Minutes
Regular Meeting
Public Amenities Commission – 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, July 8, 2026

A. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Redondo Beach Public Amenities Commission was called to order by Chair Maroko at 6:30 P.M., in the City Hall Council Chambers, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California, and teleconference.

B. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present:	Lang, Galassi, McCauley, Chair Maroko, Yousufzai (arrived at 6:33 p.m.)
Commissioners Absent:	Caldwell, Rowe
Officials Present:	Dana Vinke, Library Director Kelly Orta, Deputy Community Services Director Lane Butler, Administrative Coordinator/Interim Liaison

C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Deputy Community Services Director Orta led the Commissioners in the salute to the flag.

D. APPROVE ORDER OF AGENDA

Motion by Chair Maroko, seconded by Commissioner Lang, to change the order of the agenda to L.1, L.2, Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items, M, N, and then back to the Consent Calendar; reasoned that any items that require a vote or input from certain Commissioners could be taken at that point.

Chair Maroko reported that Commissioner Yousufzai arrived at 6:33 p.m.

Motion carried 5-0-2. Commissioners Caldwell and Rowe were absent.

E. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS - ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS

E.1. BLUE FOLDER

Library Director Vinke reported one Blue Folder item related to the Preservation Committee.

Motion by Commissioner Galassi, seconded by Commissioner Lang, to receive and file the Blue Folder item.

Motion carried 5-0-2. Commissioners Caldwell and Rowe were absent.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR – Chair Maroko moved this item to after item N.

F.1. APPROVE AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE REDONDO BEACH PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION MEETING OF JULY 8, 2026

F.2. Pulled by Chair Maroko

F.3. RECEIVE AND FILE LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

F.4. RECEIVE AND FILE UPDATES FROM THE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT RELATED TO HISTORICAL & PARKS AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES

CONTACT: KELLY ORTA, DEPUTY COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR
JACK MEYER, CULTURAL ARTS MANAGER

Chair Maroko pulled item F.2.

Motion by Commissioner Galassi, seconded by Commissioner Lang, to approve items F.1, F.3, and F.4.

Chair Maroko invited public comment.

Interim Liaison Butler reported no public comment.

Motion carried 5-0-2. Commissioners Caldwell and Rowe were absent.

G. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

F.2. APPROVE THE REDONDO BEACH PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION MINUTES OF JUNE 10, 2026.

Chair Maroko stated he pulled the minutes because Mike Gin was spelled incorrectly and that P flag should be PFLAG.

Commissioner Galassi asked if there were any other items that needed to be corrected besides the two, he mentioned.

Chair Maroko stated he had more but nothing that should hold them up; opined minutes should only be action items but that the minutes do follow what actually happened.

Library Director Vinke stated that the Commission has approved minutes with typos in the past as long as the content was correct and staff has gone back and corrected typos.

Commissioner Yousufzai asked how the City transposes the minutes.

Library Director Vinke responded that they work with the City Clerk's office and there is a Minutes Secretary assigned to the City Council and Commissions; noted that the minutes are submitted to them for review and that they should have caught the typos.

Discussion followed regarding the amount the City pays for minutes.

Commissioner Yousufzai stated he was more curious about the process; voiced concern if the minutes had significant omissions and not just typos.

More discussion followed regarding the process behind the minutes and the title for the Administrative Coordinator since "liaison" was being used.

Motion by Commissioner Galassi, seconded by Commissioner Yousufzai, to table the minutes until the next meeting.

Interim Liaison Butler reported no public comment.

Motion carried 5-0-2. Commissioners Caldwell and Rowe were absent.

H. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS - moved after item L

H.1. For eComments and Emails Received from the Public

Chair Maroko reported that due to the new Brown Act changes they will be switching between live and online speakers.

Interim Liaison Butler reported no one online.

Chair Maroko moved on to item M.

I. EX PARTE COMMUNICATION - None

J. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

Chair Maroko moved to item O.

K. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDA - None

L. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION

L.1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE VOLUNTEER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO FORMALLY RECOGNIZE JACK RAJCIC FOR HIS VOLUNTEER SERVICE

CONTACT: KELLY ORTA, DEPUTY COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

Community Services Deputy Director Orta spoke of the Public Amenities Commission having a Volunteer Acknowledgement Subcommittee consisting of Commissioners Rowe and Caldwell; reported that the Community Services Department had received an acknowledgement application for Jack Rajcic for his volunteer service as it relates to Little League activities in the City; noted that his service is an eligible activity for the acknowledgment; stated that the way the program was drafted, the subcommittee initially reviews the application, they determine whether or not the person or organization is eligible for consideration, and if they would formally recommend the Commission consider the application for formal acknowledgement; reported that the subcommittee did review the application and is recommending approval from the Commission to formally acknowledge Jack Rajcic; stated that staff have attached the guidelines and policies for the program, the original application, and the subcommittee's recommendation form to the item; asked that the Commission consider whether the City should formally acknowledge Jack Rajcic for his service and if so, they would return at a subsequent meeting and do a formal acknowledgement.

Chair Maroko asked if it would be possible for staff to put together pictures of all the recipients that have been recognized, past and present, for the public to see.

Discussion followed that Chair Maroko envisioned the photos being part of the report and packet so that current recipients would see they are part of a larger process.

Commissioner Galassi asked if there was anywhere on the City's website where all the volunteers who have been recipients of the award are listed.

Community Services Deputy Director Orta recalled that there is a landing page for the Volunteer Acknowledgement Program in order for people to go online and get the applications and the documents; said she needs to familiarize herself with it and she can then add names and pictures to the site.

Commissioner Galassi stated she thought it was important to have, so others can also get a better idea when considering a nominee of what others that have done to receive the award in the past.

Chair Maroko asked Commissioner Lang if she wanted to say anything since the nomination came from her.

Commissioner Lang responded that she could speak if Jack Rajcic was given the award but stated she could go on and on about his level of dedication to the league and on the amount of time and effort he put into it; stressed that they also do not get paid.

Commissioner McCauley stated he also knows Jack Rajcic through meetings they both attend; noted that it is a big job and he should be commended for the duties he takes on for both softball and baseball for the league.

Chair Maroko stated that staff's recommendation is to formally acknowledge Jack for his volunteer effort and asked for a motion to move it to the next step.

Motion by Commissioner Galassi, seconded by Commissioner Lang, to move the Volunteer Acknowledgement to the next step.

Interim Liaison Butler reported no one online and no eComments.

Motion carried 5-0-2. Commissioners Caldwell and Rowe were absent.

L.3. COMMISSION SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW AND PROJECT UPDATE

Chair Maroko asked for updates.

Minor Alteration Subcommittee

Commissioner Galassi reported that there have been no meetings for the subcommittee.

Facilities User Subcommittee

Commissioner McCauley reported that softball and baseball have wrapped up their seasons and soccer would be starting in August.

Volunteer Acknowledgement Subcommittee

None

Bringing History to Community Subcommittee

Commissioner Maroko stated there was nothing to report.

Franklin Park Playground Subcommittee

Commissioner Galassi reported that the playground is in fabrication.

Alta Vista Pickleball Subcommittee

Commissioner Galassi reported having a meeting with Community Services Deputy Director Orta and two other staff members to address safety concerns, noted they were taken care of; stated that they are working through some other items regarding the reservation system; reported that she and Community Services Deputy Director Orta both received an email stating that they are limiting Open Play to 30 people so the first 30 people that arrive in the morning and evening, and pay their $5 drop-in fee, are able to play; questioned how they will monitor when people leave and if new people can come in.

Community Services Deputy Director Orta responded that she has not had a chance to look at it but their team would review it and provide an update.

Commissioner Galassi suggested they could do a study on the usage of the courts to see if they can find additional revenue during certain times.

Preservation Outreach Subcommittee

Commissioner Galassi stated they had an eventful outreach at the Riviera Village Summer Festival and that the report highlights everything they did; thanked Director Wiener for his support, Senior Planner John Ciampa for putting together all the information needed, Commissioner Rowe for handling all the heavy lifting to get the booth setup, Commissioner Lang for volunteering, and the two staff members who helped.

Chair Maroko noted that the information was in the Blue Folder; questioned whether they should continue outreach booths at other festivals in the City.

Commissioner Galassi stated that the Subcommittee still needed to debrief on that event; announced another outreach event on November 21st at the Historic Library; stated there seems to be a real need in the community to educate people, noted that many people don't even know about the Mills Act contract with the City; reported that three homeowners in particular own historic homes; stated, to answer Chair Maroko's question, they would be holding more of the outreach events when available.

Discussion followed regarding the possible cost of the next event and when the Commission will be provided with more details.

Commissioner Galassi said she would be meeting with Senior Planner Ciampa, and they could try to come up with a rough budget to discuss with the Commission.

Commissioner Lang spoke about the setup of the booth being engaging to the public; noted that they had pictures from the museum, framed memorabilia, an old rotary phone, and several photo albums with old photos of Redondo Beach; reported that they also had an interactive game that caught the attention of many people; commented that the event was very successful.

Chair Maroko acknowledged Commissioner Galassi for all the work she put into the event.

Research on LGBTQ History in Redondo Beach Subcommittee

Chair Maroko recalled that last month they had an agenda item regarding the item, he proposed an option, the Commission gave him authority to speak to the Council with some alternatives, and reported that the Council only gave him three minutes to speak even though he was speaking on behalf of the Commission; stated that he only got through two thirds of his presentation but they asked for something in writing; asked the Commission for their approval to draft a letter for Library Director Vinke to bring to the City Council and Mayor, as well as any questions they have for Councilmember Obagi; reported doing more research on what the Council was looking for and said it was clear that Councilmember Obagi initially said it needed to go to the artwork but in subsequent emails he said the Commission could do whatever they wanted; stated, in 2023, a resolution and a motion was approved that directed the Historical Commission to identify actions by the City and its history that celebrated the LGBT Community and said that was the basis for the request to do something broader; spoke about a possible grant opportunity proposed by Congressman Ted Lieu for a project like the art installation.

Motion by Chair Maroko for the Commission to authorize the subcommittee to write a letter to the Council and Mayor that expresses different options and provides choices, and to incorporate Commissioner Lang as the editor of the letter.

Commissioner Lang asked if they would be pulling from the minutes or from Chair Maroko's recollection of the discussion for the content of the letter.

Chair Maroko stated mostly from the minutes but also additional research; noted that he did not have the time to get through his whole presentation but had the notes on the presentation so they can use it to write the letter from the Commission.

Commissioner McCauley asked if they voted to give him permission to generate the letter, would the Commission have the opportunity to vote to approve it.

Chair Maroko responded that he would draft the letter, Commissioner Lang would edit it, and then Library Director Vinke would decide if it is ready to go out to the City Council; pointed out that the Commission already gave him permission to orally present the item to the Council; noted that they have safeguards since Library Director Vinke (their liaison) would go over it and Commissioner Lang would wordsmith it; stated that it is basically covering the three options that the Commission had discussed at the last meeting.

More discussion followed.

Commissioner McCauley reported he was absent at the last meeting so he just wanted to understand it better; questioned whether the letter needed to be sent soon or if they could bring it back to vote on it.

Commissioner Maroko commented that the process started in March, he did not want to have it stalled at the Commission level but didn't have a problem bringing it back; commented that he noticed with the Library Commission, drafting by committee sometimes goes in all different directions; stated he incorporated what Commissioner Yousufzai said about procurement stuff in his comments to the Council as well as what Commissioner Caldwell said about overloading the staff.

Discussion followed about previous letters written.

Commissioner Lang stated it made more sense for Chair Maroko to draft the letter after he reminded the Commission that the Commission had suggested he take what they discussed and bring it to Council.

Commissioner Yousufzai agreed that having the liaison review the letter should suffice.

Chair Maroko said he was reminded to stay in their lane, make a recommendation to the Council, and follow Council direction.

Commissioner Lang seconded the motion.

Interim Liaison Butler reported no public comment.

Motion carried 4-0-3. Commissioners Caldwell and Rowe were absent. Commissioner McCauley abstained since he was not at the last meeting.

<u>Recognition Preservation Subcommittee</u>

Chair Maroko recalled that he showed the Commission the different Garnet Historic District signs, then presented them to the Council, manufactured them, and gave a framed one to Councilmember Castle, and an unframed one to the City Manager so he could make a decision; stated he wasn't sure the City has even chosen a font, so the official sign is still not up.

<u>Budget Subcommittee</u>

Commissioner Lang noted that new guidelines came out for Commissions regarding having end dates for subcommittees; asked if it would be an appropriate time to dissolve the Budget Subcommittee and form it again if they want to during the next budget cycle, or if they just keep it open since it happens every year.

Chair Maroko reported that he did not have a chance to read the new guidelines that were emailed before the meeting; asked Library Director Vinke if he had thoughts on it.

Library Director Vinke responded that he recalled that they decided to reevaluate it at the end of the maximum term, which is one year; stated it was still up to the Commission's discretion.
Commissioner Yousufzai recalled that they discussed leaving it open because there are two windows for opportunity, the annual budget and mid-year, to potentially provide recommendations to the Council.

Chair Maroko asked Commissioner Yousufzai to provide any suggestions he had to improve the process before October so they could consider it during the October meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Yousufzai, seconded by Commissioner Galassi, to receive and file the oral reports and one written report.

Chair Maroko invited public comment.

Interim Liaison Butler reported no public comment.

Motion carried 5-0-2. Commissioners Caldwell and Rowe were absent.

Chair Maroko moved on to item H.

M. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Library Director Vinke stated that he had no items other than his Director's Report and if they wanted to ask questions they could pull it when they got to Consent Calendar; He announced that the City Clerk is planning an orientation on the new rules and additional training.

Commissioner McCauley recognized staff for their hard work putting together the July 4th fireworks show.

N. COMMISSION MEMBER ITEMS AND FUTURE COMMISSION AGENDA TOPICS

Commissioner Galassi requested that the Sneary Parkette sign be replaced, located on Ford and Belmont.

Deputy Community Services Director Orta stated she would take a look at it.

Commissioner Lang recalled that when she was on the Recreation and Parks Commission they invited a School Board Member to come and discuss opening up extra fields and play yards for the kids; explained that when schools were closed the land was leased off to businesses and they had public park space attached to them, opined that is one reason why the City is so park poor; reported that she was speaking to a Councilmember at the Riviera Village Festival when some young people approached him to ask about new basketball hoops; said they told him that they used to play at a school and that school closed during the COVID-19 pandemic and never reopened, so they aren't able to play there anymore; suggested they pursue opening the conversation back up that the Recreation and Parks Commission started.

Community Services Deputy Director Orta added what she remembered from that item; stated it was about three to four years ago and that the Commission did recommend to forward the request to the City Council to consider starting a negotiation with the School District after hearing the presentation from the School Board Member; recalled that the Council's response, at that time, was that it was not a priority based on other items that they already had on their list of items with the School District; stated that it is up to the PAC if they want to pick it back up since it was tabled by the City Council; suggested if the PAC would like it reconsidered they would need to put it on as a future discussion item and then give staff the authority to make that request again with the City Council.

Commissioner Lang stated she would like to put together a report with data, since other districts have opened up their play yards before they present it to the City Council; asked if they need to create a subcommittee for it.

Community Services Deputy Director Orta stated, in her experience with other agencies, there are many different models for it, but what it comes down to is liability concerns on both ends, as well as funding to support the maintenance of the facility being opened up to the public versus it being closed; stated, if they were to form a subcommittee, she recommended they look into the two key points she mentioned, as well as the other information they want to present to the Council.

Commissioner Galassi asked, if the facilities were to be opened, could the City use Quimby Funds to support the necessary improvements.

Deputy Community Service Director Orta responded that she did not know but would look into it.

Chair Maroko commented that Quimby Funds are normally for regional park use.

Community Services Deputy Director Orta said she would look into it if the Commission moved it forward but commented that it was a gray area.

Discussion followed regarding whether to agendize the item or not.

Chair Maroko stated he would expect that, if they open the discussion and agendize the item, Community Services would review it before the next meeting, let the Commission know if they want to explore it or not, Community Services can ask the Commission for their help if staff wants, and then the Commission can form the subcommittee.

Community Services Deputy Director Orta clarified that this would be a Commission driven item, it is not included in the Strategic Plan and its nothing that the City Council has directed staff to do; stated that the report that they draft should include a brief outline of what was discussed that evening, history of the item, and then other thoughts that they may have; noted that the recommendation would be for the Commission to consider whether the Commission would like to move the initiative forward; commented that staff would support as much as possible but until the Council reviews the Commission's recommendation, and decides if they want to initiate it, staff would not add this to their work plan.

Commissioner Lang stated she assumed that, if there was a subcommittee, they would work on it and, if the Council was interested, the Council could make a decision based on the information the subcommittee presents to them.

Community Services Deputy Director Orta responded that it was possible and, if so, Council could add it to the Strategic Plan or direct staff to work on it during the year.

Chair Maroko noted it does create an opportunity to have the discussion with their liaison first and then he would speak to the department so that Commissioner Lang could get their feedback on it; noted that even if they agendize it, it might not show up on their agenda.

Commissioner McCauley pointed out that the Facility Users Subcommittee could work on it since it is a user issue and the School District representatives sometimes comes to their meetings anyways; recalled some negotiations were initiated by the School District with the City or some possible leases for some facilities were being discussed but it seemed to stop.

Community Services Deputy Director Orta stated she believed those negotiations were still going on, that the City Council has a subcommittee that communicates with the School District on a variety of topics, but she does not know what the topics are exactly and did not want to speak on it.

Commissioner McCauley recalled that representatives from the School Board spoke to them on the Parks Commission and also on the PAC awhile ago; said they could explore it and do some community outreach to see if it could be pushed forward.

Commissioner Lang stated she was comfortable with that.

Commissioner McCauley mentioned they meet annually but could do other topic specific meetings as well; told Commissioner Lang they could discuss it further offline.

Chair Maroko stated they will bring it back next month.

Commissioner Yousufzai asked staff if there is a regular maintenance schedule for the playgrounds at Anderson Park.

Community Services Deputy Director Orta replied that she would have to ask Public Works since that falls under their department.

Commissioner Yousufzai stated he has been going consistently, and the toddler playground area is a mess and looks unkept.

Community Services Director Deputy Orta stated she will reach out to see if something could be done there.

Chair Maroko reported he had three items related to parks; stated a person spoke about the fields being close at the Council meeting the night before and suggested setting up soccer on asphalt, so he just wanted to mention it; asked if the City implemented the second Park Ranger for Wilderness Park.

Community Services Deputy Director Orta responded that it did not get implemented because there is no funding provided in the budget for it, but that Council tasked them with finding ways to work within the current budget to provide additional support at Wilderness Park; noted that they are currently exploring options.

Chair Maroko asked Commissioner Lang if she wanted to form a Tree Preservation Committee.

Commissioner Lang stated that it could wait.

Chair Maroko moved back to item F, which was Consent Calendar.

O. ADJOURNMENT – 7:28 P.M.

Motion by Commissioner Galassi, seconded by Commissioner Yousufzai, to adjourn the meeting.

Chair Maroko announced that the next meeting of the Redondo Beach Public Amenities Commission will be a regular meeting to be held at 6:30 p.m. on August 12, 2026, in the Redondo Beach Council Chambers, at 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach.

Motion carried 5-0-2. Commissioners Caldwell and Rowe were absent.

All written comments submitted via eComment are included in the record and available for public review on the City website.

Respectfully submitted:

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Dana Vinke
Library Director