



Minutes
Redondo Beach Public Amenities Commission
Wednesday, September 10, 2025
Regular Meeting 6:30 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION – 6:30 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Redondo Beach Public Amenities Commission was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Yousufzai in the City Hall Council Chambers, 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California.

B. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Caldwell, Maroko, Rowe, Galassi, McCauley
Chair Yousufzai

Commissioners Absent: Lang

Officials Present: Dana Vinke, Library Director
Kelly Orta, Deputy Community Services Director
Becca McNeely, Library Program Coordinator

C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Chair Yousufzai led in the Salute to the Flag.

D. APPROVE ORDER OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Maroko, seconded by Commissioner Galassi, to approve the order of the agenda as presented.

The motion carried 6-0. Commissioner Lang was absent.

E. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS – ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS

E.1 For Blue Folder Documents

Library Director Vinke reported one Blue Folder item which was a comment that was delivered via email under item H; noted that Library Coordinator Becca McNeely printed out hard copies for everyone and that the individual emailed each Commissioner through their Redondo.org emails.

Motion by Commissioner Galassi, seconded by Chair Yousufzai, to receive and file the printed copies of the comment for item H.

The motion carried 6-0. Commissioner Lang was absent.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

F.1. RECEIVE AND FILE LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

F.2. RECEIVE AND FILE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT UPDATES RELATED TO HISTORICAL & PARKS AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES

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

F.3. APPROVE AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE REDONDO BEACH PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

F.4. Pulled by Commissioner Maroko

Commissioner Maroko pulled item F.4.

Motion by Commissioner Maroko, seconded by Commissioner Caldwell to approve Consent Calendar items F.1, F.2, and F.3 and move item F.4 under Excluded Consent Calendar Items.

The motion carried 6-0. Commissioner Lang was absent.

G. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

F.4. APPROVE THE REDONDO BEACH PUBLIC AMENITIES COMMISSION MINUTES OF AUGUST 13, 2025

Commissioner Maroko reported, under item L.2 of the last meeting, he asked a series of extensive questions to Community Development Director Marc Wiener which he did not feel were reflected in the minutes as well as questions asked by Commissioner Lang; felt the answers to his questions were relevant to the Commission and to the public; offered to re-write the section of the minutes he was referring to and having Commissioner Lang proofread it.

Motion by Commissioner Maroko, seconded by Chair Yousufzai, to table this item until the next meeting.

The motion carried 6-0. Commissioner Lang was absent.

H. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

H.1 For eComments and Emails Received from the Public

Library Director Vinke referenced the comment that was submitted via email and printed out; the email was from Rick McQuillin regarding his app called SeeARTesia; commented that it has already been received and filed and it is not on the agenda, so it does not need to be discussed at this time.

Chair Yousufzai asked if any Commissioner wished to comment on the non-agenda item.

Commissioner Maroko reported speaking to Rick McQuillin and stated he does not mind reaching out to him on the historical aspects of Artesia and could speak to staff as well.

Library Coordinator Becca McNeely reported no one online and no other eComments.

I. EX PARTE COMMUNICATION – None

J. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

K. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS - None

L. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION

L.1. DISCUSSION THE LIBRARY'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Library Director Vinke introduced Lisa Winter, the City's Youth Services Librarian; stated she would be presenting on the item.

Lisa Winter, Youth Services Librarian, reported she discussed the Summer Reading Program with the Commission back in May and wanted to give them an overview since it has been completed; gave a brief description of the program which ran from June 14th through August 23rd, spoke about her team and their preparation for the program started in January, stated the theme was "Level Up with your Library", and stated sign-ups started at the Juneteenth celebration; provided details of the program which included prizes and other rewards, explained the different reading categories and age groups, and the ability to write book reviews to earn prizes; detailed out other events they organized throughout the summer for all ages; reported they chose Science Heroes to host the finales which included several experiments; mentioned the various medias and outreach they used to promote their Summer Reading Program; stated they hoped to further expand their outreach using press releases and contacting more schools; reported in 2024 they had 2047 participants and increased the amount to 2,690 for 2025; expressed gratitude to Friends of the Library for their support.

Commissioner Rowe commented that he witnessed participants turning in their hours for the Summer Reading Program and receiving prizes and felt it was great community engagement.

Commissioner Maroko asked how this year's program was able to exceed the statistics of the prior years.

Lisa Winter provided attributed the increase in numbers to the face-to-face outreach interactions she and her team have had with students; noted their goal is to always increase their numbers year over year.

Discussion followed regarding the success of the book reviews, the success of the adult program since summer reading programs are normally geared towards kids and teens, and the correlation between the increase in visits to the library linked to the Summer Reading Program.

Multiple positive comments from the Commission and Director Vinke were directed towards Lisa Winter.

Motion by Commissioner Galassi, seconded by Commissioner McCauley, to receive and file the report from Lisa Winter.

The motion carried 6-0. Commissioner Lang was absent.

L.2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING SPECIAL DONATIONS REQUEST FOR INSTALLATION OF A PLAQUE AT RIVIERA VILLAGE PARK

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

Deputy Community Services Director Orta provided some background on the item; stated in 2023 the Vilarino family proposed the funding and installation of a commemorative plaque and olive tree in Riviera Village Park; gave the reasons for the installation and celebration; noted it was part of the "Special Donations" option of the City's Commemorative Donation Program; reported they brought this item to the Commission on November 13, 2024 and the Commission supported the project with two conditions: approval by the City of Torrance and Commissioner Lang was to work with the Vilarino family for the text on the plaque; provided a conceptual image of where the olive tree would go and where the new plaque would be placed as well as a copy of the proposed plaque language; stated Commissioner Lang requested the Commission to review the text proposed on the plaque for two reasons: 1) it has been a while since the item was in front of them, and 2) it was brought to Commissioner Lang's attention that the Vilarino family were never residents of Redondo Beach; noted that they did own a business in the City and it commemorates contributors to the park; stated the recommendations for the Commission are to review the proposed plaque language and provide feedback, reaffirm support for the proposed project or continue the item to a future meeting since Commissioner Lang was absent that evening.

Commissioner Maroko thought two plaques were supposed to be in the project.

Director Orta stated they considered putting smaller circular plaques to mirror what was there before, but it was not pursued.

Commissioner Maroko thought the Commission had already approved the project and gave Commissioner Lang the ability to work with the family on the text; felt with all the communication with the family that staff should have uncovered the fact that the Vilarino family were not residents of the City.

Director Orta explained how it ended up back on the Commission's agenda.

More discussion followed.

Motion by Chair Yousufzai, seconded by Commissioner Caldwell, to table the item until Commissioner Lang could be present and include the minutes from the November 13, 2024 meeting.

Commissioner McCauley voiced concern over the delay from the family's perspective, Commissioner Maroko echoed that concern and felt they had already approved the project on their end and that the Community Services Director could do the final approval of the language on the plaque.

Chair Yousufzai clarified that he tabled it just to the next meeting and the new information of the Vilarino family not being Redondo Beach residents made him uncomfortable and would like Commissioner Lang to provide perspective.

More discussion followed regarding Commissioner Lang's decision to bring it back to the Commission and the Commission's indecision to delay it further.

Commissioner Galassi made a substitute motion, seconded by Commissioner McCauley, to vote to approve the language and the project and move it forward.

Motion carried 5-1-1. Chair Yousufzai voted no. Commissioner Lang was absent.

Motion by Chair Yousufzai, seconded by Commissioner Caldwell, to receive and file the report.

The motion carried 6-0. Commissioner Lang was absent.

Library Director Vinke reported no public comment.

L.3. COMMISSION SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW AND PROJECT UPDATE

Commissioner McCauley asked if the City was aware of the significance of the lights for the leagues at Julia Field and asked if Director Orta recalled the work that had been done already; mentioned that the lighting currently there was meant to be temporary

and the work that has been done was intended for a more permanent solution for lighting; asked if there have been any complaints regarding the use of the lights. Director Orta stated she recalled the project but had not looked at it for a long time; reported they receive complaints on all the City's lighted parks from adjacent homes.

Commissioner McCauley asked if staff is aware that the lights can be accessed by anyone that chooses to.

Director Orta said they are aware of the issue, and they are working towards a solution.

Commissioner McCauley then asked about the permitting process for non-profit youth organizations and whether another organization can be allowed to use parts of a field if the organization that was approved the permit allows them to.

Director Orta felt too much discussion was taking place regarding a topic that is not on the agenda.

Commissioner McCauley then asked if the permit processing for youth organizations would be revamped, to which Director Orta stated they are working on revamping the entire process.

Chair Yousufzai asked Library Director Vinke if they would be picking up the Bylaws Subcommittee conversation at that time.

Library Director Vinke mentioned that the City Council is currently reviewing the Code of Conduct as it relates to all the Commissions and suggested to wait until that is released; recommended that if they have any comments or feedback that they would like Council to consider that they should reach out to them.

Commissioner Maroko added that the proposed amendments to the Public Amenities ordinance set forth specific tasks for committees; commented from his understanding Commissions would no longer need bylaws.

More discussion followed on the need to wait and see what is decided by Council, the possibility of inviting Councilmembers to the Commission meetings so they can understand the work they are doing.

Commissioner Galassi reported she attended some Council meetings and spoke on a couple of ordinances and followed up with an email that the Mayor requested relating to preservation and parks and recreation; stated she and Director Orta would be speaking to the pickleball subcommittee regarding Alta Vista and had an idea to gather all the ambassadors of neighboring cities for a round table so they can try to avoid making mistakes that others have made in the past; reported reaching out to Director Hause regarding the Franklin Park update.

Director Orta reported that the stakeholder group worked with the playground manufacturer and a conceptual drawing has been laid out and they are currently working on colors; stated they will have a bigger update at the next Commission meeting; explained the process, noted that the design and other decisions will be brought to the Commission before being presented to Council for final approval.

Commissioner Maroko updated the Commission that the Council would be agendaing the item regarding the Wilderness Park historic landmark; stated that the Cultural Art Manager is working on long-term signs for the Path of History markers; provided an update on the walking timeline at Dominguez Park, and Ito Park; asked about the Park Ranger subcommittee and wondered if it needed to be revisited.

Commissioner Rowe spoke about the certificates of recognition for volunteers and mentioned he will be emailing out applications for nominations soon.

Director Orta added that the nominations are for volunteer efforts done in the City's green spaces or parks or anything in the Commission's purview.

Motion by Commissioner Maroko, seconded by Chair Yousufzai, to receive and file any oral reports given.

Motion carried 6-0. Commissioner Lang was absent.

M. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Director Vinke provided feedback from the minutes secretary asking the Commission to speak into their mics, speak one at a time, and clearly make motions and seconds.

N. COMMISSION MEMBER ITEMS AND FUTURE COMMISSION AGENDA TOPICS

Commissioner Maroko referenced the last meeting where he asked Community Development Director Wiener if the Commission was supposed to be reactive or proactive in regards to talking to the community about historical landmarks and districts; reported that in the 1986 survey Garnet St was identified as a possible historic district and there are six historic landmarks in a row and the application is in the final stages for it; reported the qualification for homes is 50 years and homes built in the 1970's qualify, mentioned he is looking at the McDonald tract homes built in 1953, the homes from 1633 to 1643 Haynes built in 1957 and homes in Franklin Park since most were built in 1950 as possible historic districts.

Commissioner Galassi and Commissioner Maroko had a discussion regarding the current historic list and the gap of time where homes were not added to the list. Commissioner Galassi reported she had sent an email to the City Council and Mayor related to the identification of historic homes to clarify whether the list must be used or if

they can look beyond the list. Commissioner Maroko stated that what he is working on will be a referral to staff.

Commissioner Maroko mentioned the City Council and City Manager are looking into the resources survey but they indicated it may be too expensive to have one updated and he offered his services; reported department heads of the City have profiles up on the City's website; mentioned the City Clerk is digitizing all the records and felt that would really help them; announced that on October 11th the Redondo Beach Historical Society is having Tony Trutanich Jr. as a speaker and also Friends of Redondo Beach Arts is having a contest on unique gems of homes; inquired about the state report due on September 30, 2025 and asked who he needed to submit information to; wondered if they would be seeing the quarterly preservation newsletter at some point; wondered whether they would have a subcommittee to discuss commemorative bricks and other ways of recognizing historic landmarks.

Commissioner Galassi reported to Deputy Community Services Director Orta that the sign at the Sneary Parkette on Ford is falling apart.

Commissioner McCauley asked that the Commission be updated and allowed to provide input on the new permitting process.

Director Orta committed to bringing it to the Commission once the City had a draft in place and would welcome any input prior to that.

Motion by Commissioner McCauley, seconded by Commissioner Caldwell, to have the Community Services Director come back to the Public Amenities Commission to speak to them about the upcoming changes to the permitting process for non-profits.

Motion carried 6-0. Commissioner Lang was absent.

Discussion followed regarding circulating a Google doc of future items they want to discuss; Director Vinke stated staff already creates a list of future agenda items and does not want to violate the Brown Act but would be happy to compare his notes with two Commissioners if needed.

Chair Yousufzai mentioned at the last PAC meeting he spoke about reviewing the subcommittees and sunseting those that are no longer needed and establishing more relevant new ones that are needed since they never did that process after the formation of the newly formed Public Amenities Commission and thought they would discuss that tonight but, in light of Council revamping the ordinances, noted to table it but wanted to make sure it was brought back.

Library Director Vinke reported that at the next meeting the Commission will be nominating and selecting a new Chair and Vice Chair and it will be on the agenda; noted after the Council finalizes the rules for Commissions they can revisit Chair Yousufzai's recommendation if it aligns with the new rules.

Commissioner Maroko commended the Community Services Department for all the information they included in their staff report regarding the historical museum.

O. ADJOURNMENT – 7:50 P.M.

There being no further business to come before the Public Amenities Commission, motion by Chair Yousufzai, seconded by Commissioner Rowe, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. to a Regular Meeting to be held at 6:30 p.m., on Wednesday, October 8, 2025, in the Redondo Beach City Hall Council Chambers 415 N. Pacific Coast Hwy. Redondo Beach, California.

The motion carried 6-0. Commissioner Lang was absent.

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

Respectfully submitted:

Dana Vinke
Library Director