

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF LA MIRADA**

February 7, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Community Services Commission was called to order by Vice Chairman Fernandez at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Vice Chairman Raymond Fernandez
Commissioner Cathy Alvarez
Commissioner Rebecca Cline
Commissioner Susan Savage

Absent:

Chairman Desiree Johnson
Commissioner Matthew Wight

Staff:

Liza Soto, Assistant Community Services Director
Veronica Luna, Community Services Coordinator
Tammie Ann Acosta, Department Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 3, 2024

Commissioner Cline moved and Commissioner Savage seconded to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2024, Community Services Commission meeting.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners Alvarez, Cline, Savage, and Vice Chairman Fernandez
NOES: None
ABSENT: Commissioner Wight and Chairman Johnson
ABSTAIN: None

NEW BUSINESS

2 PROPOSED TINY TOTS SUMMER CAMP

Assistant Community Services Director Liza Soto introduced Community Services Coordinator Veronica Luna who reported on the proposed Tiny Tots Summer Camp. Ms. Luna reported on the need for summer programming for children ages 3.5 to 5 years. She reported the Tiny Tots Summer Camp would provide a day camp experience for nine weeks during the months of June, July, and August at Windermere Park.

Commissioner Alvarez asked who operates the camp, what is the ratio of teachers vs campers, and what activities children would engage in if they attended the extended Summer Camp hours. She also mentioned that with the extended hours the program would be very long for young children. Lastly, she asked if it would be possible for Commissioners to visit the program to see how it's operated.

Community Services Coordinator Luna responded and said City staff members operate the camp and the ratio is ten children to one staff. She said during extended care hours children would participate in similar activities that were offered during regular hours. She explained that extended care hours would be made available to accommodate parents who need the extra care hours. Ms. Luna said staff could arrange for Commissioners to visit the program site.

Commissioner Savage said the program sounds great and she feels many parents would enroll their children in the program. She asked what the enrollment capacity would be and has staff thought about adding a theme to the program.

Community Services Coordinator Luna said it is anticipated that enrollment would be limited to 40 children and there would be a different theme each week of camp.

Commissioner Cline said the program sounds like a wonderful addition to existing programming for youth. She asked if youth volunteers would be assisting with the program.

Ms. Luna responded and said it is anticipated that youth volunteers would assist with the program.

Vice Chairman Fernandez recalled fond memories of visiting Neff Park in the 1980's as a youth. He said the new program sounds like a perfect addition to the existing programming offered by the City for youth.

3 LOVE A TREE POSTER CONTEST

Assistant Community Services Director Soto reported on the annual Love a Tree Poster Contest. She discussed the program guidelines and said Commissioners are asked to participate in the judging process.

Commissioner Alvarez asked how many schools participate in the program.

Ms. Soto replied and said that all La Mirada schools have been invited to participate.

Commissioner Savage said it's a terrific program and she enjoys participating each year.

Vice Chairman Fernandez asked if there were any changes to the program this year compared to previous years.

Ms. Soto replied and said the program is unchanged from years past.

4 2024 PARK EVALUATIONS

Assistant Community Services Director Soto reported on the 2024 park evaluation process. She discussed the evaluation process and invited Commissioners to select parks to review. She asked that reports be submitted to staff prior to the March meeting.

Community Services Department Secretary Tammie Ann Acosta noted the parks each commissioner selected and said she would email them last year's reports as well as an e-version of the evaluation form.

5 SUMMER 2024 CONCERT SERIES

Assistant Community Services Director Soto reported on the summer 2024 concert series. She reported there will be 13 concerts beginning June 13 and concluding August 15. She reported that staff along with Vice Chairman Fernandez attended the Concert Share event on January 18 in Whittier.

Commissioner Savage asked if the opera event that was held at La Mirada Regional Park in 2023 would return this summer.

Ms. Soto explained that the opera event was hosted by the County of Los Angeles and staff has not received any information about the event returning this summer.

Commissioner Alvarez asked if the band that performed at last year's July 3rd event was returning to perform this summer. She also noted that she enjoyed the band that performed at the 2023 Veterans event at the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts.

Ms. Soto replied and said that staff aims to bring new bands out each year in hopes of offering a wide variety of performances for the community to enjoy.

Vice Chairman Fernandez said he enjoyed attending the Concert Share event and was impressed with the professionalism of the event. He expressed his gratitude for staff booking one of his band selections.

SENIOR, HISTORICAL, AND YOUTH COUNCIL REPORTS

Senior Council representative Martha Viayra reported the Senior Council is in need of a representative from The Palms and Vista Alicante.

Historical Preservation Advisory Council representative Marlene Olsen reported on the council's recent activities in the historical archive room at the Resource Center. She said HPAC members have been working to sort items in the archives and that they have found several interesting artifacts. She reported the recent tour of the Neff house had to be cancelled due to excessive rain.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Cline announced a pickle ball tournament would be held at the Community Gymnasium on April 6.

Commissioner Alvarez reported the annual Lou Piltz Memorial Spaghetti Dinner, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, was well attended. Ms. Alvarez invited Commissioners to attend the Ebell fundraiser bingo event on February 24 in Whittier.

Vice Chairman Fernandez invited Commissioners to attend the Rotary Club meeting on February 15 at Northwoods Inn at 6 p.m.

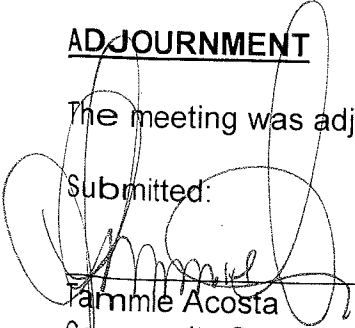
STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Assistant Community Services Director Soto reported on the Spring Beautification Program and the Civic Center Solar Panel Project.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08p.m.

Submitted:


Fammie Acosta

Community Services Department Secretary

Attest:


Raymond Fernandez
Vice Chairperson