



THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022
CARSON 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 | Robert Lennox, Assistant City Manager (exited at 7:23 PM)

“In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the City Clerk’s office at 310-952-1720 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.” (Government Code Section 54954.2)

PUBLIC INFORMATION

“In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the City Clerk’s office at 310-952-1720 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.” (Government Code Section 54954.2)

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

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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 Principal Administrative Analyst (PAA) Luchie Magante at 6:35 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Vice-Chair Walter Gonzalez, Secretary Kisa Hillard, Kim Cortado, Edwina Hunter (entered at 6:37 PM), Clarence Dunning, Cesar Dahilig, Jacqueline Johnson, Oscar Ramos

Absent: None

Excused: Chair Alex Cainglet, Rudolpho Brillantes, Shannan Lawrence, DeAnthony Langston (entered at 6:58)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Community Services Director (CSD) Michael Whittiker.

PRESENTATIONS

1 2022-048-PRCAC

PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES MASTER PLAN PRESENTATION

Recommendation: RECOMMEND to the City Council the adoption of the Master Plan

Attachments: [Draft Final Report](#)

Zachary Mueting, Consultant with RJM Design, presented on this item. He provided a summary of what was learned from the various modes used to collect data, especially the workshops. Consultant Mueting specifically noted the following:

- In developing the Master Plan, he looked at the common threads throughout the process.
- Maintenance was mentioned multiple times
- Aquatics and gyms were mentioned
- Responses were recorded in a large matrix based on how often they were heard.
- If the item was mentioned in small groups, surveys, and stakeholder interviews, they were given the highest priorities.

Master Plan Goals:

- Find areas of where the city can improve
- Identify common threads and develop recommendations.

Recommendations:

- Expand sports opportunities
- Add lights to expand play areas
- Develop pickleball courts
- Expand facilities to meet needs
- Maintenance – Develop funding for maintenance; complete routine maintenance; implement performance metrics; implement park checklist to determine where the deficiencies are.
- Implement a different funding mechanism, such as an increase in the TOT to receive additional support for parks.

Vice-Chair Gonzalez questioned the data that stated that Hemingway Park was the most visited park. Director Michael Whittiker responded that this information was based on the number of attendees at the workshop.

Commissioner Ramos asked if Victoria Park was included as part of the Master Plan. Director Whittiker responded, “No,” as Victoria Park is a county park.

ACTION: It was moved to recommend to the City Council the adoption of the Master plan on motion of Vice-Chair Gonzalez, seconded by Commissioner Cortado, and carried by a vote of 8-0.

Assistant City Manager (ACM) Robert Lennox addressed the Commission, stating that the next step of this project is to implement the Master Plan. The community has identified its needs, and the City needs to make them real. The City needs to look at what was recommended. He noted that the Master plan does not ignore traditional sports. ACM Lennox ended by thanking the Commission for its support.

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.

Pablo Soro, Carson resident, spoke about regarding the Master Plan. He stated that he would like to see a dog park at one of the City's parks.

Alejandro Rojas, Carson resident, was attended the meeting to support the Master Plan. He also stated that he would like to see a dog park in the city. He also voiced concerns regarding safety and gang culture, would like to see more activities for seniors and accommodations for people who wish to access the parks, and noted that while Del Amo Park enforces the rules regarding dogs, others do not.

CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION: It was moved to approve Consent Calendar Item #4 on a motion of Vice-Chair Gonzalez, seconded by Commissioner Hillard, and unanimously carried by a vote of 8-0.

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COMMUNITY SERVICES/PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT JULY 2022 REPORT

Attachments: [Community Services-Parks and Recreation July 2022 Report](#)

Vice-Chair Gonzalez requested to pull Consent Calendar Item #2. He commented that there were no permits/reservation for the month at Calas Park. Director Whittiker responded that the data is what is on file. No one reserved the facility for the month. Community Services Superintendent (CSS) Bobby Grove added that reservations are based on what the community wishes to rent. Additionally, the rooms in Calas Park are smaller, and requests increase and decrease. Director Whittiker stated that the pandemic has impacted usage, and there are no private restrooms at Calas Park. In other facilities, a restroom is in the room.

Vice-Chair Gonzalez noted that in the section related to the Veterans SportsComplex, the report does not indicate how many members are residents or non-residents. He would like to see that information in the report.

Vice-Chair Gonzalez comments that the classes in Carson Park were cancelled. Director Whittiker responded that classes are cancelled due to low attendance. Staff does work with the instructor to increase attendance to reach the minimum number to hold the class. Vice-Chair Gonzalez requested that an explanation of why the

class was cancelled be included in the report. Director Whittiker stated that a key will be included that explains why.

Commissioner Cortado exited the meeting.

ACTION: It was moved to approve Consent Calendar Item No. 2 on a motion of Secretary Hillard, seconded by Commissioner Hunter, and unanimously carried by a vote of 7-0.

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**SEPTEMBER PROGRAMS-AT-A-GLANCE/THE SPOTLIGHT/PARK
ASSIGNMENTS**

Attachments: [September Programs-at-a -Glance - the Spotlight - Park Assignments.docx](#)

Vice-Chair Gonzalez requested to pull Consent Calendar Item No. 3. He asked what is the purpose of Programs-At-A-Glance. Director Whittiker responded that the report shows what programs will be presented the following month in Recreation. The Spotlight details the same information but for Community Services.

ACTION: It was moved to approve Consent Calendar Item No. 3 on a motion of Commissioner Hunter, seconded by Commissioner Ramos, and unanimously carried by a vote of 8-0.

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COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Recommendation: RECEIVE and FILE report.

Attachments: [2022-605 CS Scholarship Program CC 7-5-22.pdf](#)

ACTION: Item was approved at start of Consent Calendar.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

5 2022-050-PRCAC

CITY OF CARSON 55TH ANNIVERSARY UPDATE

Recommendation: RECEIVE and FILE.

Director Whittiker provided a summary on the three (3) Special events and the two (2) fundraisers.

PAA Magante summarized what occurred at the last General Meeting.

Director Whittiker stated that all events are being presented by Community Services and requested that the members assist in their planning and coordination.

Additionally, it would show their support of the 55th Anniversary by attending the General Meetings.

Commissioner Ramos stated he attended the last two General Meetings and wished to see volunteers speak and not just staff. Director Whittiker responded that he will place a Q & A item on the agenda.

Commissioner Hillard asked if only residents or people who work in the City can volunteer to serve on a 55th Anniversary subcommittee. Director Whittiker responded that anyone can volunteer, but residents are strongly encouraged to participate.

Commissioner Langston commented that social media should be used to advertise the 55th Anniversary. He suggested a contest to see who can build the biggest subcommittee. Commissioner Hillard stated that she posted the meeting to her social media, which made people attend.

ACTION: It was moved to receive and file the report on a motion of Commissioner Ramos, seconded by Commissioner Hunter, and unanimously carried by a vote of 8-0.

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PARK ASSIGNMENTS

Recommendation: ASSIGN each Commissioner a park to visit and provide a report at each Commission meeting.

Attachments: [Current Park Assignments](#)

ACTION: It was moved to have the members keep their current park assignments on a motion of Commissioner Langston, seconded by Secretary Hillard, and unanimously carried by a vote of 8-0.

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.

COMMISSIONER'S ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PARK REPORT

Commissioner Hunter/Dominguez Park & Carriage Crest Park: Dominguez-Outlined several maintenance issues at the park; noted that there are no lights in the area closest to the railroad tracks; park was empty during visit; grounds

were not manicured; staff was handling the graffiti; there is no park association as parents don't feel safe letting their kids be on the park. Carriage Crest Park – Inquired about a Farmer's Market at facility.

Commissioner Langston/Veterans Park: Stated that it was time to upgrade the facility - the carpet and awning were not attractive; new linoleum was needed; remove rust; modern equipment needed.

Commissioner Ramos/Mills Park: Honored to be guest speaker at a Town Hall meeting regarding safety at the park; the meeting was well-attended, with Councilman Hicks, Recreation Superintendent Grierson, and Public Works Director Eliza Jane Whitman present and making presentations. Thanked CSS Grove for the senior chess program at Foisia Park.

Commissioner Johnson/Anderson Park: Noted that air conditioning was installed in the Activity Room; the Jazz Festival will be coming soon with the mobile stage being used for the first time; employees have been promoted so park is short staffed; the playground apparatus needs fixing; the turf in the playground needs to be repaired. She was excited for the 55th Anniversary and Aquatics was closed.

Vice-Chair Gonzalez/Veterans SportsComplex: No report. Requested a microphone at the Commission meeting, as well as Speaker Cards; he hoped that everyone has a safe Labor Day; requested that maintenance be placed on the agenda again.

Secretary Hillard/Hemingway Park & Walnut Minipark: Thanked the members for electing her Secretary of the Commission; excited about the 55th Anniversary; staff seemed to be doing good job with the planning of the events; people seemed really excited during the meeting.

Commissioner Dunning/Del Amo Park: No park report.

Commissioner Dahilig/Dolphin Park & Friendship Minipark: Stated that he liked the Master Plan report and presentation, and was looking forward to the 55th Anniversary.

STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

CS Superintendent Grove: There are two Special Events scheduled for September, White Linen and the Mariachi Festival. Registration for the Women's Conference will open on October 21, 2022, via ActiveNet.

Director Whittiker provided responses to Commissioner comments:

Re. field lights at Del Amo Park: Maintenance issues must be handled by the Maintenance Division in Public Works; he will invite the Director of Public Works to respond to the Commission's questions.

Re. lights at Hemingway Park: New lights are coming; they will be changed to LED; the project has been in the works for two (2) years; a new company will install them.

Cameras are also coming to all parks in the next five (5) months, and Wi-Fi will be upgraded.

Noted that pickleball is popular at Hemingway Park as tennis courts are not used. The City Council is considering changing the tennis courts to pickleball courts.

The Country Western Fair is scheduled for November 20, 2022.

Re. the Dominguez Park gopher holes: Worst of problem for any field; the City has spent thousands of dollars attempting to eradicate the problem, but must be humane in how to handle them, especially as children are around the park; poison is not allowed; the City has hired a company to handle the problem, but will have to dig up three (3) feet of field to eradicate; will be expensive as the field is large; as LASD also uses the field, they may be willing to assist with the funding of this issue.

Re. the Dominguez Park playground grout: The grout is poured in place and the children pick at it; Maintenance does small fixes, but it makes the playground look worse.

Re. the Dominguez Park faucets: He will have staff investigate this matter.

Re. the possibility of a Dominguez Park Farmer's Market: The matter is handled by Business License; staff will have it investigated.

Re. the Dominguez Park Volunteer Association: City assists the Association but is fully managed by volunteers; the park is usually filled with children; perhaps Commissioner Hunter was visiting when there were very few children at the park.

Re. Veterans Park: Staff will recommend updating the carpet and installing new tile in the gym; noted that Veterans Park was closed during the pandemic; will suggest making repairs as there are plans to repurpose the facility.

Will investigate the air conditioning in the Anderson Park office.

Re. the park playgrounds: Noted that there are a lot of broken pieces, but staff has been having challenges with getting parts to make repairs; additionally, some pieces have been received but not all; finally, Maintenance is understaffed which makes doing the work challenging.

Re. the pour-in-place at Anderson Park: Staff has been working on getting it fixed but repairs are expensive; staff is doing band aid repairs in the meantime; would like to have this area repaired in time for the Jazz Festival.

Will have mics at all the meetings.

At the next PRCA meeting, Public Works Director Eliza Jane Whitman will be invited to attend.

Re. Carriage Crest sports programming: Low and moderate-income parents will receive help paying the registration fees via the recently implemented scholarship programs; parents will not have to pay the registration fee for one year; staff hopes this program will help increase attendance; the program is for Carson residents only; parents will still have to pay for the uniforms.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by a motion of Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Hunter, and unanimously carried by a vote of 8-0.

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 theBoard/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.