

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF YORBA LINDA PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION HELD JANUARY 15, 2026, YORBA LINDA, CALIFORNIA.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hamilton called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM

STAFF PRESENT

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Commissioner Dickerson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Commissioners Dickerson/Battaglia to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission regular meeting minutes of November 20, 2025. The motion carried (4-0) pursuant to the following vote:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Mercedes Galante stated that she attended the Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Town Center and it was a wonderful event. She thanked staff for coordinating and she is looking forward to next year's event.

She also spoke in opposition of the pickleball courts at Las Palomas Park and reiterated as she has stated before that they are not opposed to pickleball, they are opposed to the courts being too close to homes so she asked staff and commissioners to consider removing the pickleball courts from Las Palomas Park and move to another more suitable location in the city.

REORGANIZATION OF THE COMMISSION

Appointment of Chair

Motion Commissioners Dickerson/McLure to appoint Commissioner Catalan as Chair. The motion carried (4-0) pursuant to the following vote:

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

Appointment of Vice Chair

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

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

Appointment of Representative to the Wall of Fame Committee

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

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

Appointment of Representative to the Wall of Fame Committee

Motion Commissioners Hamilton/Dickerson to appoint Commissioner Battaglia as representative to the Wall of Fame Selection Committee. The motion carried (5-0) pursuant to the following vote:

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

Appointment of Representative to the Sports Advisory Committee

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

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

Appointment of Representative to the Citizen of the Year Selection Committee

Motion Commissioners Hamilton/Catalan to appoint Commissioner McLure as representative to the Citizen of the Year Selection Committee. The motion carried (5-0) pursuant to the following vote:

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

2026 Park Assignments

Motion Commissioners Battaglia/Hamilton to continue with the same park assignments for 2026. The motion carried (5-0) pursuant to the following vote:

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

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

MATTERS PRESENTED BY STAFF

Bryant Ranch Park Ribbon Cutting Ceremony presented by Director Kudron - Director Kudron was excited to announce that the Bryant Ranch Park Improvement Project has completed and the new courts will officially open on February 3. He stated there will be a brief Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 4pm on February 3 and Commissioners should have already received email invitations.

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Sports Advisory Committee Update presented by Superintendent Ruth - Superintendent Ruth mentioned that he previously provided a recap of the November Sports Advisory Committee meeting so now he wants to inform the Commission of concerns regarding AYSO and their roster submittal. He explained that members of the Sports Advisory Committee must meet specific requirements to qualify as a Group B member. One of the requirements being that the organization is required to be a Yorba Linda based non-profit with a 60% resident membership. In order to prove the 60% residency requirement, they are asked to submit team rosters. Superintendent Ruth stated that recently AYSO, who is a Group B member, submitted rosters that fell below the 60% requirement and when staff discussed the issue with them, they explained it was a mistake and submitted a second roster list that showed them to be at 60% residency. Staff reviewed the second roster list submitted and found discrepancies. Each time AYSO was issued a letter of non-compliance and given a year to correct their residency numbers and submit valid rosters. Superintendent Ruth explained that staff will continue to work with AYSO and should they continue to fall below the 60% residency, they will lose Group B status and lose priority field allocations. He plans to provide another update on the recent non-compliance issue after the next SAC meeting.

Tree Lighting Ceremony presented by Superintendent Ruth - Superintendent Ruth provided a brief recap of the Tree Lighting Ceremony held on December 6 stating the event was very successful with live music, crafts, artificial snow and concluded with remarks by the Mayor.

East Hills Little League Flagpole Donation presented by Superintendent Ruth - Superintendent Ruth stated that East Hills Little League reached out to city staff a few months ago because they received a monetary donation and wanted to discuss potential projects they could use the funds for at Mustang Fields. The board members decided on installing a flagpole as the most feasible option. Superintendent Ruth explained that staff is currently working with them to determine a location and finalize other details. He will report back to the Commission as the project moves forward.

Winter Registration and Programs presented by Superintendent Ruth - Superintendent Ruth announced that Winter Registration opened on November 5 for residents and to date we have 2,722 registrations with a revenue of \$184,000 and over 80% of transactions taking place online. He reported that registration has increased compared to the previous winter session. He also highlighted popular upcoming special events including the Mother Daughter Tea on February 7 and Daddy Daughter Dance on February 27 and both events have already sold out.

DIRECTORS REPORT

No Report

MATTERS PRESENTED BY COMMISSION

Youth Sports Background Checks Provided by Chair Catalan - Chair Catalan explained that she previously brought up an issue regarding a situation that happened in Los Angeles County where a soccer coach abused young players on his soccer team and because the city issued a permit to the soccer coach, the parents were suing the city. So, Chair Catalan wanted to discuss whether the city could be found liable for not mandating background checks on youth coaches in our youth sports organizations. Director Kudron noted that he brought the question to the City Attorney and confirmed that the city is not currently liable however, if the city decided to mandate background checks for coaches, the city would then become liable for ensuring coaches completed their background checks. Director Kudron added that staff researched what requirements the sports organizations have in place and found that all the organizations except for PYLGSA already required their

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coaches to have background checks. Discussion ensued and it was recommended that the commission not take further action regarding the possibility of mandating background checks for youth coaches.

Review of Park Assignments

None

Announcements

Commissioner Battaglia mentioned that he spent extra time at his parks after the recent rains and had to ask some park goers to be careful not to damage the fields at Eastside and Travis Ranch Parks while they are saturated.

Chair Catalan added that she also saw kids on e-bikes doing burnouts on the wet grass at Travis Ranch which was causing damage to the turf. She explained that she has become more aware of the amount of work that goes in to maintaining the fields and the damage that can happen while the fields are wet.

Commissioner Hamilton asked about the enforcement of the new e-bike rules. She mentioned that she is grateful for the new ordinances in place and signs throughout the city but asked how the information is going to be relayed to the children. Director Kudron explained that the city has formed a task group with representatives from all different departments to help with enforcement and awareness of the new rules which will include a social media campaign and partnering with the school district to offer workshops.

Agenda Building

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission, Chair Catalan adjourned the meeting at 7:19 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting for the Parks and Recreation Commission will be on February 19, 2026.