

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

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

Wednesday, October 23, 2019

The Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles convened the Special Meeting at the Ramona Hall Community Center at 9:30 a.m. Present were President Sylvia Patsaouras, Commissioner Nicole Chase, Commissioner Pilar Diaz, and Commissioner Joseph Halper. Also present were Michael A. Shull, General Manager, Anthony-Paul Diaz, Executive Officer and Chief of Staff, 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
Matthew Rudnick, Chief Management Analyst, Finance Branch

CALL TO ORDER

President Patsaouras called the meeting to order. As the first order of business, she informed the audience of the recent passing of Park Ranger Captain Albert Torres and asked everyone to rise to observe a moment of silence. She also announced that there would be several speakers later in the meeting paying tribute to Captain Torres.

Hugo Ortiz, District Director for Councilmember Gil Cedillo, made opening remarks and welcomed the Board Commissioners and audience to the First Council District.

Deanne Dedmon, Principal Recreational Supervisor I, Metro Region, introduced the Ramona Hall Community Center staff and provided background information about the facility.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Chase moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 2, 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; two such requests were submitted.

BOARD REPORTS

19-202 Rose Hill Recreation Center – Playground Replacement (PRJ21304) Project – Commitment of Park Fees – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 2 [Replacement of an Existing Structure] of

City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15302 of California CEQA Guidelines

Meghan Luera, Management Analyst, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-202.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-203 Robertson Recreation Center – New Play Area and Fitness Equipment (PRJ21323) Project – Commitment of Park Fees – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11(6) [Placement of Minor Structures Accessory to Existing Facilities] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15311 of California CEQA Guidelines

Meghan Luera, Management Analyst, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-203.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-204 Andres Pico Adobe Historical Museum – Supplemental Agreement with the San Fernando Valley Historical Society to Extend the Term of Agreement No. 3549

Joel Alvarez, Senior Management Analyst II, Partnership Division, Finance Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-204.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-205 Elysian Park Recreation Center – Agreement with Los Angeles Theatre Academy, Inc. for the Operation of a Children’s Recreational Theater Program; Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(14) of the City CEQA Guidelines and Chapter 19, Section 15301 of California CEQA Guidelines

Joel Alvarez, Senior Management Analyst II, Partnership Division, Finance Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-205.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-206 Oakridge Residence - Second Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Friends of Oakridge, to Extend the Term an Additional Five (5) Years, with Remaining Terms and Conditions Unchanged

Edneisha Lee, Management Assistant, Partnership Division, Finance Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-206.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-207 Baldwin Hills Recreation Center – Supplemental Agreement to Contract No. 3566 Between the Department of Recreation and Parks and Miracle League Los Angeles to Extend the Term for an Additional Two Years

Edneisha Lee, Management Assistant, Partnership Division, Finance Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-207.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-208 Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies – Facility Use Permits for Joint Use of Recreational Facilities Retroactively from July 2017 through June 2018 and July 2018 through June 2019; Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(14) [Renewal of Permit] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15301 of California State CEQA Guidelines

Joel Alvarez, Senior Management Analyst II, Partnership Division, Finance Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-208.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-209 Pershing Square Park – Award of Contract to Mobile Illumination, Inc. - For Winter Theme Lighting

Matthew Rudnick, Chief Management Analyst, Finance Branch, presented Board Report No.19-209.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-210 Quimby Fees – Refund for VTT-72005

Dylan Lawrence, Management Assistant, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-210.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-211 Lincoln Park Recreation Center – Pool and Bathhouse Replacement Project (PRJ1504p) (W.O #E1907715) – Acceptance of a Bond to Release Money Withheld on Stop Payment Notice on Construction Contract No. 3555 for G2K Construction, Inc.

Fernando Torres, Jr., Civil Engineer Associate, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-211.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-212 Lincoln Park- The Wall Las Memorias- Proposed Revision of Prior Board Approvals from Report No. 19-155

Cid Macaraeg, Senior Management Analyst II, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-212.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-213 Echo Park – Skate Park (PRJ20837) (W.O. #E170187F); Allocation of Additional Funding Sources

Fernando Torres, Jr., Civil Engineer Associate, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-213.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-214 John Quimby Park – Outdoor Park Improvements (PRJ21322) Project – Commitment of Park Fees – Categorical Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1 (3, 12) [Minor Alterations to Existing Sidewalks and Parking Lots and Fencing] and Class 11(3) [Placement of Minor Structures Accessory to Existing Facilities] of the City CEQA Guidelines, and to Article 19, Sections 15301 And 15311 of the California CEQA Guidelines

Darryl Ford, Acting Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-214.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-215 Potrero Canyon Park - Grading (G775) (W.O. E1907428) Project — Approval of Escrow Agreement for Security Deposits In Lieu of Retention

Darryl Ford, Acting Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-215.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-216 Potrero Canyon Park - Grading (G775) (W.O. E1907428) Project – Request Authority to Negotiate Change Orders to Contract 3644

Darryl Ford, Acting Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch; Alfred Mata, Deputy City Engineer, and Pedro Garcia, Civil Engineer, Project Manager, DPW/Bureau of Engineering, presented Board Report No. 19-216.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

19-217 Larchmont Acquisition and Development (PRJ21302) Project– Revocable Permit with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) for the Use of a Portion of LADOT Property to Develop a New Mini-Park; Commitment of Park Fees; Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 3(4) [Installation of New Equipment for Safety Reasons], Class 4(3) [New Planting and Landscaping] and Class 11(3) [Installation of New Accessory Structures] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Sections 15303, 15304(b) and 15311 of California CEQA Guidelines

Ian Kim, Management Analyst II, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-217.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED WITH CORRECTION to Recommendation 4: Authorize the **General Manager** to execute the Revocable Permit, upon receipt of all necessary approvals.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENTS

President Patsouras 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

President Patsouras requested a Motion to approve the Board Reports as presented, except for Board Report No. 19-217, which had corrections as detailed previously. It was moved by Commissioner Diaz, seconded by Commissioner Halper to approve the Board Reports as noted. There being no objections, the Motion was unanimously approved.

PARK FEE BOARD REPORTS

19-218 Vesting Tentative Tract (VTT) No. 82442 – Recommendation to the Advisory Agency for Land Dedication or In-Lieu Park Fee Payment

Dylan Lawrence, Management Assistant, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Revised Board Report No. 19-218.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO THE ADVISORY AGENCY TO REQUIRE VTT 82442 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.

19-219 Vesting Tentative Tract (VTT) No. 82798 – Recommendation to the Advisory Agency for Land Dedication or In-Lieu Park Fee Payment

Dylan Lawrence, Management Assistant, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-219.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO THE ADVISORY AGENCY TO REQUIRE VTT 82798 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

19-220 Vesting Tentative Tract (VTT) No. 82764 – Recommendation to the Advisory Agency for Land Dedication or In-Lieu Park Fee Payment

Dylan Lawrence, Management Assistant, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 19-220.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO THE ADVISORY AGENCY TO REQUIRE VTT 82764 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 REPORTS

President Patsouras requested a Motion to approve the Park Fee Board Reports, as presented. It was moved by Commissioner Chase, seconded by Commissioner Diaz to approve the Park Fee Board Reports 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 met and discussed several topics, among them, First and Broadway Park, staff is in negotiations with the bidder for the restaurant complex. The concept will be presented to the Task Force by the end of the year; Griffith Park Snack Stand RFP is expected to be released by the end of year; Sepulveda Driving Range, Food & Beverage is also expected to be released by end of year; and, for the Woodley Lakes, Harbor, and Hansen Dam Golf Course Restaurants, staff is developing an RFP for these golf courses as a package and bidders will also be able to bid on them separately.

She also stated that staff is working with the Rancho Park Golf Course incumbent and the new operator to coordinate a smooth transition. There should be a timeline in a couple of weeks; for the Griffith Golf Complex, it is expected that renovations will be completed the first quarter of 2020. After these renovations are completed, and as it is the same operator, renovations will also

begin at the Los Feliz Golf Course; the Penmar Golf Course renovation is expected to be completed in late 2019.

Commission Task Force on Facility Repair and Maintenance

Commissioner Halper reported that the Task Force on Facility Repair and Maintenance met and discussed the Holocaust Museum Conceptual Design Plans, along with further development at Pan Pacific Park to deal with the need to increase space and facilities for public use. This Task Force also discussed the 10-Minute Walk National Study Visit and related grant given to the City, of which Boyle Heights was the focus. The resulting study will show the relationship between various park facilities and how that will serve this community.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT AND VERBAL STAFF UPDATES

General Manager, Michael A. Shull presented the General Manager's Report and began by introducing various staff to give an update on the Saddle Ridge Fire, beginning with Jimmy Kim, Superintendent of Operations, Emergency Management and Aquatics Division. Mr. Shull mentioned that RAP is the sheltering welfare arm as regulated by the City Charter, and spoke of the robust emergency operations division headed by Mr. Kim.

Mr. Kim introduced Sonya Young Jimenez, EPC II, and Brenda Aguirre, EPC I, who he said were the pillars of the RAP emergency management. As a matter of record, he read out all names of the emergency response team with their respective titles and assigned locations. He noted that these women and men serve as volunteers and perform above-and-beyond their daily recreational duties; and not only help coordinate and manage emergency responses, but also strengthen their commitment to training in order to improve and provide efficient services when that call comes. Mr. Kim noted that the Saddle Ridge fire started on Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 9:39 p.m. It began as a 15-acre fire, just off the 210 freeway and Yarnell exit, then within one hour the fire had jumped to a 60-acre fire. Currently the fire has affected the Sylmar area and is now 97% contained. This fire is expected to be 100% contained by Thursday, October 24th, depending on the red flag warnings.

Mr. Kim shared that RAP had two 24-hour operations and a one-day 12-hour support operation, which equates to five 12-hour shifts. The RAP staff Mr. Kim recognized were the ones operating the stations and coordinating this response. There were 15 EOC responders at every 12-hour shift, two (2) EOC responders at the Emergency Operations Center, ten (10) individuals staffing our Department Operation Center, and one (1) staff as our agency representative at the Unified Command Post that stationed at the Hansen Dam Sports Complex parking lot. At the peak of the activation, RAP had five shelters that were activated -- four were American Red Cross supported, and one was a fully RAP supported shelter. Just to note, all of these shelters, because of where the fire was, RAP staff set up all shelters before the American Red Cross arrived. Mr. Kim praised the efforts of his team. RAP staff also supported three (3) evacuation centers in the Valley, for a total of eight (8) sites. At the peak of the activation, Friday at 9 a.m., there were 325 residents in RAP shelters. Out of those eight (8) sites, three (3) of them were at full capacity.

RAP also hosted 59 pets, as the City is very pet friendly during emergency operations. Also, note that the Hansen Dam Equestrian Center is one of the RAP locations activated during emergency response to house larger animals. At peak response time, there are about 335 stalls available, and RAP staff supported 235 large animals. RAP also supported a firefighter shelter at Lake View Terrace -- that location just demobilized this past Saturday. The Firefighter Shelters are locations facilities for outside firefighters to sleep and get refuge. In addition, RAP also supported a local

assistance center, that opened up on Thursday, October 17th, and just closed on Tuesday, October 22, 2019, which presently has served over 50 families that lost homes and property.

Mr. Shull thanked Jimmy Kim and his staff for his efforts. Their efficiency makes the operation appear seamless, and this allows RAP to provide support at critical times. He stated that a few parks were closed for safety reasons, and reported that O'Melveny Park was hit hard. Mr. Shull mentioned that Jimmy Newson, who is a resident caretaker at O'Melveny Park, lost his home and possessions but fortunately he is safe because he was out of town.

Javier Solis, Superintendent of Maintenance, shared that RAP has just begun property damage assessment with State and County partners and that five parks sustained fire damages. These were the parks that were closed for safety reasons. At Stetson Ranch there were six trees that were damaged. RAP staff removed these trees, and the park is now open. Aliso Canyon had two trees that were damaged, crews removed these trees, and the park is now open. Bee Canyon had two trees that were damaged, crews removed these trees, and the park is now open. O'Melveny Park, suffered a lot of damage, 62 trees were damaged, and crews removed the trees. Also, there were pedestrian bridges have sustained some damage, and construction crews are there this morning to assess the damage. It is expected that those repairs will be completed shortly and the park should be open to the public by Friday morning. Linefield Canyon had 106 trees that were damaged. The forestry crews are there now and in the process of removing those trees. Mr. Solis noted that 80 percent of these trees are in undeveloped areas, meaning there is no irrigation and only survive on rainwater. The irrigated areas sustain about 20 percent of the trees. Most of these trees are within O'Melveny Park. He said that we are in process of working with partners and non-profits to replant these areas. Mr. Solis mentioned that RAP will be plantings cocoon plants in undeveloped areas, as this has been done before at Elysian Park, with a favorable success rate. In the irrigated areas, 15-gallon trees will be planted. These are standard size trees that are commonly used in other parks.

Mr. Shull asked Chief Park Ranger Joe Losorelli to say a few words regarding the loss of Park Ranger Captain Albert Torres, and provide information on funeral services. Chief Losorelli reported that Captain Torres had 45 years of City service. Captain Torres started his City career in 1974, then came to RAP in 1984. Captain Torres was a highly respected individual, and highly honored everywhere he went. This was a tremendous loss to our RAP family, and deepest condolences to his family. On the day he was hospitalized, he was working fire related response duty. He was on duty and in uniform when this happened. The rosary services will be on Sunday, October 27, 2019 at 5:00 p.m., at the Old North Church. Funeral service will be held on Monday, October 28, 2019 at 11:00 a.m., at Forest Lawn, Hollywood Hills. Over the last few days, RAP has received hundreds of cards from people all over the country, and from various fire departments. Captain Albert Torres will be greatly missed.

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 requested a report on the Mayor's Proposed 25 School Sites for Joint Park Usage at the second board meeting in November.

NEXT MEETING

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, November 6, 2019, 9:30 a.m., at the Baldwin Hills Recreation Center, 5401 Highland Place, Los Angeles, CA 90016.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Patsouras adjourned the meeting in honor of Captain Albert Torres. The meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

ATTEST



PRESIDENT



BOARD SECRETARY