

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF YORBA LINDA PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION HELD NOVEMBER 21, 2024, YORBA LINDA, CALIFORNIA.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Battaglia called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM

STAFF PRESENT

Mike Kudron, Parks and Recreation Director; Jeff Ruth, Parks and Recreation Superintendent; Kelly Ridenour, Administrative Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Commissioner Catalan

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Commissioners Catalan/Hamilton to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission regular meeting minutes of October 17, 2024. The motion carried (4-0) pursuant to the following vote:

AYES: Hamilton, Dickerson, Catalan, Battaglia
NOES: None
ABSENT: McLure
ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Delilah Davis, along with her mother Jackie Davis, spoke regarding the Las Palomas Pickle ball courts. She stated that she has encountered pickleball players yelling, cussing and smelling like marijuana. She also mentioned that she used to have her birthday party at the park every year but can no longer do that since the park is too busy and there is not enough parking. She noted that the reservation system has helped with their concerns and if the reservation system was in place every day, that would be even better.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Park Maintenance Report Presented by Director Mike Kudron – Director Kudron presented a staff report and slideshow outlining potential maintenance items for Las Palomas Park. These items included a review of the new bike rack recently installed, the operating status of the restroom locks and consideration of additional automated locks for the tennis court gates. These items were brought up at previous commission meetings and staff was asked to report back.

First, Director Kudron explained that a bike rack was requested by park users, so a bike rack was recently installed. Then, another bike rack was requested because the bike rack that was installed isn't large enough to accommodate the big tires that new electric bikes have. He noted the bike rack installed measures 5.5' long and has a 7-bike capacity. Staff spent time observing the bike rack and found that the rack is used periodically, and it was never seen with more than one bike locked up at any one time. Next, it was reported to staff that the automated restrooms locks may not have been working because it appeared that people were using restrooms after hours. Staff inspected the locks and found that they were functioning properly. Finally, Commissioners asked staff to explore the feasibility of installing additional automated locks on the tennis court gates to prevent people from using them to access the pickleball court after hours. Director Kudron reported that the cost to install the locks would be \$5,000 per gate so it would be \$10,000 total cost for the project. He added that an alternative to installing the additional locks would be to increase the height of the fence between the courts from 4' to 10'. The cost for that project would be approximately \$9,000. Director Kudron noted that there is not enough funding

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to complete all the options presented but if the Commission wishes, a budget adjustment request can be submitted to City Council for review and approval. Discussion ensued.

Motion Commissioners Dickerson/Battaglia to approve the park maintenance recommendations presented by staff including the increased fencing height and addition of automated locks. No action on the bathroom locks but staff was asked to monitor. 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

Winter Registration, Events & Programs Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth – Superintendent Ruth announced that Winter registration for residents opened on November 6 and non-resident registration opened on November 20. He stated that there have been 913 enrollments so far and numbers seem to be right on track compared to the year prior at this time. He also mentioned popular upcoming events such as Breakfast with Santa scheduled for December 7, and Kids Night Out scheduled for December 6 and both events are sold out. He was excited to announce the City is hosting its first Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Town Center that will take place in conjunction with the Holiday on Main event on December 7. Lastly, he told the Commission to save the date for the annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon to be held at the Community Center on January 11 and invitations will be mailed in early December.

Sports Advisory Meeting Recap Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth – Superintendent Ruth provided a recap of the Sports Advisory Committee meeting held on November 13 with JUSA, PYLGSA, East Hills LL, West LL and AYSO. The only group member not in attendance was Pop Warner since it is not their primary season. He stated that in addition to presenting the field allocation schedule for winter, general business was discussed including field rest & renovation schedules, maintenance requests, field improvements and field ambassador/emergency contacts.

Adventure Playground Maintenance Update Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth – Superintendent Ruth announced that Adventure Playground is currently closed through the end of January for maintenance work to be done. He explained the maintenance projects being completed during this time include the renovation of two DG walkways being replaced with concrete walkways and installing new sod in the large dirt area surrounding the splash pad. The site is expected to reopen in early February.

Senior Art Show Recap Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth – Superintendent Ruth provided a recap of the annual Senior Art Show held at the Community Center on November 6. He noted that this event allows the seniors who participate in the senior painting class the chance to submit their artwork in the show and the winners will have their art displayed in the Gallery at the Cultural Arts Center. This year 40 students participated in the event.

Youth Empowerment Service Day Recap Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth – Superintendent Ruth gave a brief update of the Youth Empowerment Service Day that took place on November 9 at the Thomas Lasorda Jr. Field House. This is an annual event offered in partnership with library staff that gives teens in grades 6-12 the opportunity to earn service credits and give back to their community by doing service projects. This year's event was benefiting Yorba Linda Food for Families and 153 teens participated, bringing in 77 bags of non-perishable food items.

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DIRECTORS REPORT

Director Kudron mentioned that the Commission is typically dark in December due to the holiday and unless any Commissioners have pressing items, the December meeting will be cancelled. All Commissioners agreed.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY COMMISSION

Review of Park Assignments

None

Announcements

Commissioner Hamilton announced that she recently attended the NRPA conference in Atlanta, Georgia and it was a great opportunity to learn new and trending ideas for recreation professionals on a national level.

Chairman Battaglia thanked staff and fellow Commissioners for a successful year of service and wishes everyone happy holidays.

Agenda Building

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission, Chairman Battaglia adjourned the meeting at 7:19 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Parks and Recreation Commission will be on January 16, 2025.