goals for Fiscal Year 2019/20**

Community Services Manager Mike Osoff provided an account of the Commission's request in creating their values and goals. Staff advised the Commission that the City Council was currently undergoing this process. The Commission determined that when City Council finalized and released their priorities and goals, the Commission would begin the process of setting their priorities and goals to be in alignment with City Council. Mr. Osoff introduced Human Resources/Risk Management Director Linda Matthews to present the City Council's Priorities and Goals for Fiscal Year 2019/20, describe the strategic planning process, and provide details of the goals that fall under the purview of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Ms. Matthews provided an account of the four month process the City Council underwent to develop priorities and goals for Fiscal Year 2019/20. The purpose of the Priorities and Goals is to assist staff make operational decisions that are in alignment with the City's core values and priorities. Ms. Matthews stated this was a complicated process due to the many demands, projects, and tasks that a City has. The Council utilized a strategic planning technique, known as a SWOT analysis, to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities related to the operation of the City. This process resulted in City Council developing four main priorities with each Councilmember providing two short term and two long term goals. The four priorities are:

**Priority 1: Fiscal and Operational Responsibility**

**Priority 2: Economic Development**

**Priority 3: Safe and Clean Community**

**Priority 4: Infrastructure**

Next, a subcommittee was formed comprising of Mayor Sandoval, Vice Mayor Preciado, and Councilmember Lustro including the City Manager, Deputy City Manager and select Directors. Ms. Matthews stated that each priority has a definition and multiple goals. There are 17 goals (A-Q) comprising of both short term and long term goals. Each goal has one or two SMART objectives, or steps that are "specific", "measurable", "attainable", "realistic", and "time-based". Ms. Matthews stated the SMART steps are designed to be met this current fiscal year and provided a detailed description of the goals and steps associated with the Parks and Recreation Commission.

### **Fiscal and Operational Responsibility**

**Goal D:** Support City Commission and ensure alignment between City Council goals and Commission activities.

**Step 1:** Provide training and resources to Commissions and support staff on an on-going basis.

**Step 2:** Review and update current Commission bylaw for all seven (7) Commissions by June 2020.

### **Safe and Clean Community**

**Goal M:** Improve safety and cleanliness at parks and public spaces.

**Step 1:** Establish a Park Ranger program by December 2019, contingent upon approval of the use of Measure A funding for this purpose.

**Step 2:** Explore level and method of parks maintenance services by December 2019.

**Step 3:** Increase the level of senior, family and youth activities within the parks and community centers in an effort to decrease the level of negative activities that occur by July 2020.

### **Infrastructure**

**Goal O:** Improve Parks facilities in the following general order of priority: 1) ensuring that existing amenities are functioning; 2) rehabilitating bathrooms and other park facilities; 3) adding trees; 4) improving ADA accessibility of all park facilities and equipment; 5) adding new bathrooms; and 6) adding additional recreation and playground equipment (Public Works)

*Step 1:* Roof repairs and replacements by December 2019.

*Step 2:* Survey of park bathrooms by December 2019.

*Step 3:* Complete Parks Master Plan by June 2020.

*Step 4:* Submit application for grant funds for Washington Park.

*Step 5:* Tree planting plan funded by County grant.

*Step 6:* Identify grant opportunities for planning and maintenance of trees.

Chair Ayala and the Commission thanked Ms. Matthews for providing information on the City Council's Priorities and Goals.

## **VII. STAFF COMMUNICATION**

Mr. Osoff reported the following Community Services updates:

1. The first Concert in the Park was a success, with many people attending the family-friendly event. The next concert is August 17, 2019 with Incendio offering a world guitar sound; giant yard games will be available for families; and the opportunity to try out yoga during the musical performance. The last concert will be September 21, 2019 and Sgt. Peppers Tribute Band will be performing Beatles songs.
2. The dive-in movie at Ganesha Pool was on August 10, 2019. There was a lower turnout this year, but it may have been due to competing events in the city, such as the Art Walk Anniversary and Cold Duck performing. Also the temperature was cooler, but it was still a great event. The last Movie in the Park will be August 24, 2019 at Montvue Park.
3. The City's pool operations will be wrapping up at the end of the summer season.
4. The After School Recreation Program – Youth Sports will begin volleyball and flag football beginning September 30, 2019 through November 11, 2019. Summer basketball concluded with over 100 participants, exceeding the goal of 80 participants.
5. Two separate grant applications were submitted for Proposition 68 funding for Washington Park and Hamilton Park.

Mr. Sledd reported the following Public Works updates:

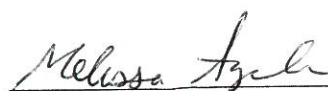
1. Lincoln Park is scheduled to open soon; the final site walkthrough with the contractor was completed and the final items will be taken of.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Ayala adjourned the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting at 7:17 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Philadelphia Park Community Center.



Michael Osoff  
Community Services Manager



Melissa Ayala  
Chairperson  
Parks and Recreation Commission