

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

October 1, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Community Services Commission was called to order by Chairman Adriana Spirescu 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 Adriana Spirescu
Vice Chairman Erin Berry
Commissioner Cathy Alvarez
Commissioner Daniel Cabrera
Commissioner Rebecca Cline
Commissioner Susan Savage
Commissioner Matthew Wight

Staff:

Oliver Osuna, Community Services Director
Dustin Balke, Aquatics Supervisor
Veronica Luna, Community Services Coordinator
Tammie Ann Acosta, Department Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

Commissioner Savage moved and Commissioner Alvarez seconded to approve the amended minutes of the regular meeting of September 3, 2025.

MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. 2025 HALLOWEENFEST

Community Services Director Oliver Osuna reported that he was informed by the Public Works Department that the Neff Mansion would be available for tours as the construction will be completed.

Commissioner Savage requested that parking in the main parking lot at Neff Park be made available for Commissioners during Halloweenfest. She said last year she parked in the adjacent lot, and that it was very dark and far away. Community Services Director Osuna responded and said he would relay the request to staff members who are organizing the event.

Chairman Spirescu asked if staff members would provide volunteer time slots for Commissioners during Halloweenfest. Community Services Director Osuna responded and said that staff members would be in communication with Commissioners to schedule volunteer hours and to provide information on parking.

3. BARK IN THE PARK – PUPTOBERFEST

Community Services Director Osuna reported on the Bark in the Park – Puptoberfest that was held Saturday, September 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Windermere Park. He reported the event was well received by the community.

Chairman Spirescu asked how many people attended the event. Community Services Director Osuna responded and said attendance is difficult to estimate because attendees come and go throughout the event. He said staff estimated there were some 300 to 400 community members in attendance throughout the day.

Commissioner Wight reported on his attendance at the event and said while he was there it was busy, and people appeared to be enjoying themselves. He said the event was a great resource for local vendors as well as those in attendance. He said he met a new dog groomer at the event that he intends to use.

NEW BUSINESS

4. COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS FOR THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Community Services Director Oliver Osuna reported on the 250th anniversary of the Continental Congress's approval of the Declaration of Independence. He said the semiquincentennial will be a once in a generation event and communities across the country are planning celebrations to honor the historic event. He asked Commissioners to provide suggestions for ways the City could commemorate the anniversary.

Chairman Spirescu suggested a window display contest, neighborhood flag display challenge, musical band performances, and a taste of America neighborhood culinary challenge. Community Services Director Osuna thanked Chairman Spirescu for her suggestions and said the suggestions that include food offer challenges due to health permit requirements.

Vice Chairman Berry said that as a former resident in an apartment building, she is fond of the window display contest suggestion, because it would allow for a wider spectrum of residents to participate.

Commissioner Savage suggested the La Mirada Symphony perform a concert in the park, and the Kiwanis Club sell food during the event. She also suggested the City create commemorative pins, hats and other items that people collect.

Commissioner Wight suggested incorporating the anniversary into existing City events.

Commissioner Alvarez suggested Commissioners review the ideas provided and at the next meeting provide a few solid suggestions to staff from the Commission as a whole.

5. MILITARY BANNER PROGRAM

Community Services Coordinator Veronica Luna reported on the Military Banner program. She said the Military Banner Program was established in 2012 to recognize residents serving in the United States Armed Forces. She reported on the application process and the current status of the 78 banners with two available banners.

Chairman Spirescu asked how long each banner remains on display. Ms. Luna responded and said the banners remain on display until the service member is no longer on active duty, moves out of the City or the family requests the removal. Ms. Luna said some banners have been on display since 2012.

Commissioner Alvarez said she enjoys seeing the banners displayed, and that it adds a sense of community pride.

Commissioner Cabrera inquired about the application process. Ms. Luna responded and said the application can be found on the City website and in City facilities including City Hall and the Resource Center.

6. 2025 BUCCANEER BAY SEASON

Aquatics Supervisor Dustin Balke reported on the 2025 Buccaneer Bay Season. He provided a slideshow featuring photos from the 2025 summer season along with revenue and attendance figures. He reported overall the 2025 summer season was successful with positive data reflecting overall satisfaction from guests. He said the summer season has concluded and that staff members are currently performing an assessment of needs for the next season.

Vice Chairman Berry said she saw a consistent social media presence throughout the summer.

Commissioner Savage suggested signage be added on La Mirada Boulevard to help additional people locate Splash! She inquired as to why the City has not added signage. Community Services Director Osuna said he would inquire with the Public Works Department regarding signage.

Commissioner Wight said he has noticed that during events, staff has added a-frame directional signage near the street to assist with patrons locating the entrance.

Commissioner Cline said she noticed swim meets were not included in the report. Aquatics Supervisor Balke said swim meet data is separate from the waterpark report and that data pertaining to swim meets would be added to the annual report at a later date.

SENIOR, HISTORICAL, AND YOUTH COUNCIL REPORTS

Senior Council Chairman Mary Hall reported on the recent All that Dance event, the Fall Festival, the new Senior Excursion program, the Community Health Information and Safety Fair, and the Love La Mirada Day of Service.

Historical Preservation Advisory Councilmember (HPAC) Marlene Olsen reported on the recent tour of the George House with 40 people in attendance including a bride and her bridal party. She said HPAC members are looking forward to providing tours at Halloweenfest.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Wight reported Behringer Park remains under construction and that athletic teams are using other locations in the City during the closure. He reported he is looking forward to attending the dedication of the fountain at City Hall. He reported on his attendance at the Bark in the Park – Puptoberfest and a police car show at the Civic Center.

Commissioner Savage said she enjoyed all the summer events and that she is looking forward to the 2026 events and programs.

Vice Chairman Berry reported on programming at the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts and at Benton Middle School. She said the social media presence for Splash! was great this summer.

Commissioner Alvarez reported on her attendance at the State of the District in Norwalk, the All that Dance, Community Health and Safety Information Fair, a PTA silent auction and the Community Foundation's Investment classes.

Commissioner Cline reported on the pickle ball program at the Community Gymnasium and the group's lunches at Biola University.

Commissioner Cabrera reported on his attendance at the Community Health and Safety Information Fair. He said he's looking forward to serving as a judge for the La Mirada Library's bookmark contest.

Chairman Spirescu reported on her volunteer efforts assisting residents at Lake Park alongside fellow Love La Mirada volunteers.

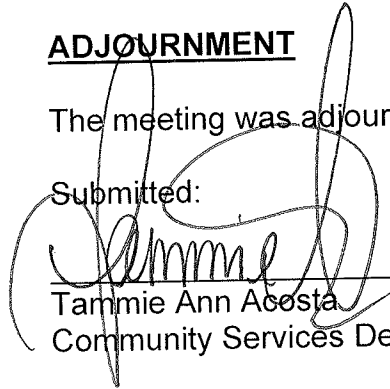
STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Submitted:



Tammie Ann Acosta
Community Services Department Secretary

Attest:



Adriana Spirescu
Chairman