

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

**September 4, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER** The regular meeting of the Community Services Commission was called to order by Chairman Susan Savage 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 Susan Savage  
Vice Chairman Rebecca Cline  
Commissioner Cathy Alvarez  
Commissioner Adriana Spirescu  
Commissioner Matthew Wight

Absent: Commissioner Desiree Johnson

Staff: Oliver Osuna, Community Services Director  
Paul Castillo, Community Services Supervisor  
Veronica Luna, Community Services Coordinator  
Ashley Chanman, Senior Recreation Leader II  
Celeste Santarrosa, Senior Recreation Leader

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Michelle Velasquez Bean commended the Community Services Department for its Camp Tiny Tots and Summer Day Camp programs. Ms. Bean said she is a teacher at Rio Hondo College and is a candidate for the La Mirada City Council District 2.

Resident Rick Cline reported on the Salute to Veterans event that will be held on November 9 at Neff Park. He said the event will feature an outdoor concert.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 7, 2024**

**Commissioner Wight moved and Commissioner Alvarez seconded to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2024 meeting**

**MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:**

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

## NEW BUSINESS

### **2. CAMP TINY TOTS AND NEFF SUMMER DAY CAMP**

Community Services Director Oliver Osuna provided a brief overview of the Camp Tiny Tots and Neff Summer Day Camp programs. He introduced Community Services Supervisor Paul Castillo and Community Services Coordinator Veronica Luna.

Community Services Coordinator Luna reported on the new Camp Tiny Tots program. She shared a presentation regarding program enrollment, program revenue, and daily activities offered on site at Windermere Park.

Community Services Supervisor Castillo reported on the Neff Summer Day Camp program. He shared a presentation regarding program enrollment, program revenue, excursions, and weekly activities offered on site at Neff Park.

Community Services Director Osuna commented that both programs are designed to keep children active and socially engaged with their peers during the summer months. He said the programs help provide families with affordable childcare.

Commissioner Alvarez inquired if excursion fees were included in the program's weekly fee.

Community Services Supervisor Castillo responded and said that excursions were included in the weekly program fee. He said the regular program fee per camper was \$165.

Chairman Savage inquired about the number of excursions and the transportation methods used. Community Services Supervisor Castillo responded and introduced Senior Recreation Leader II Ashley Chanman. He said Ms. Chanman helped oversee the Neff Summer Day Camp program. Mr. Castillo said there were nine excursions, with one scheduled for each Thursday. He said a charter bus was used during the excursions.

Chairman Savage inquired about the program's participant drop off and pick up procedures. Community Services Supervisor Castillo responded and reported on the procedures for Neff Summer Day Camp. He said parents are required to present proper identification before a participant can be released from the program.

Vice Chairman Cline asked if any youth volunteers assisted with the summer programs. Community Services Coordinator Luna responded and said youth volunteers from the

Leaders in Training program led games, prepared snacks, and helped monitor the participants' safety for Camp Tiny Tots and Neff Summer Day Camp.

### **3. 2024 CONCERTS UNDER THE STARS AND NIGHT MARKET**

Community Services Director Osuna provided a brief overview of the Concerts Under the Stars and Night Market.

Community Services Supervisor Castillo reported on the 2024 Concerts Under the Stars series. He said the summer concert series was held on Thursdays beginning June 13 through August 15 at La Mirada Regional Park. He said the series included a diverse range of live music, a variety of food vendors, and strong community participation. He said the Taylor Swift Tribute band, New Romantics, brought in the most community engagement, with an estimated 3,500 people in attendance. Mr. Castillo also reported on the National Night Out concert on August 3 and the Volunteer in Action Volunteer Recognition concert on August 15.

Community Services Coordinator Luna reported on the participant surveys that were distributed during the concerts. She said that the feedback received was generally positive.

Commissioner Wight suggested that local restaurants be included as vendors for the Night Market. Community Services Coordinator Luna responded and said staff has found that many local businesses find it difficult to manage their operations and participate in the Night Market simultaneously. She commented that the La Mirada Farmers Market, held every Saturday, effectively highlights local vendors.

Vice Chairman Cline recommended that additional activities be offered during Concerts Under the Stars. Community Services Coordinator Luna responded and said additional activities for children can be incorporated into next year's concert series.

### **4. COMMUNITY HEALTH INFORMATION AND SAFETY FAIR**

Community Services Director Osuna reported on the Community Health Information and Safety Fair to be held September 18 at the La Mirada Activity Center. He said the event will provide community members with the opportunity to connect with non-profit organizations, health and wellness agencies, and other local businesses that offer various informational services and free health screenings.

Chairman Savage asked if PIH Health is involved. Community Services Director Osuna responded and said PIH Health is not involved in the event this year.

Commissioner Alvarez commented that she is looking forward to the event and is impressed by the list of providers that will be in attendance.

Commissioner Wight asked if the event is targeted towards the senior population. Community Services Director Osuna responded and said the event is geared towards all ages.

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

La Mirada Senior Council Chairperson Mary Hall said the All That Dance event on June 7 was attended by 140 seniors. She said the Senior Council will volunteer at the upcoming All That Dance event on September 13 at the Activity Center.

Historical Preservation Advisory Council (HPAC) Member Marlene Olsen reported that attendance at the monthly tour of the Neff House has steadily increased. Mrs. Olsen reported on HPAC's archive project and her attendance on a tour of the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts. She provided positive feedback regarding the City's historical timeline that was featured during the Stroll in the Park event. Mrs. Olsen said free tours of the George House and the Neff House will be available during the Halloweenfest event on October 31.

### **COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Wight reported on his attendance at La Mirada Matadors Pop Warner's Youth Football opening day. He said the La Mirada Soccer Association will have its first game on September 7.

Commissioner Alvarez reported on her involvement with the La Mirada Rotary Club and the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District Board. She expressed her enthusiasm for the upcoming All That Dance event.

Vice Chairman Cline commended the City for its ongoing efforts in maintaining its local parks. She commended the Community Services Department for its successful summer programs and events.

Chairman Savage welcomed Commissioner Spirescu to the Community Services Commission. She commended the City for its Concerts Under the Stars and new Camp Tiny Tots program.

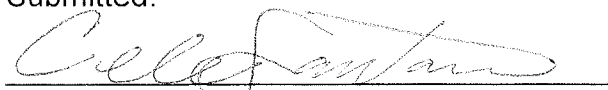
### **STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no staff announcements.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Submitted:



Celeste Santarossa  
Senior Recreation Leader

Attest:



Susan Savage  
Chairman