

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

**October 2, 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 Desiree Johnson  
Commissioner Adriana Spirescu  
Commissioner Matthew Wight

Staff:

Oliver Osuna, Community Services Director  
Liza Soto, Assistant Community Services Director

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

Resident and Eagle Scout Justin Pak presented his published book, Unwavering Dedication, a composition of local veterans' personal triumphs and tribulations.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2024**

Vice Chairman Cline moved and Commissioner Alvarez seconded to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2024 meeting.

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

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

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2. 2024 BUCCANEER BAY SEASON**

Community Services Director Oliver Osuna introduced Assistant Community Services Director Liza Soto who reported on the 2024 Buccaneer Bay season. Ms. Soto reported the waterpark was open for a total of 94 days during the season and that some 5,810 season passes were sold. She reported on special events held at Splash! and additional revenue and attendance data.

Mr. Osuna reported on unexpected maintenance needed on the mat racer attraction during the season which resulted in a temporary closure to the feature. He said staff worked around the closure to provide the best possible experience for attendees.

Commissioner Wight asked if all the waterslides are now operational. Ms. Soto responded and said although some features were not operational at times during the season, they are all repaired and working now.

Chairman Savage asked if there would be any activities at Splash! to celebrate Halloween. Ms. Soto responded and said the Floating Pumpkin Patch event would be held on October 26.

### **3. HALLOWEENFEST**

Community Services Director Osuna reported on the annual Halloweenfest on October 31 at Neff Park. He said the event includes a haunted maze, tours of the Neff Mansion and George House, costume contests for children, families and pets, and children's activities. Mr. Osuna said in addition to a fun family friendly event. He said the event provides a safe alternative for children to trick-or-treat. He said Commissioners were needed to assist with the judging of the costume contest.

Chairman Savage, and Commissioners Alvaraz, Spirescu and Wight said they were interested in volunteering for the event.

Vice Chairman Cline said she and her husband plan on volunteering at the Neff House tour area.

Vice Chairman Cline asked who is constructing the haunted maze for the event. She said the maze is always well done and a popular attraction during the event. Mr. Osuna responded and said Community Services staff creates the maze each year.

### **4. MILITARY SERVICE RECOGNITION PROGRAMS**

Community Services Director Osuna reported on the Military Service Recognition Programs offered by the City. He reported on the Military Banner program and the Blue Star Program. He said a newly updated application allows both the Blue Star Flag and Military Banner

program to be more accessible to military personnel and their families and allows staff to better track participants in both programs.

Commissioner Alvarez said the military programs are wonderful.

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

La Mirada Senior Council Chairperson Mary Hall reported the September All That Dance event was successful with some 90 people in attendance. She reported on the Health and Safety Fair, the Fall Festival and Senior Council's participation as judges for the annual Halloweenfest.

Historical Preservation Advisory Council (HPAC) member Marlene Olsen reported free tours of the George House and the Neff House would be available during Halloweenfest. She reported on the All That Dance event, the Health and Safety Fair, and HPAC's recent visit to the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts historical archive room.

### **COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Alvarez reported on her attendance at the All That Dance event, Kiwanis Fishing Derby, the La Habra Corn Festival, and her visit to the Palms.

Commissioner Wight reported the majority of the sports leagues are preparing for playoffs. He invited Commissioners to attend the grand opening of the new La Mirada baseball stadium on October 16.

Vice Chairman Cline invited Commissioners to a Meals on Wheels fundraiser at Chick-fil-A La Mirada on October 9.

Commissioner Johnson invited Commissioners to participate in The Climb for Heroes event November 9. She also thanked the City for its participation with the Special Olympics at Splash!

Commissioner Spirescu commended Commissioner Wight's daughter for her efforts as the La Mirada High School Key Club President and her volunteerism with the Kiwanis Club and Relay for Life.

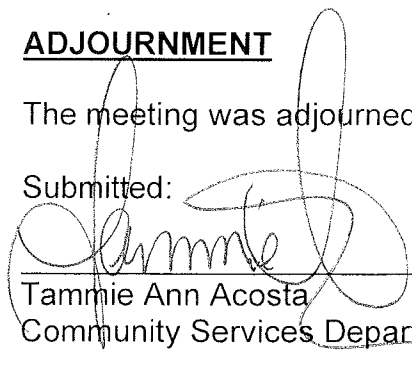
### **STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no staff announcements.

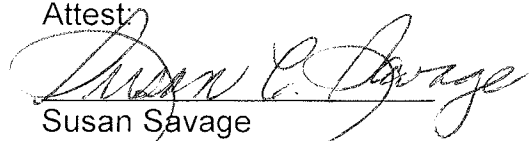
### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Submitted:

  
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Tammie Ann Acosta  
Community Services Department Secretary

Attest:

  
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Susan Savage  
Chairman