

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

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

Wednesday, November 6, 2019

The Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles convened the Regular Meeting at the Baldwin Hills Recreation Center at 9:30 a.m. Present were Vice-President Lynn Alvarez, Commissioner Pilar Diaz, and Commissioner Joseph Halper. Also present were Michael A. Shull, General Manager, and Deputy City Attorney IV Mike Dundas.

The following Department staff members were present:

Vicki Israel, Assistant General Manager, Recreational Services
Sophia Piña-Cortez, Assistant General Manager, Special Operations
Javier Solis, Superintendent of Maintenance, Planning, Maintenance & Construction Branch
Noel Williams, Chief Financial Officer, Finance Branch

CALL TO ORDER

Kimani Black, Assistant District Director for Council President Herb Wesson, made opening remarks and welcomed the Board Commissioners and audience to the Tenth Council District.

Randy Kelly, Superintendent of the Pacific Region, introduced the Baldwin Hills Recreation Center staff and provided background information about the facility.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Diaz moved to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2019; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Halper. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments on matters within the Board's jurisdiction were invited; 8 such requests were submitted.

BOARD REPORTS

19-221 Westwood Park – Conceptual Approval of Synthetic Field and Outdoor Park Improvements (PRJ21329) Project – Commitment of Park Fees – Agreement with the Los Angeles Parks Foundation and the TM23 Foundation for the Design and Construction of a Multipurpose Synthetic Surface Field at Westwood Recreation Center and the Donation of Such Improvements as a Gift to the City – Approval of Donor Recognition Signage – Naming of the New Synthetic Surface Field as "Tommy's Field"

Darryl Ford, Acting Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-221.

DISPOSITION: CONTINUED to a future Board Meeting

Vice-President Alvarez invited Public Comment on this agenda item, 63 such speaker cards were submitted. She stated her appreciation for everyone coming out to share their concerns regarding the Westwood Park project. Ms. Alvarez mentioned that because this is a contentious issue it would be best to have the attendance of all 5 Commissioners, but at the very least 4 to cast a vote and hear public opinion and information from the staff. She instructed staff to provide a forceful recommendation in a thorough presentation that addresses several items such as: the benefits, challenges, alternative locations, and the downsides of what they are proposing to the Commission, including an analysis of the costs of the project.

Commissioner Diaz had concerns about the loss of park space and wants to ensure that those who use the park as a place of respite and not for sports are also heard.

Commissioner Halper felt that staff were good planners, and would look at all the issues and come back with a strong recommendation that would look at the whole picture, and accommodate the soccer community, as well. He said compromises need to be made for the greater good. He is asking that staff come back with the best solution and strong recommendations the Board can act upon.

Vice-President Alvarez called for a break.

BREAK AT 11:06 A.M. AND RESUMED AT 11:10 A.M.

19-222 Donation from Burgis Holdings, LLC. in Support of Summer Swim Programs at Sylmar Pool

Carlos Espinoza, Aquatic Director, Aquatics Division, Griffith Park Recreational Center, presented Board Report No. 19-222.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-223 Lafayette Park – Outdoor Park Improvement (PRJ20495) (PRJ21330) Project – Modification of Scope – Allocation of Quimby Fees – Commitment of Park Fees; Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(3) [Minor Alterations to Existing Pathways], Class 1(12) [Outdoor Lighting and Fencing], Class 2(2) [Removal and Replacement of Existing Structures where the New Structure will have Substantially the Same Function, Size and Capacity], Class 3(6) [Construction of Accessory Structures to Existing Facilities], Class 4(3) [New Landscaping], Class 4(12) [Minor Trenching and Refilling], and Class 11(3) [Installation of Minor Accessory Structures] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Sections 15301(c), 15302(b), 15303(e), 15304(b), 15304(f) and 15311 of California CEQA Guidelines

Craig Raines, Landscape Architectural Associate III, Planning, Maintenance, and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-223.

DISPOSITION: WITHDRAWN – delegated to the Task Force for Facility Repair and Maintenance

19-224 North Hills Community Park – Playground Replacement (PRJ21321) Project; Approval of Scope of Work; Allocation of Quimby Fees; Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(3) [Minor Alterations of Existing Pathways], Class 2(2) [Replacement of Existing Structures] And Class 11(3) [Installation of Accessory Structures] of the City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Sections 15301(c), 15302(b) and 15311 of California CEQA Guidelines

Craig Raines, Landscape Architectural Associate III, Planning, Maintenance, and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-224.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-225 Watts Skate Park – New Skate Park (PRJ20577) Project; Conceptual Approval of Proposed Project

Craig Raines, Landscape Architectural Associate III, Planning, Maintenance, and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-225.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-226 Sepulveda Recreation Center Outdoor Improvements (W.O.# E170122F) Project – Phase III - Approval of Final Plans; Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11(3) [Installation of Accessory Structures] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15311 of California CEQA Guidelines

Fernando Torres Jr., Civil Engineering Associate, Planning, Maintenance, and Construction Branch, presented Board Report 19-226.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-227 Normandale Recreation Center Park Expansion (W.O.#E170367F) (PRJ20838) – Skate Park and Park Improvements Project (AKA Normandale Recreation Center Park Expansion) - Approval of Final Plans – Categorical Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1 (1) [Minor Exterior Alterations with No or Negligible Expansion of Use], Class 1(12) [Outdoor Lighting], Class 4(3) [Planting of New

Trees] Class 11(3) [Installation Of Play Structures], and Class 11(6) [Construction or Placement of Minor Structures Accessory to Existing Institutional Facilities] of the City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Sections 15301 and 15311 of California State CEQA Guidelines

Fernando Torres Jr., Civil Engineering Associate, Planning, Maintenance, and Construction Branch, presented Board Report 19-227.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-228 Oakridge Estate Park – Final Consideration of Plaque Installation to Commemorate the History of the Park – Categorical Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11(1) [Placement of On-Premises Signage Accessory to Existing Facilities] of the City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15311(a) of the California CEQA Guidelines

Darryl Ford, Acting Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-228.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice-President Alvarez invited comments from Neighborhood Council Representatives relative to the Agenda Items being considered; no such speaker cards were submitted.

BOARD REPORT PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments relevant to the General Board Reports were requested; three (3) such speaker cards were submitted.

CONSIDERATION OF THE BOARD REPORTS

Vice-President Alvarez requested a Motion to approve the Board Reports as presented, with the exception of Board Report No. 19-221, which will be continued at a future date, and 19-223, which was withdrawn. It was moved by Commissioner Halper, seconded by Commissioner Diaz to approve the Board Reports as noted. There being no objections, the Motion was unanimously approved.

PARK FEE BOARD REPORTS

19-229 Vesting Tentative Tract (VTT) No. 82866 – Recommendation to the Advisory Agency for Land Dedication or In-Lieu Park Fee Payment

Darryl Ford, Acting Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-229

DISPOSITION: APPROVED STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO THE ADVISORY AGENCY TO REQUIRE VTT 82866 TO PAY IN-LIEU FEES TO THE CITY IN ORDER TO FULFILL THE PROJECT'S REQUIREMENTS UNDER PROVISIONS OF LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 12.33.

PARK FEE BOARD REPORT PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments relevant to the Park Fee Board Reports were invited; no such speaker cards submitted.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PARK FEE BOARD REPORT

Vice-President Alvarez requested a Motion to approve the Park Fee Board Report, as presented. It was moved by Commissioner Diaz, seconded by Commissioner Halper to approve the Park Fee Board Report as presented. There being no objections, the Motion was unanimously approved.

COMMISSION TASK FORCE UPDATES

Commission Task Force on Concessions Report

Commissioner Diaz reported that the Task Force on Concessions did not meet.

Commission Task Force on Facility Repair and Maintenance

Commissioner Halper reported that the Task Force on Facility Repair and Maintenance did not meet.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT AND VERBAL STAFF UPDATES

General Manager Michael A. Shull presented the General Manager's Report then thanked and congratulated all the staff on another amazing Halloween. He said there were hundreds of events and lots of haunted houses throughout the City. He gave his continued gratitude to the emergency preparedness section headed by Jimmy Kim, our park rangers headed by Joe Losorelli, and all the maintenance and recreation staff that continue to offer their support this time of year when we have so many fires. Mr. Shull continued to acknowledge how well-prepared RAP is in responding to emergency sheltering operations.

Mr. Shull also mentioned that another successful season at the Greek has concluded, and he will come back to the Commission with a report at the end of the year. Additionally, RAP is getting ready for the holiday season, which includes one of the biggest events, the Pershing Square Ice Rink. The rink will kick off on November 14, 2019, and run through January 17, 2019. RAP is in the wrap-up stages of finalizing the youth sports program with L.A. 28, and will continue to update the Commission. And, lastly, next year's budget, is due on November 22, 2019 and the Commission will be updated on the progress.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

Comments from the Commissioners on Matters within the Board's jurisdiction and Requests by Commissioners to Schedule Specific Future Agenda Items.

Commissioner Halper reminded staff that he asked for a report at the next meeting regarding our community school parks, and acknowledged that they are moving along with their report. He also requested the report include information on a project developed by USC students around greening school sites.

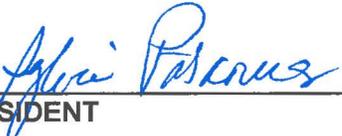
NEXT MEETING

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2019, 9:30 a.m., at the Pan Pacific Recreation Center, 7600 Beverly Boulevard in Los Angeles, 90036.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice-President Alvarez adjourned the meeting at 11:51 a.m.

ATTEST



PRESIDENT



BOARD SECRETARY