

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

April 2, 2025

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 Erin Berry
Commissioner Desiree Johnson
Commissioner Adriana Spirescu

Absent:

Commissioner Matthew Wight

Staff:

Oliver Osuna, Community Services Director
Mark Stowell, Public Works Director
Lisa Montoya, Community Services Supervisor
Veronica Luna, Community Services Coordinator
Victoria Santana, Community Services Coordinator
Tammie Ann Acosta, Department Secretary
Celeste Santarrosa, Senior Recreation Leader I

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2025

Vice Chairman Cline moved and Commissioner Spirescu seconded to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2025 meeting.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. SOCIAL SERVICES FUNDING REQUESTS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2025-26 AND 2026-27

Community Services Director Oliver Osuna reported on the social services funding requests for Fiscal Years 2025-26 and 2026-27. He reported on the funding process and provided an overview of the eight social services agencies that requested funding from the City. Following his report, representatives from each agency addressed the Commission and provided details about their respective agencies, the services provided, and the number of La Mirada residents served. Following the presentations Mr. Osuna asked Commissioners to briefly discuss their review of the agencies they evaluated.

Commissioners reported on the agencies they assessed and unanimously recommended funding each agency in the same amount as requested. Commissioners voted to recommend funding as follows:

SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY	COMMISSION PROPOSED	
	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27
Community Advocates for People's Choice	\$3,500	\$4,000
Helpline Youth Counseling, Inc.	\$5,000	\$5,000
Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol and Drug Abuse	\$10,000	\$10,000
Meals On Wheels La Mirada	\$12,000	\$12,000
Interfaith Food Center	\$10,000	\$10,000
The Whole Child	\$7,500	\$7,500
Straight Talk, Inc.	\$78,841	\$78,841
SASSFA	\$40,000	\$40,000
TOTAL	\$166,841	\$167,341

3. 2025 PARK EVALUATIONS

Community Services Director Osuna reported on the 2025 park evaluations that Commissioners recently completed. He introduced Public Works Director Mark Stowell who reviewed the evaluations completed by Commissioners and addressed specific items on each report. He reported on the budget for park improvements, ongoing maintenance, projections for future repairs and updates, and grants received.

Vice Chairman Cline asked if there was a plan to update existing water fountains in parks with the newer water bottle fountains. Public Works Director Stowell responded and said although the City would like to update all the water fountains, the cost of the new water bottle fountains exceeds budget capabilities. He said the City has installed several new fountains and will continue to upgrades as needed.

Vice Chairman Cline asked if there was a plan to install pickle ball courts at Windermere Park. Community Services Director Osuna responded and said the item is on a wish list for future updates.

Commissioner Alvarez reported on lifted concrete at Frontier Park and asked if it had been addressed. Public Works Director Stowell thanked Commissioner Alvarez for her observation and said the area has been fixed.

4. 65th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Community Services Director Osuna introduced Community Services Coordinator Veronica Luna who reported on the 65th Anniversary Celebration that was held Saturday, March 22 at Neff Park. Ms. Luna reported on the various aspects of the event and provided a slide show presentation with photos from the event. She reported it is estimated that some 800 community members attended the event and staff received positive feedback from those in attendance.

Commissioner Alvarez reported on her attendance at the event and said it was very well organized, and the food was exceptional.

Commissioner Spirescu reported on her attendance at the event and said staff did a superb job organizing the event. She complimented staff on the entertainment provided, the wide variety of food available, and their focus on small details throughout the event that helped tie in the theme.

Chairman Savage said she and her husband volunteered in the Neff House and they enjoyed talking with many long-time residents. She reported attendance at the house was extremely busy with an estimated 600 people participating in the tour.

Commissioner Johnson reported on her attendance at the event and said it was very well received by those in attendance.

Vice Chairman Cline said she enjoyed the event and thanked members of the Historical Preservation Advisory Council for their participation with the event. She said she felt the street banners helped get the word out to the community about the event.

NEW BUSINESS

5. EASTER EGG HUNT

Community Services Director Osuna introduced Community Services Senior Recreation Leader Celeste Santarrosa who reported on the Easter Egg Hunt. Ms. Santarrosa reported on the various aspects of the event and invited Commissioners to attend the event.

Commissioner Alvarez said she is looking forward to attending the Easter Egg Hunt.

SENIOR, HISTORICAL, AND YOUTH COUNCIL REPORTS

La Mirada Senior Council Chairperson Mary Hall reported on the recent All that Dance event that had lower attendance than usual due to rain that day. She reported on the success of the 65th Anniversary Celebration. She reported that Senior Council members are looking forward to attending the Easter Egg Hunt.

Historical Preservation Advisory Councilmember Marlene Olsen said it was an honor to be part of the City's 65th Anniversary Celebration. She thanked staff for their efforts to coordinate a memorable event. She reported on her attendance at the All that Dance and her participation as a judge for the Spring Beautification program.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Berry reported the musical Matilda Jr. at the Benton Middle School Theatre concluded and was well received by those in attendance. She said she wasn't able to attend the 65th Celebration and that her neighbors said the event was exceptional. She reported on the judging of the Love a Tree poster contest and said it was an honor to participate.

Commissioner Johnson reported on Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District's All City Concert with over 200 students participating.

Commissioner Spirescu reported on her attendance at the musical Matilda Jr. at the Benton Middle School Theatre. She said the musical was very well done.

Vice Chairman Cline reported on her participation as a judge for the Spring Beautification program.

Commissioner Alvarez reported on her attendance at the All that Dance event and the Ebell scholarship program.

Chairman Savage thanked Social Service Agency representatives for attending tonight's meeting.

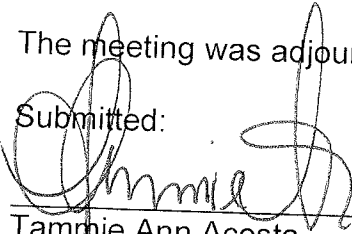
STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

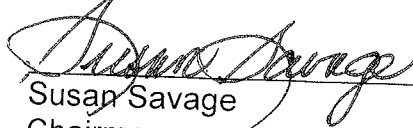
The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Submitted:



Tammie Ann Acosta
Community Services Department Secretary

Attest:



Susan Savage
Chairman