

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

April 3, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Community Services Commission was called to order by Chairman Johnson 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:

Chairman Desiree Johnson
Vice Chairman Raymond Fernandez
Commissioner Cathy Alvarez
Commissioner Rebecca Cline
Commissioner Susan Savage
Commissioner Matthew Wight

Staff:

Liza Soto, Assistant Community Services Director
Lisa Montoya, Community Services Supervisor
Tammie Ann Acosta, Department Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 6, 2024

Commissioner Cline moved and Commissioner Savage seconded to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2024, Community Services Commission meeting.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. 2024 PARK EVALUATIONS

Assistant Community Services Director Liza Soto said this item would return on the May agenda as Public Works Director Mark Stowell was unavailable to attend tonight's meeting.

3. 2024 OLDER AMERICANS RECOGNITION DAY AWARD

Assistant Community Services Director Soto reported on the Older Americans Recognition Day (OARD) Awards Program hosted by the County of Los Angeles in May 2024. Ms. Soto reported on the Commission's review and discussion of the OARD program and the application that took place at the March 2024 meeting. She said Commissioners wanted to review the application and provide feedback to help bring clarity to the application process.

Commissioner Savage asked if the OARD is a lifetime achievement award. She said age 60 seems young and suggested the age requirement should be the same as what social security age is. Community Services Supervisor Lisa Montoya responded and said different organizations have various age requirements and that the OARD program follows the age requirements set forth by the leading organization which is Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults. Mrs. Montoya said the County does not specify lifetime achievement. She said the nominee could have assisted with several events and or one isolated event. Mrs. Montoya said ultimately the program is coordinated by the County and the City must follow the county guidelines.

Chairman Johnson said after re-reading the application the requirements and parameters for the program are clearer.

Commissioner Alvarez asked if the City is using language from the County on the application. She also asked if the OARD program is related to the City's Volunteers in Action Program. Mrs. Montoya replied and said yes, the language is from the County and that the City's VIA program is unrelated to the OARD program.

Commissioner Alvarez asked if a potential nominee were to go above and beyond in their job duties that relate to the community would that be acceptable for the volunteer accomplishments. Mrs. Montoya replied and said no. She explained that the key word is "volunteer", and someone performing paid job duties would not fall within the guidelines of volunteerism.

Commissioner Alvarez suggested an example of acceptable volunteer accomplishments be added to the application.

NEW BUSINESS

4. 2024 EASTER EGG HUNT

Community Services Assistant Director Soto reported on the 2024 Easter Egg Hunt held on Saturday, March 30 from 9 to 11 a.m. Ms. Soto reported due to heavy rain the event was relocated from La Mirada Regional Park to the Activity Center. She reported some 1,500 to 2,000 community members attended the event. She said staff members were successful with the relocation and offered tabletop games, Easter eggs with candy, crafts, photos with the Easter Bunny and performances from Tiny Tots students from Windermere Park and Gardenhill Park.

Commissioner Alvarez reported she heard several positive comments from community members regarding the success of the event. Ms. Alvarez commended staff for swiftly executing the change of venue and modifications to accommodate community members.

Commissioner Wight reported on his attendance at the event and said parking had a good flow, and that traffic inside the Activity Center had good movement. Mr. Wight commended City staff for being innovative and making effective decisions to offer a great event to the community.

SENIOR, HISTORICAL, AND YOUTH COUNCIL REPORTS

There were no reports.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Alvarez reported the Community Foundation hosted a financial workshop that was well attended.

Commissioner Wight reported a tree fell at Behringer Park on Saturday, March 30 and that City staff members responded quickly and secured the area. Mr. Wight reported on his participation and attendance at the Spring Beautification judging meeting. He said the City staff did a wonderful job explaining the program and said it's a great program.

Commissioner Cline reported on a Pickle Ball tournament to be held at the Community Gymnasium on Saturday, April 6 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

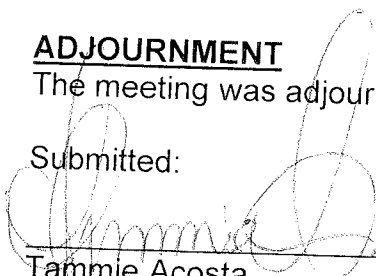
STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Services Assistant Director Soto said the Mother Daughter Tea would be held at the Activity Center on May 11 and that Buccaneer Bay's opening day was fast approaching.

ADJOURNMENT

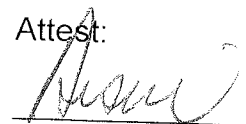
The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Submitted:



Tammie Acosta
Community Services Department Secretary

Attest:



Desiree Johnson
Chairperson