

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

August 7, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Community Services Commission was called to order by Assistant Community Services Director Soto 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:

Commissioner Cathy Alvarez
Commissioner Rebecca Cline
Commissioner Susan Savage
Commissioner Matthew Wight

Absent:

Chairman Desiree Johnson

Staff:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 5, 2024

Commissioner Cline moved and Commissioner Savage seconded to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2024, Community Services Commission meeting.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners Alvarez, Cline, Savage, Wight
NOES: None
ABSENT: Chairman Johnson
ABSTAIN: None

REORGANIZATION

2. REORGANIZATION OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

Community Services Assistant Director Liza Soto reported on the procedures for the reorganization of the Community Services Commission. She opened the floor for nominations for Chairman.

Commissioner Cline moved and Commissioner Wight seconded to elect Commissioner Savage as Chairman of the Community Services Commission.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners Alvarez, Cline, Savage, Wight
NOES: None
ABSENT: Commissioner Johnson
ABSTAIN: None

Chairman Savage opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairman.

Chairman Savage moved to nominate Commissioner Cline to serve as Vice Chairman of the Community Services Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wight.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

NEW BUSINESS

3. PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE SALUTE TO VETERANS EVENT

Community Services Coordinator Veronica Luna reported on the proposed modifications to the Salute to Veterans event. She reported on the history of the event and proposed changes that would aim to attract more people to attend the event. She reported the event would be held at Neff Park on Saturday, November 9 and would incorporate a concert, food vendors and children's activities in addition to traditional components of the event.

Commissioner Alvarez asked how many young veterans reside in La Mirada and what type of food would be available for the proposed modified event. Community Services Coordinator Luna responded and said that specific data regarding veterans has not been made available to staff and that the event would include food vendors from the Night Market.

Chairman Savage asked what the weather would be like during the event and would there be crafts for children. Community Services Coordinator Luna said temperatures in La Mirada during November are typically in the mid 60's and there would be crafts for children available.

4. 2024 PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH DEBRIEFING

Community Services Coordinator Victoria Santana reported on the 2024 Parks and Recreation Month Debriefing. She reported on the variety of programs offered to help celebrate Parks and Recreation Month. She said programs offered ranged from photo contests to a Bark-in-the-Park event. Ms. Santana said in total there were 11 programs offered and they were well attended by community members of all ages.

Commissioner Wight commended staff on the programs and asked if staff has considered relocating the very successful Bark-in-the-Park event to a larger venue. Community Services Coordinator Santana responded and said that the event does very well at its current location at Windermere Park because of the many dog walkers already at the park.

Commissioner Alvarez said all the programs offered for the month were exceptional and the variety and diversity was well thought out.

Vice Chairman Cline asked how many people participated in the family camp event. Community Services Coordinator Santana said there were over 20 camp sites with a total of 125 participants.

5. 2024 VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION CONCERT

Community Services Coordinator Santana reported on the 2024 Volunteer Recognition Concert to be held Thursday, August 15 at La Mirada Regional Park. She reported volunteers with 100 or more service hours are invited to attend the event that will feature a concert, a catered dinner and a gift. She said those with over 300 volunteer hours in the past year would be recognized on stage during the event.

Chairman Savage said although she is fond of the event, she feels that not many people pay attention to the volunteer recognition portion of the concert and asked if it was possible to merge the event with the other volunteer recognition event hosted at Splash! Assistant Community Services Director Soto responded and said these two volunteer events are different recognitions, however staff would consider the suggestion.

Commissioner Wight suggested in addition to the Volunteer Recognition Concert, an advertisement be made to recognize the 300 plus hour volunteers and displayed at Splash! during the city-wide volunteer recognition event. He mentioned this may help highlight and recognize those volunteers in a greater way.

Vice Chairman Cline asked if any of the volunteers that are invited to the Volunteer Recognition Concert are volunteers from Meals on Wheels. Staff member Santana responded and said the volunteers invited to the concert event participate in the City's

Volunteers in Action program. She said volunteers from outside organizations such as Meals on Wheels, are invited to the Splash! volunteer day.

SENIOR, HISTORICAL, AND YOUTH COUNCIL REPORTS

Historical Preservation Advisory Council representative Marlene Olsen reported on a recent tour of the Neff Mansion and said it was well attended. She said the George House is presently not open for tours due to a lack of needed volunteers to support the staffing of the house. Mrs. Olsen reported on her attendance at the Spring Beautification event and said the recent All that Dance event at the Activity Center was very well attended. She reported HPAC members are in the beginning stages of planning for the upcoming 65th anniversary of the City.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Alvarez reported on her attendance at the All that Dance event, her participation assisting the Kiwanis Club with firework sales, and an upcoming financial wellness class hosted by the Community Foundation. She expressed appreciation for being invited to announce one of the bands for a recent Concert Under the Stars event.

Commissioner Wight reported on his attendance at the City's Independence Celebration. He said the event was very well organized and added that the entire concert summer series of events have been outstanding. Mr. Wight said he had the opportunity to view the City's historical timeline at a recent park event and said the timeline is a great component and allows community members to learn more about the City.

Vice Chairman Cline said this year's Concerts Under the Stars events have been wonderful.

Chairman Savage reported on her attendance at recent La Mirada Little League Baseball tournaments and said she observed many families enjoying the program.

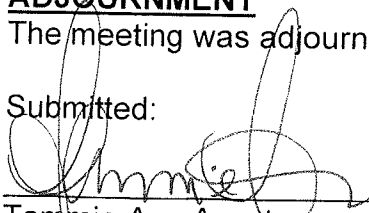
STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Assistant Community Services Director Soto invited Commissioners to attend the upcoming National Night Out event.

ADJOURNMENT


The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Submitted:



Tammie Ann Acosta
Community Services Department Secretary

Attest:



Susan Savage
Chairperson