

# **MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF YORBA LINDA PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION HELD FEBRUARY 20, 2025, YORBA LINDA, CALIFORNIA.**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Battaglia called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM

## **STAFF PRESENT**

Mike Kudron, Parks and Recreation Director; Jeff Ruth, Parks and Recreation Superintendent; Kelly Ridenour, Administrative Secretary; Jenny Diep, Recreation Coordinator; Rob Cavanaugh, Recreation Supervisor

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Superintendent Jeff Ruth

## **OATH OF OFFICE**

Oath of Office presented to Commissioner Battaglia and Commissioner Hamilton led by Director Kudron.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion** Commissioners Catalan/Hamilton to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission regular meeting minutes of November 21, 2024. The motion carried (3-0) pursuant to the following vote:

AYES:	Hamilton, Catalan, Battaglia
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	McLure, Dickerson (arrived late)
ABSTAIN:	None

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Resident Sheryl Clark spoke briefly to thank staff and Commissioners for all the work they have done for the community.

Chairman Battaglia announced that the Reorganization of the Commission will be moved down on the agenda after New Business to allow time for all Commissioners to arrive.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Armed Forces Street Banner Program Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth** – Superintendent Jeff Ruth provided a brief background of the Military Street Banner program. He noted that the program began in 2012 and has been popular over the years but recently, there has been a decline in the number of orders. He stated that the recent decline may be due in part to the requirement of participants to purchase a new banner each year and the subsequent rise in cost. Superintendent Ruth explained that the quality of the banners has improved and they are holding up to the elements better, so staff feels they can be displayed longer than a year.

Considering this, staff is proposing to change the program to allow for a longer display period consisting of a minimum of one year and a maximum of three years. So, the purchased banners would stay up until they become damaged or exceed the three-year maximum. Superintendent Ruth mentioned that the proposed changes are anticipated to reduce city costs for printing and installation as well as a substantial cost saving for the participants. Discussion ensued.

**Motion** Commissioners Hamilton/Catalan to approve the proposed changes to the Military Banner Program. The motion carried (4-0) pursuant to the following vote:

AYES:	McLure, Hamilton, Catalan, Battaglia
NOES:	None

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ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: Dickerson

**Summary of Department Highlights Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth** – Superintendent Ruth provided the department summary report for the period of October 1- December 31, 2024. The report provided an overview of registration and revenue numbers during the reporting period. He noted that enrollment numbers were slightly down from previous years and revenue was down approximately \$30,000. He went on to highlight the annual Breakfast with Santa event that was extremely successful as well as in-house programs, Mighty Tykes and Spike Time Volleyball which continue to be very popular. He also reported that facility rental revenue totaled \$171,178 which is an increase from the prior reporting period.

**Older Adults Program Review Presented by Supervisor Rob Cavanaugh and Coordinator Jenny Diep** – Supervisor Cavanaugh started the presentation with a slideshow highlighting current programs, activities and events held at the Community Center as part of the Older Adult Programs. With the help of Coordinator Diep, they explained the difference between programs offered through the City, Senior Club, North Orange County Continuing Education and Meals on Wheels. It was noted that there is a robust number of programs, and most have steady participation while others are less popular and could be re-evaluated. Following the presentation, Supervisor Cavanaugh and Coordinator Diep accepted public input and asked the Commission to provide feedback on current and potentially new senior programs. They explained that in order to extend the outreach and seek input from participants, a survey has also been created that will be distributed at facilities and through digital resources. A discussion ensued by Commissioners. Commissioner Hamilton shared programming ideas from the City of Whittier suggesting that staff consider partnering with other cities for senior events. Commissioner Dickerson mentioned a senior coed softball league. Resident, Sheryl Clark, gave input during public comment and said that she appreciates staff seeking to engage younger seniors and although she is in the older crowd, she does not consider herself that way, so she appreciates the effort to make it more welcoming for the more active, younger feeling seniors.

**Bryant Ranch Park Basketball Court Project Presented by Director Mike Kudron** – Director Kudron provided a slideshow and review of the previously approved design for the Bryant Ranch Park Basketball Court Project. He explained that the City received funding to complete improvements at Bryant Ranch Park as part of Phase II of the Master Plan. Once funds were secured, the Commission prioritized the construction of the basketball court project and approved the court design with 3 pickleball overlay courts. Director Kudron noted that the City now has pickleball courts at 4 different park sites and each has experienced various issues related to pickleball. With the experience gained to date, Director Kudron asked the Commission to confirm if the current Bryant Ranch Park design with 3 pickleball courts is still the preferred option. Resident, Jaqueline Davis, spoke during public comment and stated that she feels the Commission should consider the issues at Las Palomas Park and urged the Commission not to put pickleball courts so close to homes at Bryant Ranch Park. Discussion ensued.

**Motion** Commissioners Dickerson/McLure to approve the Bryant Ranch Park Basketball Court Project design and reduce the number of pickleball court overlays to 2. The motion carried (4-1) pursuant to the following vote:

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

## **REORGANIZATION OF COMMISSION**

### **Election of Chair**

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**Motion** Commissioners Catalan/Dickerson to appoint Commissioner Hamilton as the new Chair. The motion carried (5-0) pursuant to the following vote:

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

**Election of Chair Pro Tem**

**Motion** Commissioners Battaglia/McLure to appoint Commissioner Catalan as the new Chair Pro Tem. The motion carried (5-0) pursuant to the following vote:

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

**Committee Appointments**

**Representative Appointed to Wall of Fame Selection Committee**

**Motion** Commissioners Battaglia/McLure to appoint Commissioner Dickerson to serve on the Wall of Fame Selection Committee. The motion carried (4-0) pursuant to the following vote:

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

**Motion** Commissioners Catalan/Dickerson to appoint Commissioner Battaglia to serve on the Wall of Fame Selection Committee. The motion carried (5-0) pursuant to the following vote:

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

**Representative Appointed to Sports Advisory Committee**

**Motion** Commissioners Battaglia/Dickerson to appoint Commissioner McLure to serve as representative to the Sports Advisory Committee. The motion carried (4-0) pursuant to the following vote:

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

**Representative Appointed to Citizen of the Year Selection Committee**

**Motion** Commissioners Catalan/Battaglia to appoint Commissioner Hamilton to serve on the Citizen of the Year Selection Committee. The motion carried (4-0) pursuant to the following vote:

AYES: Dickerson, McLure, Catalan, Battaglia  
NOES: None

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ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: Hamilton

**Park Assignments**

**Motion** Commissioners Dickerson/Battaglia to approve the 2025 Park Assignments. The motion carried (5-0) pursuant to the following vote:

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**MATTERS PRESENTED BY STAFF**

**Wall of Fame Update Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth** – Superintendent Jeff Ruth announced that nominations are now being accepted for the 2025 Wall of Fame Induction Ceremony. The deadline to apply is February 28. He noted that after the deadline, staff will contact Commissioner Dickerson & Commissioner Battaglia to schedule the selection meeting to review the applications received. Superintendent Ruth also asked the Commission to save the date for June 7 which will be the induction ceremony to honor the 2021 Yorba Linda High School Men's Water Polo Team.

**Spring Registration Update Presented by Superintendent Jeff Ruth** – Superintendent Ruth provided a brief update on current spring registration numbers. He noted that registration opened for residents on February 12 and will open on February 26 for non-residents. As of now there are 600 enrollments and about \$47,000.

**DIRECTORS REPORT**

Director Kudron reminded the Commission that the City Council joint workshop with the Commissions is scheduled for the upcoming Monday, February 24 at 6pm and a pizza dinner will be provided.

**MATTERS PRESENTED BY COMMISSION**

Commissioner Catalan said that she participated in the Parks and Recreation Commission interviews and one of the applicants had brought up a good suggestion that she wanted to share. It was suggested to feature different parks online and she wants to use that idea to coordinate with staff to highlight different parks monthly or quarterly through social media and the websites.

Commissioner Battaglia piggy backed on Commissioner Catalan's comment and added that he thought it would be a good idea to consider pairing the older adult programs along with the park highlights online and it could be a good way to promote both areas.

Commissioner Dickerson announced that he has an upcoming surgery prior to the joint workshop on Monday so he will have a bandage on his face and doesn't want to cause concern.

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Chair Hamilton stated that she will not be able to attend the meeting next month, so Chair Pro Tem Catalan was asked to lead the March meeting.

**Review of Park Assignments**

None

**Announcements**

None

**Agenda Building**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission, Chair Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Parks and Recreation Commission will be on March 20, 2025.