

## **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

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

**Thursday, February 16, 2023**

The Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles convened the telephonic Regular Meeting at 9:30 a.m. Present were, President Sylvia Patsaouras, Vice President Alvarez, Commissioners Tafarai Bayne, Nicole Chase and Joe Halper. Also present were Jimmy Kim, General Manager, Matthew Rudnick, Executive Officer, Assistant City Attorney, Mike Dundas, and Deputy City Attorney III Steven Hong.

The following Department staff members were also present:

Cathie Santo Domingo, Assistant General Manager, Planning, Maintenance, and Construction Branch  
Belinda Jackson, Assistant General Manager, Recreation Services Branch  
Brenda Aguirre, Assistant General Manager, Special Operations Branch  
Noel Williams, Chief Financial Officer, Finance Branch

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

President Patsaouras called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 2, 2023. Commissioner Chase made such motion, and it was seconded by Commissioner Bayne. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.

#### **GENERAL MANAGER'S UPDATE**

Jimmy Kim, General Manager, shared that our Emergency Management section provided mass care and shelter at the Lafayette Recreation Center for victims of the major fire structure in the Westlake Village area that displaced 56 residents. Mr. Kim thanked our RAP staff as well as other departments for their quick response in supporting this operation.

Mr. Kim stated our PlayLA Spring registration opened this past Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Kim mentioned the department will be hosting a hiring fair on Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at Normandale Recreation Center. On Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> Yucca Community Center will host a ribbon cutting for its new dance room. Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> Pan Pacific Recreation Center will host a ribbon cutting for its new playground. On Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a black history celebration at Michelle and Barack Obama Sports Complex and Pershing Square.

Mr. Kim gave a brief update on our Community School program in which he stated we plan to open another Community School at the end of February at Bethune middle school. Mr. Kim gave a clarification on the status of the pickle ball consultant that we plan to request for proposal to conduct a study on best practices regarding pickle ball for the entire City, in which they will provide a recommendation based on industry standards. Mr. Kim also provided an update on the Griffith Park

Shakespeare stage which he stated will go to bid at the end of this month. He stated the department will provide a timeline of the work once the contract has been awarded.

### **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comments on matters within the Board's jurisdiction were invited, 24 such requests were submitted.

### **BOARD REPORT PUBLIC COMMENT AND CONSIDERATION OF THE BOARD REPORTS**

Public comments relevant to the Board Reports were requested; one such request was submitted.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Discussion with Neighborhood Council Representatives on Neighborhood Council Resolutions or Community Impact Statements Filed with the City Clerk Relative to Any Item Listed or Being Considered on this Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Meeting Agenda (Los Angeles Administrative Code 22.819; Ordinance 184243)

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

### **BOARD REPORTS**

23-037           Amendment to Personnel Resolution No. 10613 – Section 1H (Other Special Funded Positions)

Noel Williams, Chief Financial Officer, Finance Administration Branch, presented Board Report No. 23-023.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

23-038           South Park Child Care Center Project (PRJ21524) – Acceptance of Stop Payment Notice and Release of Stop Payment Notice on Construction Contract No. 3798 for Chris Kelley, Inc. dba Childs Play

Darryl Ford, Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 23-038.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

23-039           Van Ness Child Care Center Project (PRJ21523) – Acceptance of Stop Payment Notice and Release of Stop Payment Notice on Construction Contract No. 3798 for Chris Kelley, Inc. dba Childs Play

Darryl Ford, Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 23-039.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

23-040 Sepulveda Basin Recreation Area – Balboa Sports Complex Restroom Renovation (PRJ21692) (PRJ21693) Project – Allocation of Quimby and Zone Change Fees - Commitment of Park Fees – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(1) [Interior and Exterior Alterations of Existing Facilities Involving Remodeling and Minor Construction where there be Negligible or No Expansion of Use] and Class 1(3) [Minor Alteration of Existing Pedestrian Trails and Parking Lots] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Sections 15301(a) and 15301(c) of California CEQA Guidelines

Ajmal Noorzayee, Management Analyst, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 23-040.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

23-041 Flat Top Park – Rescission of Previous Board Action for the Acquisition of Five Parcels by Donation for the Development of a Park - Statutory Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article II, Section 2, Class (j) [Projects which are Rejected or Disapproved] of City CEQA Guidelines as well as to Article 18, Section 15270 of California CEQA Guidelines

Darryl Ford, Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 23-041.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

23-042 Rancho Park Golf Course Food and Beverage Concession –The Tavern at Rancho Park, LLC –Consent for Change in Ownership of Company

Rachel Ramos, Sr. Management Analyst II, Special Operations Branch, presented Board Report No. 23-042.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

23-043 Suspension of 1st And Broadway Civic Center Park – Park Development (PRJ21252) (PRJ20781) Project – Reallocation of Quimby Fees – Decommittment of Park Fees - Statutory Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article II, Section 2, Class (j) [Projects which are Rejected or Disapproved] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 18, Section 15270 of California CEQA Guidelines

Darryl Ford, Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 23-043.

DISPOSITION: WITHDRAWN

23-044 Sixth Street Viaduct Park, Arts, and River Connectivity (PARC) Improvements (PRJ21652) (PRJ21696) (W.O.# E700235f) Project – Development of Memorandum Of Understanding With City Departments; Approval Of Final Plans And Specifications – Allocation Of Quimby Fees – Commitment Of Park Fees - Consideration of the Environmental Impact Report for the Sixth Street Park, Arts, River and Connectivity (PARC) Project (SCH #2017041045) Certified on April 29, 2022 and Statutory Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act Pursuant To Article II, Section 2(i) of City of Los Angeles CEQA Guidelines and Section 21082 of California Public Resources Code

Gary Lam, Sr. Civil Engineer, Bureau of Engineering, presented Board Report No. 23-044.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED With a motion to amend the report to remove recommendation 4 and 5.

President Patsouras requested a Motion to approve an amendment to Board Report 23-044 as **amended**. It was moved by President Patsouras and seconded by Commissioner Bayne. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.

President Patsouras requested a Motion to approve the Board Reports as presented with a correction to board report 23-044 and with the withdrawal of board report 23-043. It was moved by Commissioner Chase and seconded by Commissioner Bayne that the Board Reports be approved as presented with corrections to board report 23-044 and with the withdrawal of board report 23-043. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.

**VERBAL REPORT AND FINDINGS TO CONTINUE TELECONFERENCING PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953 (AB 361)**

President Sylvia Patsouras reported that the board must consider a determination, in accordance with AB 361 Section 3(e)(3) that, while the state of emergency due to the Covid-19 pandemic, as originally proclaimed by the Governor on March 4, 2020, remains active and/or state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, this legislative body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members of this Board, and the ability of the members of all of this Board's advisory bodies, including, but not limited to, all park advisory boards, the Greek Theatre Advisory Committee, and the Golf Advisory Committee, as well as the public who might attend these meetings, to meet safely in person and/or state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

President Sylvia Patsouras made motion for approval of such findings and Commissioner Halper seconded the motion. Public comment relevant to this item were invited, with no such requests submitted. There being no objection to the motion, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.

**COMMISSION TASK FORCE UPDATES**

### **Commission Task Force on Concessions**

Commissioner Chase reported that this Task Force met and gave appreciation to Stanley Woo who conducts the Concession task force meetings. Commissioner Chase stated the task force discussed a new RFP for the Sherman Oaks Castle Park Batting Cages and Food and Beverages. Commissioner Chase also mentioned they were provided an update on Rancho Park and mentioned the project should be completed by November. Commissioner Chase also mentioned there was a robust conversation regarding the Griffith Park Pony rides and the plan for the reimagining the space moving forward. Commissioner Chase mentioned the department plans to hire a consultant which will engage with our stakeholders and community members as well as review other cities and locations for their best practices. Commissioner Bayne mentioned they plan to review the outreach planning process at future meetings.

### **Commission Task Force on Facility Repair and Maintenance**

Vice President Alvarez stated that this task force met and discussed Grape Street pocket park renaming process to Ms. Betty Day which will be going to full Commission. Commissioner Alvarez mentioned they also discussed a Griffith Park plaque installation regarding a civilian conservation camp and then had a discussion of North Atwater, East Bank Riverway. Commissioner Alvarez also mentioned the task force discussed the Slauson Connect project.


### **COMMISSION BUSINESS**


Comments from the Commissioners on Matters within the Board's jurisdiction and Requests by Commissioners to Schedule Specific Future Agenda Items were requested. Commissioner Chase requested a report back on the Shakespeare stage at Griffith Park and the Stoney Creek Ranch. Commissioner Chase also would like an update on the hiring of new Park Rangers and the soccer field conditions at Balboa Park. President Patsouras requested an update on the conditions of the baseball field at the Sepulveda Basin. Commissioner Halper requested a report on the sound decibels regarding pickle ball and consideration of the legal requirements or ordinances. Commissioner Halper would also like a report back on the Community School Parks program and the establishment of hubs where the department will pick up children to enjoy some of our services. He would also like a report back on Stoner park tennis court repairs. Commissioner Alvarez also requested a report back regarding the Shakespeare stage and a status update on a request to plant trees at Westminster Dog Park.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

### **ATTEST**

  
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**PRESIDENT**

  
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**BOARD SECRETARY**