

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS
OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

Thursday, February 3, 2022

The Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles convened the telephonic Regular Meeting at 9:45 a.m. Present were, President Sylvia Patsouras, Commissioners Tafarai Bayne, Nicole Chase and Joseph Halper. Also present were Michael Shull, General Manager, Assistant City Attorney Mike Dundas, and Deputy City Attorney III Steven Hong.

The following Department staff members were also present:

Cathie Santo Domingo, Assistant General Manager, Planning, Maintenance, and Construction Branch

Matthew Rudnick, Assistant General Manager, Special Operations Branch

Jimmy Kim, Acting Assistant General Manager, Recreation Services Branch

Noel Williams, Chief Financial Officer, Finance Branch

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

President Patsouras called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 20, 2022. Commissioner Chase made such motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Halper. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 4-0.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments on matters within the Board's jurisdiction were invited, ten such requests were submitted.

GENERAL MANAGER'S UPDATE

Michael Shull, General Manager, Mr. Shull stated that the winter/fall of 2022 programming is scheduled to begin on Monday, February 7 2022. He stated that since there has been a decline in the Omicron variant the department feels that they will be able to safely provide these programs. Mr. Shull mentioned that the department has purchased several hundred fans that will be strategically placed at Recreation centers to circulate fresh air. This was a recommendation from the department of public health. He went on to thank the Recreation Services branch on their hard work in bringing these programs to the community.

Mr. Shull stated that our PlayLA youth adaptive sports program will be hosting our first sport sitting volleyball clinic in partnership with the Triumph foundation. This event is scheduled to take place at EXPO Center on Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 10 am.

Mr. Shull mentioned that we have finished the last of the Clippers basketball courts. He thanked our Contracts group which is led by Mr. Jimmy Newsom for project managing the project and making sure it was completed.

Mr. Shull mentioned several of our upcoming events. On Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 4 pm., the department along with Council Member Curren Price will be unveiling the project that has just been completed at South Park. Mr. Shull mentioned on Sunday, February 13, 2022 at 7:30 am. There will be a 5K run at Griffith Park and you may go online to register.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Steven Tran presented an update on Measure A status
Yumi Sangen presented an update on Proposition A status

VERBAL REPORT AND FINDINGS TO CONTINUE TELECONFERENCING PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953 (AB 361)

President Sylvia Patsaouras reported that the board must consider a determination, in accordance with AB 361 Section 3(e)(3) that, while the state of emergency due to the Covid-19 pandemic, as originally proclaimed by the Governor on March 4, 2020, remains active and/or state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, this legislative body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members of this Board, and the ability of the members of all of this Board's advisory bodies, including, but not limited to, all park advisory boards, the Greek Theatre Advisory Committee, and the Golf Advisory Committee, as well as the public who might attend these meetings, to meet safely in person and/or state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

President Sylvia Patsaouras made motion for approval of such findings and Commissioner Chase seconded the motion.

Public comment relevant to this item were invited, with no requests submitted. There being no objection to the motion, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 4-0.

BOARD REPORTS

22-018 Donation Acceptance of a Horse for the Park Ranger Division

Adam Dedeaux, Sr. Park Ranger, Park Ranger Division, presented Board Report No. 22-018.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

22-019 Donation Acceptance of a Round Pen for the Park Ranger Division

Adam Dedeaux, Sr. Park Ranger, Park Ranger Division, presented Board Report No. 22-019.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

22-020 Proposition 68 Round Three Grant Award For El Sereno Arroyo Playground Expansion; Approval to Terminate Grant Agreement and Transfer the Grant Award to the Trust for Public Land

Bill Jones, Chief Management Analyst, Grants Administration, presented Board Report No. 22-020. and requested that a correction be noted.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

22-021 Proposition 68 Round Three Grant Award For El Sereno Arroyo Playground Expansion; Approval to Terminate Grant Agreement and Transfer the Grant Award to the Trust for Public Land

Steven Tran,. Sr Management Analyst, Grants Administration, presented Board Report No. 22-021.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

22-022 Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Professional Services Agreement with Royal Polaris Sportfishing, Inc., to Retain the Royal Polaris Fishing Vessel for Whale Watching and Ecological Tours Excursions to Baja California, Mexico

Jim De Pompei, Marine Aquarium Director, Special Operations Branch, presented Board Report No. 22-022.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

22-023 Strathern Park West – Second Lease Amendment to Porter Bill Lease DL 000415-02-01 with the State of California Department of Transportation for a Temporary Reduction in the Lease Premises Area Related to a Proposed Tiny Homes Village Project

Darryl Ford, Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 22-023 Revised.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

22-024 Algin Sutton Recreation Center – Streets Along Park Edges Project – Conceptual Approval

Darryl Ford, Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 22-024.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

22-025 Camp Valcrest – Special Use Permit with United States Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service for Operation and Maintenance of a Camp California CEQA Guidelines

Darryl Ford, Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 22-025.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

22-026 Camp Valcrest – Agreement Between The Department of Recreation and Parks and Growth Opportunities Through Athletics, Learning, & Service, for the Restoration, Improvement, Repair, Operation and Maintenance of Camp Valcrest as a Recreational, Overnight Wilderness Camp for Youth; Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(14) [License To Use An Existing Facility Involving Negligible or No Expansion of Previous Use] and Class 1(4) [Restoration and Rehabilitation of Deteriorated or Damaged Structures to Meet Current Standards of Public Health, Safety and Environmental Protection] of City CEQA Guidelines as well as To Article 19, Section 15301 of California CEQA Guidelines

Joel Alvarez, Sr. Management Analyst, Special Operations Branch, presented Board Report No. 22-026.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

22-027 Griffith Park – LADWP Pump Station 115 Project - Tree Removal and Mitigation - Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 4(3) [New Gardening, Tree Planting, or Landscaping] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15304(b) of California CEQA

Darryl Ford, Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 22-027.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

22-028 Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park – Donation And Installation of Twelve (12) 24-Inch Box Mature Trees from the Los Angeles Parks Foundation and a Two (2) Year Forest Maintenance Plan; Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 4(3) [New Tree Planting, or Landscaping] and Class 11(5) [Signs Located on City Property Managed by a City Department Which has a Sign Policy Adopted by its Board of Commissioners] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15304(b) and Class 15311(a) of California CEQA Guidelines

Priya Macwan, Management Assistant, Special Operations Branch, presented Board Report No. 22-028.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

22-029 Ascot Reseda Skate Facility – Reseda Ice Skating and Roller Rink (PRJ21167)
(PRJ21326) (W.O. #E170121f) Project – Approval of Final Plans - Call for Bids

Darryl Ford, Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 22-029

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENTS

There were no comments from Neighborhood Council Representatives relative to the Agenda Items being considered.

BOARD REPORT PUBLIC COMMENT AND CONSIDERATION OF THE BOARD REPORTS

Public comments relevant to the Board Reports were requested; two such requests were submitted. President Patsouras requested a Motion to approve the Board Reports as presented, with a correction to Report No. 22-020. It was moved by Commissioner Chase and seconded by Commissioner Bayne that the Board Reports be approved as listed above. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 4-0.

COMMISSION TASK FORCE UPDATES

Commission Task Force on Concessions

Commissioner Chase reported that this Task Force met and had a special meeting with a discussion on the Griffith Park Pony Rides. Commissioner Chase mentioned it was to address the concerns of the community in regards to the safety of the ponies and their concerns regarding the concessionaires. Commissioner Chase mentioned the department received an excellent report from Dr. Rachel Sachar Equine Veterinarian who has experience with equine as well as other animals. She mentioned the department is in the process of rewriting the RFQ in regards to this concessionaire. Commissioner Chase mentioned that the department will be coming back to them periodically with updates of the status of the changes being made with regards to the Griffith Park pony rides. Commissioner Chase mentioned that she knows that people are extremely passionate regarding the treatment of animals. She stated that she understands that, she appreciates that and acknowledge their concerns. Commissioner Chase commended RAP staff on addressing the issue right away and acknowledging the community's concerns. Commissioner Bayne stated that he felt there was a valid question on overall policy around the existence of these types of services at our facilities. He feels that the department should take some time to assess the policy regarding these types of services. Commissioner Chase mentioned that there was a large request for public comments from the community however they were not able to give everyone the opportunity to speak due to time restraints. Commissioner Chase also mentioned that RAP plans to do spot checks on the Concessionaire both announced and unannounced.

Commission Task Force on Facility Repair and Maintenance

Commission Halper reported that this Task Force met and discussed the art piece for Griffith Park. Commissioner Halper also mentioned the donation from the LA Chargers to South Park. He also mentioned that they discussed Quimby projects. Commissioner Halper mentioned community members from Hollenbeck park and Boyle Heights asked about the Exeloo self-cleaning restroom. They requested we give them a report back. The community also requested a quicker turn around on the work orders in their area.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

Comments from the Commissioners on Matters within the Board's jurisdiction and Requests by Commissioners to Schedule Specific Future Agenda Items were requested.. Commissioner Halper would like an update on the Potrero Canyon Bridge which is funded by the State. Commissioner Halper would like for the department to look into how we can gain access to the funding for the repairs of the bridge. Commissioner Halper asked that Report 22-026 be approved with the request that staff develop a plan for the Board in the next 90 days identifying that physical improvements and level of programming to be provided to the City of Los Angeles residents are to RAP standards and establishing milestones and timelines for their accomplishment, and that staff report annually in January to the Board on the status of the accomplishments and recommendations on the continuation of the agreement. The agreement with Goals calls for 50% of the campers to be recruited and enrolled for the program by RAP, and that physical conditions and programs standards be those adopted by the American Camping Association. Waivers for adherence to specific conditions may be granted in writing by RAP at the discretion of the General Manager.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

ATTEST



PRESIDENT



BOARD SECRETARY