# SPECIAL MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

# CITY OF POMONA PALOMARES PARK COMMUNITY CENTER 499 E. ARROW HIGHWAY STREET POMONA, CA 91767

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2019 8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER Chair Ayala called the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order at

8:23 a.m.

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

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

Present: Ion Puschila, Mayoral Appointee

Melissa Ayala, Chair District 1

Fabián Pavón, Commissioner District 2 (arrived 9:40 a.m.)

Jeff Sanchez, Vice Chair District 4 (arrived 8:54 a.m.)

Cynthia Marino, Commissioner District 5
Remington Cordova, Commissioner District 6

Absent: Noel Mendez-Zamudio, Commissioner District 3

Staff Monica Belloso, Technical Specialist II

Rene Guerrero, Public Works Director

Michael Osoff, Community Services Manager Michael Sledd, Parks and Facilities Manager

#### VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair asked for public comment. There was no public comment at this time.

### VII. OLD AND/OR NEW BUSINESS

# 1. Development of Priorities and Goals of the Parks and Recreation Commission

#### Welcome/Introductions

Chair Ayala announced the special meeting is being held to begin development of priorities and goals for the Parks and Recreation Commission. Chair Ayala offered for Community Services Manager Mike Osoff to lead the meeting.

Mr. Osoff began the meeting with an icebreaker activity and then encouraged the Commissioners and staff to share his/her personal and/or professional background and the events that led them to his/her position.

## **Understanding Priorities and Goals**

Mr. Osoff then provided context on priority and goal setting and provided a brief review of SMART goals, the City's vision, mission, and the Council's 2019/20 Priorities and Goals.

## **Brainstorming**

The Commissioners and staff broke into small groups of 2-3 to identify what features and amenities they like to see at parks. Each small group wrote down a list and then shared out loud as a large group discussion. Staff captured what each small group wrote down:

- Green space
- Trees
- Recreational classes
- Nature trails
- Multi-generational activities
- Multipurpose features, i.e. chess tables
- Art i.e. low cost/free features, four square, chalk/hopscotch
- Celebrations
- Historical features
- Restoration of stages
- Sports complex
- Year round pool usage
- Splash pad
- Rock climbing

The large group discussion included each small group's findings and then discussed the current conditions of Pomona's parks and the items that can be improved. Staff captured what the Commissioners shared:

- American with Disabilities Act accessibility
- Lack of amenities
- Restroom facilities
- Drinking features
- Crumbling infrastructure i.e. roofs, bathrooms, lighting.
- Lack of money
- Dirty
- Drug activity
- Gangs
- Homeless
- Parking lots i.e. cracks, needs pavement repairs
- Parks are underutilized
- Lack of recreation activity

After discussions of the parks' current conditions and review of features that can be improved, the Commissioners then shared some short and long term goals:

- Hosting Commission-sponsored events i.e. tamale cook off, lemonade/agua fresca-off, beautification day competition, skate competition, etc.
- Clean parks
- Review and update Parks and Recreation Commission Bylaws
- Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility
- Conduct park restroom surveys
- Create Parks and Facilities Master Plan
- Volunteer Management System
- Increased communication and awareness
  - o A Parks and Recreation social media account
  - Park campaigns and events
  - Park updates
- Improve citywide marketing strategy
- Increase communication with staff
- Increase revenue
- Promote healthy living and wellness
- Increase partnerships with nonprofits and Pomona Unified School District
- Encourage public comment and feedback
- Improve signage

#### Review

The Commission then considered setting strategies for reaching goals for the next meeting. Discussions included agreement on the process for finalizing priorities and goals and next steps for implementing a plan.

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ayala adjourned the meeting at 12:03 p.m.

Michael Osoff

Community Services Manager

Melissa Ayala, Chairperson

Parks and Recreation Commission