



## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **2. 2022 HALLOWEENFEST**

Community Services Director Oliver Osuna reported on the 2022 Halloweenfest that took place on October 31 at the Neff Estate. He reported the event featured crafts, games, costume contests, a trick-or-treat area, and a haunted maze. He said students participating in the Youth in Government program served nachos during the event and raised \$270 in donations. He reported an estimated 4,000 community members attended the event and that the City purchased \$7,000 of candy which was all distributed to attendees at the event.

Commissioner Cline said she assisted with the historical booth where the Historical timeline was displayed. She reported one resident expressed interest in joining the Historical Preservation Advisory Council.

Commissioner Anderson said it was a great event.

Vice Chairperson Johnson reported she felt the layout was better than in years past and that her nieces enjoyed the event.

Commissioner Fernandez commented on the Neff House not being open. Community Services Director Osuna said due to ongoing work inside the Neff House it was not open this year.

Chairperson Savage reported on her attendance and said the entire event seemed to flow very well. She commented that she enjoyed seeing several families dressed up this year. She said the City should be proud of the outstanding event.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **3. CHILI HOLIDAY CELEBRATION**

Community Services Director Osuna reported on the Chili Holiday Celebration that will be held December 3 from 5 to 8 p.m. at Splash! La Mirada Regional Aquatics Center. He discussed the event details and requested Commissioners attend and report their feedback and findings at a future meeting.

Commissioner Fernandez commented that last year's event was wonderful. He asked if there would be a different layout for this year's event. Community Services Director Osuna said staff is aiming to adjust the layout as much as possible to minimize the lines at booths.

Commissioner Cline suggested partnering with local churches to provide additional on-stage performances from church choirs. She also commented that last year the temperature of the chili was not regulated. Community Services Director Osuna replied and said staff is communicating with volunteers to address the temperature prior to the event start time.

#### **4. VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PROGRAMS**

Community Services Director Osuna reported on volunteer recognition programs. He reported on the various recognition programs the City offers and asked Commissioners for suggestions to enhance or provide additional recognition for volunteers.

Commissioner Cline commented that this year's recognition program at Splash! was well received by those in attendance. She also commented that in past years she felt Theatre volunteers wanted more from the recognition received from the City.

Commissioner Fernandez said it's nice to show recognition to those who volunteer in the community.

Vice Chairperson Johnson commented and said that compared to other cities and organizations it seems there may be opportunities for the City to provide additional recognition for its volunteers. She commented that she feels volunteers would respond well to face to face interaction with City Councilmembers during a recognition event. Ms. Johnson suggested only inviting those volunteers who contributed a high number of volunteer hours to an event at Neff Park. She also inquired if there was a set budget for the recognition program. Community Services Director Osuna replied and said there is a budget.

Chairperson Savage commented that she saw many seniors at the Splash! volunteer day event. She also said it would be nice for volunteers who contributed the most hours of service to receive free tickets to the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts.

Commissioner Anderson commented that volunteers from youth sports programs enjoyed their time at Splash! He also commented that years ago volunteers from youth sports were recognized at the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts.

Community Services Director Osuna said this item would return on next month's agenda to allow additional time for Commissioners to provide recommendations for volunteer recognition programs.

#### **5. 2022 SALUTE TO VETERANS EVENT AND VETERANS DAY CEREMONY**

Community Services Director Osuna introduced Community Services Coordinator Veronica Luna who reported on the 2022 Salute to Veterans Event and the Veterans Day Ceremony. Ms. Luna reported on the two programs and invited Commissioners to attend.

Commissioner Fernandez commented and asked if the outdoor program would take place if it rained. Ms. Luna replied and said the program would be held regardless of weather.

Commissioner Cline thanked the City for partnering with the newly formed veterans' group to help bring additional awareness and attention to the various Veteran recognition programs.

Chairperson Savage thanked the City for its efforts to continue to provide recognition to Veterans in our community.

Vice Chairperson Johnson reported that last year the City was looking to increase attendance to the Veteran's event, and as a result attendance has increased.

### **SENIOR, HISTORICAL, AND YOUTH COUNCIL REPORTS**

Senior Council Chairperson Martha Viera reported on her participation as a judge at the Halloweenfest Costume Contest and said it was great to be able to participate. She reported the newly formed Veterans group would be visiting local senior communities to hand out Veterans pins.

Historical Preservation Advisory Council (HPAC) Vice Chairperson Marlene Olsen reported on her participation at Halloweenfest. She said she volunteered at the History booth and shared the City's historical timeline. She reported on ongoing efforts to work on the historical archive room.

### **COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Cline reported there are now over 50 people registered to participate in Pickle Ball at the Community Gymnasium with the addition of an additional day of play.

Commissioner Anderson reported the youth fall athletic programs are ending and that programming is running smoothly.

Commissioner Grotz reported non-profit organizations that participated in the fireworks sales collectively earned \$280,000 from sale proceeds.

Vice Chairman Johnson reported on Norwalk Sheriff's Station's annual Halloween event. She reported on an upcoming active shooter training that would be held at a local church and invited Commissioners to attend.

Commissioner Fernandez reported on his attendance at Halloweenfest. He said the event was well attended and looked great. He also reported on his attendance to a La Mirada Chamber of Commerce event in which Congresswoman Linda Sanchez spoke.

Commissioner Gramajo reported on a recent Love La Mirada day of service. She said some 400 people were in attendance to lend a helping hand. She commended Biola University students and Chick-fil-A for their generous support.

Chairperson Savage commended staff for a wonderful job organizing and hosting a recent CERT training.

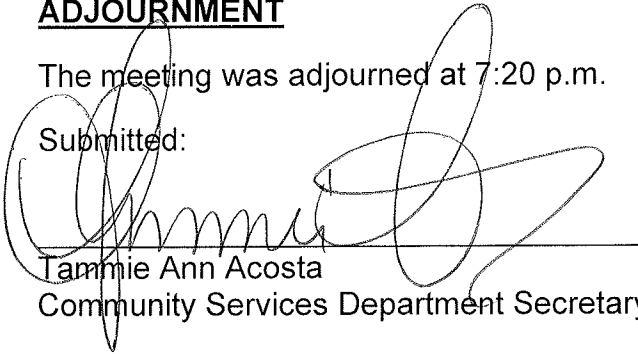
**STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Community Services Director Osuna reported on an upcoming swim meet at Splash, a Relay for Life craft fair, and the Farmers Market.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

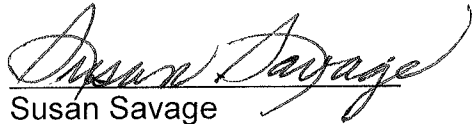
Submitted:



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Tammie Ann Acosta  
Community Services Department Secretary

Attest:



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Susan Savage  
Chairman