

MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

**CITY OF POMONA
RALPH WELCH COMMUNITY CENTER
1000 BUENA VISTA STREET
POMONA, CA 91766**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Community Services Manager Mike Osoff called the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE

Mr. Osoff led the flag salute.

III. ROLL CALL

Staff called roll.

Present:

Melissa Ayala, Chair	District 1
Fabian Pavon, Commissioner	District 2
Noel Mendez, Commissioner	District 3
Jeff Sanchez, Commissioner	District 4
Cynthia Marino, Commissioner	District 5
Remington Cordova, Vice Chair	District 6

Absent:

Ion Puschila, Mayoral Appointee

Staff:

Mike Osoff, Community Services Manager
Michael Sledd, Parks and Facilities Manager
Rene Guerrero, Interim Public Works Director
Anita Gutierrez, Interim Development Services Director
Monica Belloso, Technical Specialist II

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Osoff presented the draft minutes of January 17, 2019. **Chair Ayala made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Vice Chair Cordova and carried by a vote of 6-0-1-0.**

V. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

Chair Ayala stated she passed by Hamilton Park and saw that a mural project is underway at the market near the park; is excited to see Hamilton Park receive support. She stated that she is working with Cultural Arts Commissioner Quinones on a mural project and looks forward to more mural projects. She is looking forward to Beautification Day and welcomed the public for coming.

Commissioner Pavon communicated needs at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park and Tony Cerda Park:

Martin Luther King

- Tree trimming/landscaping throughout park
- Repair restroom doors due to homeless sawing off bars
- Clean/scrub restroom floors
- Paint ADA parking lot lines
- Remove tree roots due to roots damaging parking lot
- Replace two park lights
- Replace ball on tetherball court
- Repair playground rubber foam
- Clean muddy pathways
- Relocate bench from basketball court for skateboarders

Mr. Pavon acknowledged that the City removed graffiti on all the picnic tables except two and he has requested mural projects for Beautification Day.

Tony Cerda Park

- Install bathroom stalls

Mr. Pavon asked how he can work with the City to address these needs and is willing to work with community members to resolve these issues.

Commissioner Sanchez reported that Lincoln Park's Phase 1 is almost complete which included decomposed granite walkway and an updated irrigation system. He stated that Montvue Park is still working on the water well project. He advised people to report graffiti on the City's graffiti line and provided the public with the graffiti hotline. He stated that he likes to see good turnouts at community meetings.

Commissioner Marino recommended the public to attend Dr. Kyle Brown's Pomona Placemaking meetings to discuss potential park projects.

Commissioner Pavon added that the Ralph Welch Community Center roof has leaks.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – NON AGENDA ITEMS

Pomona resident Yesenia Garcia stated the community wants to utilize District 2 parks; asked that efforts be made to make parks safer, accessible and cleaner.

VII. OLD AND/OR NEW BUSINESS

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

Mr. Osoff advised that Commissioners Ayala, Sanchez and Cordova are eligible to serve as Chair or Vice Chair with a majority vote and Commissioners with less than one year in the Commission require a 6/7 vote. Chair Ayala was reelected as Chair with a majority vote and Commissioner Sanchez was selected as Vice Chair with a majority vote.

2. Understanding the Art in Public Places Policy and Guidelines Manual

Interim Development Services Director Anita Gutierrez presented the Art in Public Places Policy and Guidelines. She oversees the Planning Department, Building and Safety Department, as well as the Cultural Arts Commission and its subcommittee.

Ms. Gutierrez advised that the City established the Art in Public Places ordinance in 2011 that requires private developers with a development project of over a \$750,000 evaluation or a project of 10 or more residential units shall contribute 1% of the total construction evaluation to public art. She advised that developers can either build the art themselves equal to the same amount of the evaluation or contribute with an in lieu of fee.

The policy manual provides guidelines on how to access funds for public art and artists. Ms. Gutierrez stated she is presenting a draft of a request for qualifications to the Cultural Arts Commission and a priority list of art projects will be established through community input. There is no precedence of using funds; therefore projects will undergo a criteria assessment.

Ms. Gutierrez received Commissioner questions regarding anti-graffiti coating, if funds can be used on private property, and if there is an expiration date for funds. Ms. Gutierrez responded that the mural permit requires an anti-graffiti coating, public funds on private properties will be considered on a case by case basis, and in lieu of fees have a sunset date in which funds must be used within five years or they must be given back.

Chair Ayala opened the floor for public comment on the agenda item.

Public Comment – Agenda Item

Pomona resident Yvonne Cobarrubias asked if art funds can be used in one district. Ms. Gutierrez responded that funds are eligible Citywide and a priority list will help guide types of projects and locations.

Pomona resident Donna Otero stated she would like to see monuments of Pomona native settlers at Tony Cerda Park and the City.

VII. STAFF COMMUNICATION

Public Works

Interim Public Works Director Rene Guerrero informed the Commission that a \$9.2M Active Transportation Program grant was recently awarded to create a safe environment for bicycling and walking. Funds will be used to create 10 miles of bike lanes and two miles of street improvements such as improved sidewalks, improved curb ramps, improved crosswalks and paved streets. Projects will be in various locations throughout the City and when completed, over 50% of the priority projects in the City's 2014 Active Transportation Plan will be implemented.

Parks and Facilities Manager Michael Sledd provided the following updates:

- The City will resubmit a grant application to the Urban Greening Program with additional components to help reduce greenhouse gases.
- The City assisted San Gabriel Conservation Corp in submitting a Proposition 68 grant application for Washington Park. He has been assessing funding criteria based on median household income and acreage development and acquisition.

- Councilmember Gonzalez provided discretionary funds for dog waste stations at Kennedy Park and trees at Kiwanis Park.

Community Services


Mr. Osoff provided the following updates:

- Participated and collected data for the 2019 Greater Los Angeles County Homeless Count; it was a great experience and encouraged everyone to volunteer in the future.
- Conducted an updated inventory of park amenities to remain in good standing for Los Angeles County Measure A funds.
- Community Services will be selecting recreation software soon.
- Placed high speed internet connection and computer labs in five community centers (Renacimiento, La Casita, Ralph Welch, Garfield and Kennedy). All community centers will have internet connection and computers by 2020.
- Movies in the Park meetings have begun and a Finding of Public Benefit was requested to City Council for help in paying for licensing and equipment; locations are to be determined.
- In progress is the After School Recreation basketball season and nine sites are participating. Soccer season to follow.
- Provided a 2019 calendar of seasonal/special events:
 - April 13, 2019 - Easter Egg Hunts at Kiwanis, Garfield, Ralph Welch and Washington Park. Event begins at 9:00 a.m. and egg hunt starts at 10:00 a.m.; 12,000 eggs have been purchased and volunteers are needed.
 - October 25 and 26, 2019 - Haunted House (6:00- 8:30 p.m.) There is also a family-friendly area with games and crafts.
 - November 21, 2019 - City Hall Tree Decorating (10 a.m. -12:00 p.m.)
 - December 2, 2019 - City Hall Tree Lighting (during the City Council meeting)
 - December 14, 2019 – Holiday at the Plaza (4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.) and DPOA's Christmas Parade (6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)
 - December 18, 2019 – Annual City Employee Holiday party (4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.)
- Reiterated a LA Measure A priority list of projects was presented to the Commission; expressed there are projects that need to be addressed first before creating or building new projects.
- The spring recreation guide will out within two weeks.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Chair Ayala adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Ganesha Park Community Center, 1575 N. White Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768.


Michael Osoff
Community Services Manager


Chairperson
Parks and Recreation Commission