

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS
OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

Wednesday, August 7, 2019

The Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles convened the Regular Meeting at the Westchester Recreation Center at 9:34 a.m. Present were President Sylvia Patsaouras, Vice-President Lynn Alvarez, Commissioner Nicole Chase, Commissioner Pilar Diaz, and Commissioner Joseph Halper. Also present were Michael A. Shull, General Manager, Anthony-Paul Diaz, Executive Officer and Chief of Staff, Deputy City Attorney IV Mike Dundas, and Deputy City Attorney III Steven Hong.

The following Department staff members were present:

Vicki Israel, Assistant General Manager, Recreational Services
Sophia Piña-Cortez, Assistant General Manager, Special Operations
Cathie Santo Domingo, Acting Assistant General Manager, Planning, Maintenance and Construction
Noel Williams, Chief Financial Officer, Finance Branch

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nomination and Selection of Board President for 2019-20 is Sylvia Patsaouras – Motion by Vice-President Lynn Alvarez and Seconded by Commissioner Pilar Diaz; and,

Nomination and Selection of Board Vice President for Fiscal Year 2019-20 is Lynn Alvarez – Motion by Pilar Diaz, Seconded by Commissioner Joe Halper.

CALL TO ORDER

Randy Kelly, Superintendent for Pacific Region, introduced staff from the Westchester Recreational Center and provided background information about the facility.

Anthony-Paul Diaz, Executive Officer and Chief of Staff, shared information about the Hollyhock House at Barnsdall Park, as it was recently declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is the most recent addition and joins the likes of Yosemite Park and Sequoia Park in the State of California. The Hollyhock House was built in the late 1920's by Frank Lloyd Wright. It is curated by the Department of Cultural Affairs and the Department of Recreation and Parks has the privilege of cultivating the gardens, landscaping, and tree maintenance of the entire park. Mr. Diaz also recognized the maintenance staff, who have diligently devoted their efforts to improve this facility, and make ready for the inspection by UNESCO.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

President Patsaouras requested a Motion to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of July 17, 2019. It was moved by Commissioner Diaz, and seconded by Commissioner Halper. There being no objections, the Motion was unanimously approved.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENTS

There were no comments from Neighborhood Council Representatives relative to the Agenda Items being considered.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment on matters relevant to the General Board Reports were requested; nineteen such requests were submitted.

Commissioner Chase arrived at the Board meeting during the General Public Comment.

BOARD REPORTS

19-152 Expo Center: Various Donations from the Friends of the Expo Center for Youth Programs

Mark Rose, Recreation Supervisor for Expo Center, presented Board Report No. 19-152.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-153 Griffith Observatory – Award of Personal Services Contract to Christopher Shelton for As-Needed Performance Director Services for the Live Performer Presentations in the Samuel Oschin Planetarium Theater

Dr. Edwin C. Krupp, Observatory Director II, Griffith Observatory presented Board Report No. 19-153.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-154 Rancho Cienega Sports Complex – Naming Rancho Cienega Sports Complex as Rancho Cienega Park and Naming of Sports Complex at Rancho Cienega Park in Honor of Michelle and Barack Obama – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1 class 11(1) [on Premise Sign] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15311(a) of California CEQA Guidelines

Melinda Gejer, City Planning Associate, Planning, Maintenance, and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-154

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-155 Lincoln Park – The Wall Las Memorias – Approval of Proposed Renovation, Maintenance and Operation Agreement; Approval of Proposed Improvement Project for the Wall Las Memorias; Categorical Exemption from the

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(1) [Minor Alterations to Existing Facilities with No Expansion of Use], Class 1(12) [Outdoor Lighting for Security and Operations], Class 1(14) [License to Use an Existing Structure], Class 4(3) [New Tree Planting and Landscaping] and Class 11(3) [Placement of Accessory Structures to Institutional Facilities] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Sections 15301, 15301(a), 15304(b) and 15311 of California State CEQA Guidelines

Cid Macaraeg, Senior Management Analyst II, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-155.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-156 Valley Plaza Park – Installation of Lighting and Security Cameras (PRJ21297) Project – Allocation of Quimby Fees – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(12) [Outdoor Lighting for Security and Operations] and Class 3(4) [Installation of New Equipment Involving Negligible or No Expansion of Use Required for Safety and Public Convenience] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Sections 15301 and 15303 of California CEQA Guidelines

Dylan Lawrence, Management Assistant, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-156.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-157 Cabrillo Marine Aquarium – Aquarium (PRJ21204) (PRJ21266) Project – Allocation of Quimby Fees – Commitment of Park Fees

Meghan Luera, Management Analyst, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-157.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-158 Quimby Fees – Refund for VTT-68501 and Related Case CPC-2007-515-GPA-ZC-HD-CU-CUB-ZV-ZAA-SPR-SPE-SPP

Meghan Luera, Management Analyst, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-158

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-159 Alpine recreation Center Expansion (AKA Ord & Yale Street Park) (W.O.#E170225F) (PRJ20591) Project – Request Authority to Negotiate and Issue Change Order for Contract 3641

Sean Phan, Civil Engineer, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-159

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-160 Griffith Park – Aerial Transit System Feasibility Study – Supplemental Funding – Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article II, Section 2(d) [Feasibility and Planning Studies for Possible Future Action] of the City CEQA Guidelines

Darryl Ford, Acting Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-160.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-161 Griffith Park – Final Consideration and Approval of Memorial Installation to Commemorate 1933 Canyon Fire Victims; Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11(1) [On Premise Signs] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15311(a) of California CEQA Guidelines

Melinda Gejer, City Planning Associate, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-161.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED WITH TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS to paragraph 2 of page 2 of the report, shall now read “The plaque will be placed along the North Trail near Amir’s Gardens ~~Bill Eckert Trail near Vista Del Valle Drive~~ under the supervision of Griffith Park staff.”

19-162 Palisades Park and Recreation Center – Agreement with your Palisades Park Improvement Corporation for the Installation of New Gardens and Picnic Areas. Bocce Courts, a Flagpole Monument and other Ancillary Park Improvements as a gift to the City; Approval of Donor Recognition Signage and Naming of the Area of Park Improvements as “Veterans’ Gardens;” Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 4(3) [New Landscaping], Class 4(12) [Minor Trenching and Backfilling], Class 11(1) [On Premises Signs], Class 11(3) [Placement of Play Equipment] and Class 11(6) [Construction of Minor Structures Accessory to Existing Facilities] of City CEQA

Guidelines and Article 19, Sections 15304(b), 15304(f), 15311, and 15311(a) of California CEQA Guidelines

Joel Alvarez, Senior Management Analyst II, Partnership, Finance Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-162.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED WITH TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS

– No apostrophe on “Veterans Garden” and Exhibit C of the report shall read “American Legion Ronald Reagan Post 283.”

19-163 Communication Services – Transfer of Appropriations between Funds in the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Information Technology Agency.

Alex Yee, Director of Systems, presented Board Report No. 19-163 on transfer of appropriations between funds.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

BOARD REPORT PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the Public who Wish to Comment on Matters Relevant to the General Board Reports may do so now.

There were 4 such comments.

President Patsouras requested a Motion to approve the Board Reports. It was moved by Commissioner Diaz, seconded by Commissioner Chase to approve the foregoing Board Reports, and Board Reports Nos. 19-161 and 19-162 with corrections as noted. There being no objections, the Motion was unanimously approved.

PARK FEE BOARD REPORT

19-164 Vesting Tentative Tract (VTT) No. 74864 – Recommendation to the Advisory Agency for Land Dedication or in-Lieu Park Fee Payment

Dylan Lawrence, Management Assistant, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Revised Board Report No. 19-164.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED, WITH CORRECTION STATING THAT THE PROJECT HAS 302 UNITS AND ALL RELATED FEE AND LAND DEDICATION CALCULATIONS REFLECT THIS FIGURE, STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO THE ADVISORY AGENCY TO REQUIRE VESTING TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 74864 (PROJECT) TO PAY IN-LIEU FEES TO THE CITY IN ORDER TO FULFILL THE PROJECT'S REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE (LAMC) SECTION 12.33;

PARK FEE BOARD REPORT PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments relevant to the Park Fee Board Reports were invited; 1 such speaker card was submitted.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PARK FEE BOARD REPORT

President Patsouras requested a Motion to approve the Park Fee Board Report, as corrected. It was moved by Commissioner Diaz, seconded by Commissioner Chase to approve the Board Report as presented. There being no objections, the Motion was unanimously approved.

COMMISSION TASK FORCE UPDATES

Commission Task Force on Concessions Report

Commissioner Diaz reported that the Task Force on Concessions did not meet.

Commission Task Force on Facility Repair and Maintenance

Commissioner Alvarez reported that the Task Force on Facility Repair and Maintenance met and discussed the Pacific Palisades Recreation Center - Veterans Garden Project and Recreation and Parks (RAP) Work Order Process to get a better understanding.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT AND VERBAL STAFF UPDATES

Michael A. Shull, General Manager, announced that Melinda Gejer has taken a promotion to Service Coordinator at the Bureau of Street Services. He wished her well, and President Patsouras offered her congratulations. Mr. Shull also recognized Bill Jones, Chief Management Analyst, and Nate Hayward, Senior Project Coordinator, for their amazing work regarding Proposition 68 project applications. RAP staged public meetings and performed community outreach meetings to be able to submit grant applications for 21 projects at a value of over \$148 million. Mr. Shull announced that RAP has administered over 36,000 swim lessons as part of SwimLA, and there are still have a couple of weeks left. He mentioned it was a slow start in June as the weather was pretty cool. So as temperature heated up so did our swim lessons. We have now surpassed 36,000 and hope to achieve 40,000 swim lessons by end of summer. Also, Mr. Shull stated that staff will be working with some of the concerned citizens at Cheviot Hills Recreation Center to address some of the issues regarding permit fees. He also stated that staff will be implementing a new permit enforcement system to ensure that applicants are following the terms of their permit, as some issues have been identified at Westchester Park. Mr. Shull also shared that Jimmy Kim, Superintendent of Aquatics, will be working with the public speakers that addressed the Board earlier with concerns regarding the swim permit fees and process. He also stated that the proposed project at Westwood Park is not ready to be presented to the Board. Staff continues its outreach efforts, and the public comments are acknowledged.

Chief Park Ranger Joe Losorelli presented a verbal report on the status of the Park Ranger Division. The Division currently has 23 Park Rangers and 2 more are expected to attend the LAPD academy; and if successful, they too will become Park Rangers. He has looked at other Ranger Programs, and feels that LAPR is ahead of other programs nationwide.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

Comments from Commissioners on Matters within the Board's Jurisdiction and Requests by Commissioners to Schedule Specific Future Agenda Items were invited; however, no such requests were made.

NEXT MEETING

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, August 21, 2019, 9:30 a.m., at the Pecan Recreation Center, 127 S. Pecan Street, Los Angeles, CA 90033. Motion to adjourn and it was seconded

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Patsouras requested a Motion to Adjourn. It was moved by Commissioner Chase, seconded by Commissioner Halper and the Meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

ATTEST



PRESIDENT



BOARD SECRETARY