

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF YORBA LINDA PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION HELD SEPTEMBER 19, 2024, YORBA LINDA, CALIFORNIA.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Battaglia called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM

**STAFF PRESENT**

Jeff Ruth, Recreation Superintendent; Kelly Ridenour, Administrative Secretary

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Superintendent Jeff Ruth

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion** Commissioners Dickerson/Battaglia to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission regular meeting minutes of August 15, 2024. The motion carried (5-0) pursuant to the following vote:

AYES: McLure, Hamilton, Dickerson, Catalan, Battaglia

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Adventure Playground Report Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth** – Superintendent Ruth presented a report discussing the possibility of charging fees for admittance to Adventure Playground. This item was requested to be on the agenda by the Commission at a previous meeting. Superintendent Ruth provided an overview of attendance patterns, operating procedures and staffing levels. He explained that a fee-based reservation system could be implemented using the current ActiveNet website already utilized by the department, however he noted, this would not be without challenges. Examples of the challenges include the ability of staff to process refunds and take payments on site as well as increased expectations from customers when certain play features are inoperable. Superintendent Ruth also covered the possibility of changing the park policies to allow private reservations and parties inside Adventure Playground which was also requested by the Commission. He noted that the current policy which does not allow private reservations is working well and has helped to increase the number of facility rentals at the Field House and Hurless Barton Park Picnic Shelter. Considering all the data presented along with the possible challenges identified, staff recommended not to charge a facility fee for Adventure Playground and not change the policy to allow private reservations. Discussion ensued.

**Motion** Commissioner McLure to not accept staff's recommendation and recommend the Commission consider charging a fee for Adventure Playground at a future meeting.

**Substitute Motion** Commissioners Dickerson/McLure to accept staff's recommendation not to implement fees for Adventure Playground at this time, but request that the item be brought back for consideration in the future.

The motion carried (5-0) pursuant to the following vote:

AYES: McLure, Hamilton, Dickerson, Catalan, Battaglia

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**MATTERS PRESENTED BY STAFF**

**Fall Registration Update Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth** – Superintendent Ruth stated that the Fall Activity Guide was mailed to residents the first week of July and resident registration opened on July 24 and non-resident registration opened on August 7. He reported that registration revenue at this point is at \$269,000 with 2,500 enrollments which is comparable to fall registration numbers from the year prior.

**Fall Special Events & Programs Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth** – Superintendent Ruth provided a brief description of upcoming department events including The Senior Wellness Expo scheduled for Saturday, October 5 at the Community Center which is a health fair for those ages 55 years and over along with their families. He also mentioned the upcoming Movies in the Park with Kung Fu Panda scheduled for Saturday, September 21 at Eastside Park and Puzzle-Palooza is scheduled for Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at the Cultural Arts Center. Lastly, he announced the always popular annual Trails & Treats Halloween Hike held on Saturday, October 26 at Travis Ranch Youth Park which is once again sold out this year.

**Cultural Arts Center Theatrical Productions Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth** – Superintendent Ruth was pleased to announce the department has partnered with local theater groups to host two new theatrical productions being held at the Cultural Arts Center. In partnership with Alchemy Theater, a showing of Puffs started on September 6 and runs through September 22 and shows have been well attended to date. Next scheduled, is the showing of All Shook Up offered in partnership with Yorba Linda Spotlight Theater which starts the weekend of October 11. Superintendent Ruth noted that Supervisor Valerie Passarella will be attending a future Commission meeting to provide a detailed report of the new theatrical shows and other programs at the Cultural Arts Center.

**Indoor Athletic Use Allocation Meeting Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth** – Superintendent Ruth announced there is an Indoor Allocation Meeting scheduled on Wednesday, October 2 at the Thomas Lasorda Field House and noted that Chairman Battaglia is the current SAC representative invited to attend the meeting. These meetings are held three times a year to discuss gym allocation schedules and typically includes the three main gym user organizations being North County Basketball, Top Ballers and NJB.

**DIRECTORS REPORT**

Superintendent Ruth reminded the Commission that the State of the City is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16 at the Nixon Library and asked the Commissioners to RSVP if they haven't already done so.

Also, he announced that the City has a new Finance Director named Sunny Han who comes from the city of Huntington Beach.

Lastly, he announced that the Parks and Facilities Superintendent, Brad Skeene, and staff recently completed the parking lot resurfacing project which included parking lot improvements at Black Gold Golf Club, Bryant Ranch Park, Eastside Park, and Las Palomas Park.

**MATTERS PRESENTED BY COMMISSION**

**Review of Park Assignments**

None

**Announcements**

**City of Yorba Linda  
Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes  
September 19, 2024**

Commissioner Catalan mentioned that she reached out directly to Superintendent Ruth about field usage at Rio Del Oro Park and reported that the area is being heavily utilized by sports groups as well as dog walkers and it appeared the groups were not picking up after themselves. In addition, she reported that the Yorba Linda Middle School fields are regularly packed, and Yorba Linda Pop Warner is currently utilizing so much of it.

Commissioner Dickerson announced that he has served on this year's Citizen of the Year Committee which recently met to choose this year's honoree, and it will be announced at the State of the City in October.

Chairman Battaglia stated that he has received more requests for shade to be installed above the swing sets at Travis Ranch Park.

**Agenda Building**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission, Chairman Battaglia adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Parks and Recreation Commission will be on October 17, 2024.