



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2022
Carson Community Event Center
East Wing Activity Room
6:30 PM

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES

Commissioners

Chair Jesus-Alex Cainglet | Vice-Chair Walter Gonzalez | Secretary Kisa Hilliard | Kim Cortado | Cesar Dahilig | Clarence Dunning | Edwina Hunter | DeAnthony Langston | Oscar Ramos

Alternates

Shannon Lawrence (Alternate 1) | Jo Jacqueline Johnson (Alternate 2) | Rudolfo Brillantes (Alternate 3)

Staff

Michael Whittiker, Director | Tim Grierson, Recreation Superintendent | Bobby Grove, Community Services Superintendent | Luchie Magante, Principal Administrative Analyst | Priscilla Palma, Acting-Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Any members of the public wishing to provide public comment for the items on the agenda may do so as follows:

- 1. Email: You can email comments to p&rcommission@carsonca.gov no later than 3:00 p.m. before the meeting. Please identify the Agenda item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.*
- 2. Telephone: You can record your comments at (310) 847-3581 no later than 3:00 p.m. before the meeting. Please identify the Agenda item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.*

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cainglet at 6:33 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Alex Cainglet, Vice-Chair Walter Gonzalez (entered at 7:33 PM), Secretary Kisa Hillard, Kim Cortado, Cesar Dahilig, Clarence Dunning, Edwina Hunter (entered at 6:52 PM), DeAnthony Langston (entered at 6:37 PM), Oscar Ramos, Jo, Johnson

Absent: Shannon Lawrence, Rudolpho Brillantes

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Secretary Hillard.

PRESENTATIONS

1 2022-058-PRCAC PICKLEBALL UPDATE

Recreation Superintendent (RS) Tim Grierson reported that at the September 20, 2022, City Council meeting, staff received clear direction that the two (2) tennis courts at Hemingway Park will be converted in pickleball courts. That area of the park will be closed for renovation, which hopefully will not take long to complete. Staff would like to hold tournaments at Hemingway, and ultimately make Carson a destination for pickleball.

Commissioner Ramos asked if pickleball can also be introduced at Veterans Park. RS Grierson responded that staff would look at this in future. Pickleball Ambassador Tony Senior showed how to overlay a pickleball court onto another court. Staff will look at resurfacing schedule to determine what can be done.

Community Services Director (CSD) Michael Whittiker stated that Tony Senior was present to discuss further.

Tony Senior, Pickleball Ambassador and Carson resident introduced himself. He stated that he provided a pickleball introduction event at Carson in January. He added that Hemingway was identified as the best park for this sport, as it has freeway access; is far enough away from homes so that noise is not an issue; there are lights, restrooms, a parking lot, and tennis courts that are not used for tennis – dual use courts are often the biggest source of conflict. At Veterans Park, a scheduled would need to be created where pickleball would be the priority. At other times, will be first come, first serve, which may lead to some conflict. Mr. Senior would like to see courts open at 8:00 AM instead of 9:00 AM and is waiting to hear from City if this is acceptable. Many seniors play the game, and the trend now is younger people play. He would like to see Hemingway children, seniors, and disable individuals play.

Chair Cainglet asked who will run the program, as Mr. Senior is a volunteer. Is there or program now? Additionally, how are liability issues scheduling conflicts, etc. handled? CSD Whittiker responded that Mr. Senior is currently a volunteer, though he created a group for which he provides classes at Hemingway. There is currently no program as there are no courts to plan on, and the courts also need resurfacing. Moreover, the City is currently in the planning process of building the courts. Mr. Senior will need to be moved around to different parks during the construction.

Chair Cainglet asked the other Commissioners if they had any questions for Mr. Senior. Commissioner Langston stated that this matter should be a priority, though he did not want to devalue tennis. He asked is it possible to designate play times. CSD Whittiker responded that there is no conflict at Hemingway Park, as there are no tennis players at the facility.

Secretary Hillard asked if play times can be set up at Veterans Park. CSD Whittiker stated that pickleball is just getting started in the City. Staff hopes to expand the sport and maybe play inside.

Commissioner Ramos asked what is the difference between pickleball and pickleball pickup. Mr. Senior responded that pickleball pickup is open play. He added that pickleball is currently played Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, starting at 9:00 AM. The noted that he sees activity 7 days a week.

Commissioner Cortado asked if there was an artist rendering of the courts. CSD Whittiker stated that the courts will be basic: no tennis court lines and permanent netting.

Chair Cainglet asked if there was a volunteer group raising money for pickleball. CSD Whittiker responded that there is none at this time. He then thanked Mr. Senior for attending the meeting.

2 2022-059-PRCAC SENIOR PROGRAMS UPDATE

CSD Whittiker introduced Dani Cook, Human Services Program Manager, who provided this update.

Human Services Program Manager (HSPM) Cook described the programs offered by her section and detailed what occurred during the pandemic, noting that some Covid-era programming are still in place as some seniors are still uncomfortable with in-person services. However, there are in-person senior programming at Carson Park, Foisia Park, and Stevenson Park. They are popular and well attended. Bingo is back but played for fun and no cash prizes. Donations are being accepted for prizes; anything is appreciated. Once the restroom renovations are complete, the seniors will be fully brought back. HSPM Cook mentioned the intergenerational program, and the recently held Senior Fair, wherein 250 seniors attended. She noted that the Rosemary Zavala leads Senior Recreation.

Chair Cainglet asked the members if they had any questions.

Commissioner Hunter inquired as to how seniors find out about programs. HSPM Cook responded with the Carson Report, the website, an electronic newsletter, and flyers.

CSD Whittiker noted that Senior Recreation is open Monday – Friday, from 8:00 AM–12:00 noon at all parks that have gyms.

Commissioner Hunter inquired about transportation options to the parks. CSD Whittiker responded with the Carson Circuit.

HSPM Cook added that there is Dial-a-Ride also.

Chair Cainglet asked if members if there were any more questions.

Commissioner Hillard asked at what is a person considered a senior? HSPM Cook responded with 50 and older.

Commissioner Ramos asked where bingo donations can be dropped off. Per HSPM Cook, donations can be dropped off with Rosemary Zavala, from Monday - Thursday, 7:00 AM – 6:00 PM. Bingo is held from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. More prizes would be welcome.

Chair Cainglet commented that the senior program is active, but per Commissioner Hunter's questions, we can still do a better job, including using electronic media. More needs to be done, especially by the Commissioners.

Commissioner Cortado stated that she works for the YMCA, and they had a booth at the Senior Fair. She praised staff for their outstanding job at organizing the event. She intends to request bags, blankets, and other donations for Bingo. For Human Services, are there food programs for people under 50? HSPM Cook responded that programs are available for low-to-moderate income individuals.

Commissioner Cortado asked about senior fitness programs. HSPM Cook stated that fitness programs are at the parks, and there are virtual programs, too, like yoga.

Commissioner Cortado noted that in person meals will return when the restrooms are done.

- 3** **2022-060-PRCAC**
CITY OF CARSON 55TH ANNIVERSARY UPDATE
Recommendation: RECEIVE and FILE.

Community Services Superintendent (CSS) Bobby Grove stated that the last General Meeting was held on September 15, 2022, with members of the City Council present. The budgets of each Special Event were restated. The next General Meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2022.

Chair Cainglet asked if the Commission had any questions.

Commission Hunter asked who contacts the volunteers. CSS Grove responded that the Subcommittee chairs will contact them.

ACTION: It was moved to receive and file an update on the City of Carson's 55th Anniversary on a motion of Vice-Chair Gonzalez, seconded by Commission Dunning, and unanimously carried by a vote of 10-0.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS

The public may address the Commission on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Carson Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission or on any items on the agenda of the Carson Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission, prior to any action taken on the agenda. Speakers are limited to no more than three minutes, speaking once. Oral communications will be limited to one (1) hour unless extended by order of the Chair with the approval of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission. Due to the threat of COVID-19 (aka the "Coronavirus"), you are urged to take all appropriate health safety precautions.

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

CSD Whittiker recommended that Item No. 7 be moved up as many questions will likely be asked regarding Item Nos. 4-6.

ACTION: It was moved to move up Item No. 7 on a motion of Vice-Chair Gonzalez, seconded by Secretary Hillard, and unanimously carried by a vote of 10-0.

Commissioner Cortado requested to pull Consent Items Nos. 4 and 6.

ACTION: It was moved to approve Consent Calendar Item No. 5 on a motion of Vice-Chair Gonzalez, seconded by Secretary Hillard, and unanimously carried by a vote of 10-03

4 2022-798

**PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION AUGUST 4, 2022,
MEETING MINUTES**

Attachments: PRCA Commission August 4, 2022, Minutes

ACTION: The minutes were approved on a motion of Vice-Chair Walter Gonzalez, seconded by Commissioner Ramos, and unanimously carried by a vote of 10-0.

5 2022-056-PRCAC

COMMUNITY SERVICES/PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT AUGUST 2022 REPORT

Attachments: [AUGUST 2022 MONTHLY REPORT](#)

ACTION: This item was approved at the start of the Consent Calendar.

6 2022-057-PRCAC

OCTOBER PROGRAMS-AT-A-GLANCE/THE SPOTLIGHT/PARKS ASSIGNMENTS

Attachments: [October PAAG 2022](#) Programs-At-A-Glance

Commissioner Cortado asked why is pickleball played from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM at Hemingway Park. At other parks, it is later. Also, why is the Filipino American History Month (FAHM) Kickoff in October? RS Grierson responded that the FAHM Kickoff was a City Council wherein the Council was asked to use one of the two waived-fee events at Dignity Heath. The City Council approved having the event at that facility this Sunday. Therefore, there are two events this weekend. Pickleball information is provided by the Center Supervisors. Staff does not list what Mr. Senior does. He will talk to Public Works staff about opening the facility to let the seniors in at 8:00 AM. RS Grierson added that park staff come in at 12:00 noon, so Public Works employees are relied upon to open at 9:00 AM.

ACTION: It was moved to approve Item No. 6 on a motion of Commissioner Ramos, seconded by Vice-Chair Gonzalez, and unanimously carried by a vote of 10-0.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

DISCUSSION

7 2022-055-PRCAC

DISCUSSION WITH PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR ELIZA JANE WHITMAN

Recommendation: HOLD discussion.

This item was moved ahead of the Consent Calendar earlier in the meeting by Commission vote.

CSD Whittiker opened the discussion by stating that there have been questions regarding the parks, and Public Works Director (PWD) Eliza Jane Whitman was present to respond to them.

PWD Whitman stated that she wanted to hear from the Commission, especially as at the next City Council meeting maintenance issues will be discussed. She opened

the Q & A and would respond using the Department's Monthly Maintenance Schedule.

Commissioner Cortado asked about the outside courts. PWD Whitman responded that a contractor was needed to work on the outside courts. Commissioner Cortado inquired about the Activity Room at Hemingway Park, and when would the project commence. PWD Whitman stated that it was on the schedule to be handled sometime in the next nine (9) months. Materials estimates will need to be developed, with the engineers possibly needing to do some designs. This project would take three (3) months to complete, and staff will be assigned to do the work.

Commissioner Dunning mentioned the lights and diamond at Del Amo Park need to be fixed as it is getting darker earlier. Additionally, soccer and football will kick off this weekend. When will they be fixed? PWD Whitman responded that she would need to follow-up. That project is currently not scheduled, but it is on the list and will take a month to complete. Commissioner Dahilig stated that CCTV was supposed to go to every park. Is there a schedule for this work? He is concerned about the safety and security at Dolphin Park specifically. PWD responded that this matter is handled by IT. The Wi-Fi contact did go to the City Council to be awarded as it is associated with the CCTV. The issue is getting data from the camera to the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Dahilig followed-up with a question about the tennis court resurfacing. PWD Whitman stated that this item was not on the scheduled but noted on her list.

Chair Cainglet commented that concrete answers are needed for each item that is brought up. The Commission is a bridge between the public and the City, the public feels that they can confide in the Commission to address issues. It is important that all work is on the list and to show that the City is making progress. PWD Whitman stated that she would like Commission feedback so that she can message the schedule to the public if they want it.

Commissioner Ramos asked if the City is short on manpower at the parks. PWD Whitman stated that in the last 4 ½ months, 13 new staff have been hired, with more positions to fill. She has been working closely with Human Resources to fill positions. There are staff who are out on Worker's Comp, but she is trying to backfill. Commissioner Ramos inquired as to what are staff's hours. PWD Whitman replied that staff hours vary. Weekend help is needed. Commissioner Ramos noted that the restroom is open in the morning but locked after the custodian finishing cleaning. PWD Whitman replied that she will ask the Supervisors why they do this.

Commissioner Hunter stated that lights need to be installed at Dominguez Park, especially around the second building in the back where it is darkest. The darkness and the gopher holes make it dangerous to walk there. Additionally, the lighting in the playground is not sufficient. PWD stated that the gopher holes are not on the list. The City does have a service to handle pests, but there is no one to specifically handle this. Commissioner Hunter also noted that the entrance door is cracked and

the window in the kitchen is boarded up. PWD Whitman stated that while the door is on the list the window is not. Commissioner Hunter asked how the public notifies the City of any issues. PWD Whitman responded to use the iWorq app, but enough information must be provided to address the issue. Commissioner Hunter asked how the public can view the list of repairs and the schedule. PWD Whitman stated that staff develops and is presented at the first City Council meeting of the month. The Operations Manager handles and manages service requests.

Chair Cainglet asked staff what the Commission's purview is. CSD Whittiker responded that staff ensures that all items presented at the meeting are addressed. Inspections are completed every day at the parks. If staff finds an issue, they submit an iWorq service request. If the Commissioner's see something, they also can submit a service request on the app. This said, it is recommended to provide this same information to staff to enter into iWorq.

Commissioner Johnson commented that was happy to hear that the air conditioning in the Anderson Park Activity Room has been fixed, but she noted that the AC in the staff office is not working. PWD Whitman stated that this project is on the list, but staff is still waiting for the arrival of one part. This work will be quickly completed once the part is received.

Commissioner Cortado inquired as to when the 10-acre project at Carriage Crest Park will start. PWD Whitman responded that Phase 1 is complete, the environmental step will need to be done, and then Phase 2 can commence. An analysis of the area needs to be done due the chemicals used in the past. Commissioner Cortado noted that the funds provided by Assemblyman Mike Gipson must be spend by a specific deadline. PWD Whitman responded that the City could get an extension of their use. Commissioner Cortado inquired if the pickleball construction RFP (Request for Proposals) was completed. PWD Whitman stated that a quote was received, and staff is currently developing the contract.

Vice-Chair Gonzalez asked PWD Whitman how long she has been the Director of Public Works. PWD Whitman responded since January 2021. He inquired because the gopher issue as Dominguez Park has taken a quite a while to handle. PWD Whitman noted Vice-Chair Gonzalez's comment.

Chair Cainglet closed the discussion by stating that the Commission appreciates PWD Whitman's attendance at the meeting. He noted that no staff from Public Works has ever attended its meetings. He hopes that in the next few months there will be resolution to these issues. PWD Whitman stated that she will send the schedules to CSD Whittiker for his review and will return at a later date to respond to questions. CSD Whittiker stated that will collect the Commission's question and will bring to the Public Works Director's attention.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

The public may at this time address the members of the Carson Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Carson Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Commission. No action may be taken on non-agendized items except as authorized by law. Speakers are requested to limit their comments to no more than three minutes each, speaking once.

None.

COMMISSIONER'S ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PARK REPORT

Commissioner Langston/Veterans Park: Commissioner Langston stressed the importance of safety and security at the parks. He asked as to when the CCTV project will be completed.

Commissioner Hunter/Dominguez Park: Commissioner Hunter stated that she expressed her concerns to the Public Works Director. She noted that the graffiti at the park is fixed but the wall is two-toned as two different colored paints were used. There is no AC at that park and asked if all parks are supposed to have AC.

Commissioner Dahilig/Dolphin Park: Nothing to report regarding the park. He brought up his concerns to the Public Works Director.

Commissioner Ramos/Mills Park: He noted that a service request for the AC needs to be handled, and the doorknob in the men's restroom needs to be fixed.

Secretary Hillard/Hemingway Park: Nothing to report at the park.

Commissioner Johnson/Anderson Park: Commented that the wind screens at the park need to be looked at. She stated that the Jazz Festival is scheduled for the following Saturday, and a good turnout is expected. She attended the White Linen event and stated that while the program was wonderful, the food was terrible and the sound on the south side was horrible.

Commissioner Cortado/Calas Park & Carriage Crest Park: She attended the Senior Health Fair, as well as the Mariachi Festival. The entertainment was wonderful but could not see Ama de Oro very well as the stage was on the ground. Regarding the City website, programs need to be advertised on social media. She thanked staff for the evening's presentations.

Vice-Chair Gonzalez/Veterans SportsComplex: Thanked staff for taking the lead on changes. He agreed that the food at the White Linen event was not good. He wished everyone a nice weekend.

Chair Cainglet/Carson & Reflections Mini-park: Noted that the Directors did a good job at the meeting. He stated that if he does have an issue, he will email staff.

STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

RS Grierson reported that the first day of basketball signups is quickly approaching. Participants will only have to pay for uniforms, pictures, and the trophy package.

CSD Whittiker responded to the Commissioner's comments presented earlier:

- Re. CCTV, staff is waiting for a response from IT; hope to have completed by end of the year.
- Re. the graffiti at Dominguez Park, a service request has been submitted.
- Re. the resurfacing of the tennis courts, this work is in the process of being handled/done in phases; pickleball will be dealt with first. Currently 9-10 parks need to be resurfaced. Once contract is done with the City Attorney, the work will move forward quickly.
- Re. the sound system in the Community Center, the work was done by a vendor, but it is not our system. The AV is currently being fixed throughout the Community Center.
- Re. the dance floor during the Mariachi Festival, agree that the performances need to be done on the stage, but it will need to be extended. The stage could not be that long as tables needed to be added to the room.

CSD Whittiker wished everyone a great weekend and invited the members to attend one of the two events scheduled for that weekend.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned on a motion of Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, and unanimously approved by a vote of 10-0.

This Board/Commission/Committee is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Among other things, the Brown Act requires that the Board/Commission/Committees agenda be posted at least 72 hours in advance of each meeting and that the public be allowed to comment on agenda items before the Board/ Commission/ Committee and items not on the Board/Commission/Committee agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board/ Commission/ Committee. The Board/Commission/Committee may limit public comments to a reasonable amount of time, generally three (3) minutes per person.