

**MINUTES OF THE
REDONDO BEACH RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
JUNE 9, 2021**

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Recreation and Parks Commission, conducted as a Zoom meeting, was called to order by Chairwoman Korman-Soper at 7:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Korman-Soper, Arrata, Lang, Varvarigos, McCauley, Escontrias

Commissioners Absent: Almeida

Officials Present: Cameron Harding, Community Services Director
Laurie Koike, Waterfront & Economic Development
Khatirah Nazif, City Clerk's Office

C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

At the request of Chair Korman-Soper, Commissioner Escontrias led the Salute to the Flag.

D. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Arrata, seconded by Commissioner McCauley, to approve the Order of Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

E. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS

Director Harding confirmed that there were no Blue Folder Items.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

1. Approval of Affidavit of Posting for the Recreation and Parks Commission Regular Meeting of June 9, 2021.
2. Approval of the minutes of the Recreation and Parks Commission Regular Meeting of April 14, 2021.

Motion by Commissioner McCauley, seconded by Commissioner Varvarigos, to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

G. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR

None.

H. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

I. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS

None.

J. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION

J.1. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

Community Services Director Cameron Harding introduced this topic, saying that the City's Capital Improvement Program is a multi-year planning and budget document that matches financial resources with infrastructure and facility improvements. Typical projects include replacement of or improvements to infrastructure that has a minimum life expectancy of five years and a minimum cost of \$15,000. Our Public Works Department oversees multiple phases including conceptual design, design, engineering plans and specs, construction, and construction management. He provided an update on several park related projects currently in the CIP plan, including the following:

- Dominguez Park Dog Park Improvements will add landscaping to beautify the perimeter and enhance the northeast section of the dog park.
- Dominguez Park Play Equipment will replace deteriorated play equipment and rubber surfacing in Dominguez Park, and repair and upgrade the adjacent landscape and walkways.
- The General Eaton B Parkette Improvements will replace landscaping and play equipment at the parkette.
- The play surface will also be replaced at Anderson Park, Perry Park, and Turtle Park in the Pier area.
- Regional Park Restroom Improvements will include the replacement of restroom doors at Lilienthal Park, Franklin Park, and Perry Park. Phase II of the project will include replacement of partitions at Dale Paige Park and Dominguez Park.
- Wilderness Park Improvements will be done in partnership with the South Bay Parkland Conservancy and will include planting efforts.

Director Harding also noted that the following projects were presented to the City Council at their meeting on Tuesday:

- Pickleball court feasibility study to look at possible locations for building new pickleball courts or possibly re-purposing existing facilities to include pickleball courts.
- Planning to review proposals for skateboard parks.
- \$150,000 in improvements will be made to the Aviation Gymnasium.
- The HVAC system at the Perry park Senior Center will be improved.

In addition to the park projects, Community Services also has a \$2,700,000 project underway for a new Transit Center. Director Harding concluded his presentation and offered to answer questions from the Commissioners.

Chair Korman-Soper thanked Director Harding for his presentation.

Commissioner Escontrias said that no representative of the City has contacted the Friends of the Redondo Beach Dog Park to determine what their needs and priorities are. He is concerned that the stakeholders be brought in to determine how best to use the available funds.

Director Harding replied that the issue was raised at the City Council meeting, and he and the Director of Public Works were asked to reach out to the stakeholders. Once they get past the hurdle of the City Council approving the budget, they will reach out to plan a meeting.

Commissioner Escontrias said it was his understanding that funds had already been allocated. For the past three years, the Friends of the Dog Park have been requesting to have a fence company brought in to do minor repairs. He feels there was a lack of communication and attention to this need.

Director Harding said he cannot speak to what has happened in the past, but he will work with the stakeholders in the future. He and the Public Works Department are planning to get in touch as soon as they get past the budget process.

Chair Korman-Soper raised a question about the timeline for the replacement of the Dominguez Park play equipment. Has an RFP been approved?

Director Harding said he knows that the Recreation and Parks Commission approved the initial concept presented at the October, 2020 meeting for improvements to Dominguez Park, but he needs to follow up with our Public Works Department to see where we are in the process.

Commissioner Lang asked whether the design has been finalized for Dominguez Park, to which Director Harding replied that he will follow up with Public Works and provide an update on the project to the Commission.

Laurie Koike said that one of the City's Senior Engineers is currently overseeing this project, and is preparing to do an eventual RFP, but the design has not been finalized.

Commissioner Lang asked if the Engineer would be able to come speak to the Commission.

Laurie Koike said that Public Works has monthly meetings where they provide updates on the status of CIP projects. If Director Harding feels it would be beneficial at a specific time, he could have someone come to give a presentation, but at this time it is with the Engineer.

Commissioner Lang asked about the plans for some sort of dog run adjacent to the area of the Southwest corner of Dominguez Park. She expressed concern that the functionality of the new playground area and the proposed dog run should be considered together.

Laurie Koike replied that the canine training area is a project of the Leadership Redondo class, so they definitely would have worked with the City to plan that location.

Commissioner Varvarigos asked if a location had been determined for the skatepark. Is there a plan to bring this back to the Recreation and Parks Commission?

Director Harding said we can certainly bring it back for an update. He said he believes that two locations have been determined and that the RFP is for the design of both skateboard parks.

Laurie Koike said that the two locations are Perry Park and Parcel 10 in the Harbor, and that an RFP was issued June 3, 2021 and the responses to the RFP are due on July 1, 2021.

In answer to a question from Commissioner Varvarigos, Director Harding said he is not aware of any "skate spots" included in the RFP. It is just for the design of the two skateparks.

Commissioner McCauley said he remembered the meeting in October, 2020 when there was a presentation about the proposed design for Dominguez Park, and he would like to get ahold of those diagrams to review the details they had discussed.

Director Harding said he would find that information and get it out to the Commissioners.

J.2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Community Services Director Cameron Harding provided the Commission with an update on the current status of programs and facilities, including the following:

- After-school programs are open at four City park locations and have a total of about 70 participants enrolled.
- Summer camps will run June 14-Aug 13, following health guidelines for small groups.
- Summer Newsletter is available on the Community Services page of the City website.
- Summer class registration has opened up and is going fast.
- Aviation Park gym opened on June 7 for youth sports rentals.
- Adult volleyball and basketball leagues will begin again in July.
- Aviation field has been open for rentals for youth soccer since December.
- South Bay Sports adult soccer leagues started back in May.
- Adult softball leagues at Alta Vista Park will begin again in July.
- Singles and doubles tennis, and racquetball, are open at Alta Vista Park.
- The gazebos and barbeques will be open for reservations very shortly.
- Day use of campsites is available at Wilderness Park, limited to 12 people.
- South Bay Parkland Conservancy is doing planting at Wilderness Park.
- Seaside Lagoon will be opening June 18 for Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.
- We will expand operating hours when more lifeguards are hired at Seaside Lagoon.

Director Harding opened the discussion for questions.

Commissioner Lang said she knows that a few residents have been asking for extended hours at Wilderness Park. It currently closes at 4:30, and it would be nice if we could extend the hours during summertime, as it is such a great resource.

Director Harding said he would ask the staff and report back to the Commission on that.

Commissioner McCauley said that at the last meeting he had requested to add an agenda item to the next meeting about the Los Angeles County Regional Park competitive regional grants.

Director Harding said that since it is not on the agenda, we cannot discuss it at tonight's meeting, and Khatirah Nazif of the City Clerk's office concurred. She suggested making a motion under Referrals to Staff to have it added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Director Harding said he will be sure to provide an update on this at the next Commission meeting under the Director's Report.

Commissioner Varvarigos said he has had several people from the Audubon Society who also asked about extending park hours in Wilderness Park. These are people who want to observe the birds, but the park doesn't open until ten o'clock a.m., and there are also people who want to stay and watch the sunset in the summertime, but the park closes at 4:30 p.m.

Laurie Koike asked Director Harding to talk about the City's plans for fireworks displays.

Director Harding said there are going to be two fireworks shows this year. One will be land-based, near Seaside Lagoon, and one will be launched from a barge off the Esplanade.

Laurie Koike said the land-based fireworks display will last about twenty minutes, and immediately after that, the fireworks near the Esplanade will start, and it will be near Avenue I. In answer to a question from Commissioner Lang, Ms. Koike said they will be held on the fourth of July, and the historical fourth of July run in the Riviera Village will be on the 3rd of July.

K. COMMISSIONER REFERRALS TO STAFF

Commissioner McCauley expressed residents' concern about the increasing number of e-bikes going around town, on the bike path and at the parks as well. He asked how the City intends to handle the safety issues related to this.

Director Harding said he would consult with the Police Chief and will provide an update to the Commission under the Director's Report at the next meeting.

Commissioner Varvarigos said that at the previous meeting, there was a presentation by the Historical Commission about the proposal for a joint committee from both Commissions. He asked if we had come up with our sub-committee members for this.

Commissioner Arrata said she had spoken to Chair Maroko of the Historical Commission, and he said that because the Community Services Director is so new, they will put the idea on hold for right now.

Chair Korman-Soper asked if they should plan to follow up on this at some point in time, and Director Harding said he would reach out to Chair Maroko and report back to the Commission.

Commissioner Lang asked what types of things would fall under the agenda item of Referrals to Staff, and she also asked whether their next meeting would be in the City Council Chamber.

Chair Korman-Soper said that Referrals to Staff can be used to bring the concerns of residents to the attention of staff or to request to have items added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Director Harding said we have a pretty significant Capital Improvement Project happening right now in the Council Chambers and we're all hoping it will be completed before the next meeting, although we can't say for sure. They will have to conduct trainings with Commissioners and staff on how to use the new technology being installed in the Chambers. He will consult with the Public Works Department to find out when that project is expected to be completed.

Commissioner McCauley commented that to add an item to the next agenda, there needs to be a motion and a second, and Chair Korman-Soper agreed.

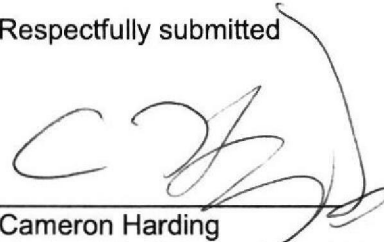
L. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Korman-Soper announced that the next meeting of the Recreation and Parks Commission will be held on August 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Varvarigos, seconded by commissioner McCauley, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Korman-Soooper adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CH', is written over a horizontal line.

Cameron Harding
Community Services Director