

MINUTES
Parks, Recreation & Community Services Commission
September 25, 2024

A. ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At 5:30 p.m., the regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Commission convened. Commissioners Angela Whitecomb, Miguel Fernandez, and Joe Garcia were present. Commissioner Oscar Hernandez arrived at 5:39pm. Commissioner Armando Casillas was absent. Staff members present were Steve Howlett, Assistant Public Works Director, Jessy Tapia, Cultural and Community Services Manager, and Mariah Sanchez, Cultural and Community Services Analyst.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. SUBJECT: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 28, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve.

DISCUSSION: None.

ACTION: Minutes were approved as recommended.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

[None.]

D. COMMISSION BUSINESS:

1. SUBJECT: Request to name a field in honor of Joe Guerra

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission consider a Recommendation to the City Council to name a sports field in honor of Joe Guerra.

DISCUSSION: [None.]

ACTION: Vice Chair Fernandez motioned to approve the recommendation to City Council to name a sports field in honor of Joe Guerra. Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion.

2. SUBJECT: Wilson Park Fence

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission consider a Recommendation to the City Council for installation of an ornamental fence along the perimeter of Wilson Park, between the parking lot and park for user accessibility and safety.

DISCUSSION: Public Comments

1. Katrina Prado spoke in favor of adding a fence around Wilson Park. She stated that she currently goes out of town to enjoy enclosed parks, since her son is an eloper.
2. Maria Alba emphasized the key problems caretakers face when caring for elopers. She also stated that she would like to see fencing added to other parks.
3. Elizabeth Montano stated that she would like to see the fence added at Wilson Park as well as other parks.

Vice Chair Fernandez asked if the fence would be open and if supervision would be needed. Assistant Public Works Director, Steve Howlett, stated that the fence would have

a few entry points that will remain open and that the entry points will remain open for public access.

ACTION: Chair Whitecomb motioned to recommend to City Council for installation of an ornamental fence along the perimeter of Wilson Park, between the parking lot and park for user accessibility and safety. Vice Chair Fernandez seconded the motion. Recommendation approved 4-0.

3. SUBJECT: Wilson Park Pickleball Court

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission discuss and recommend staff work with the pickleball players to install temporary stripping as a trial period for consideration of permanent installation.

DISCUSSION: [None.]

ACTION: Vice Chair Fernandez motioned to approve the recommendation of temporary stripping for pickleball courts at Wilson Park tennis courts. Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion.

4. SUBJECT: Sports Field Lighting

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission discuss the operating hours of sports field lighting that identifies the specific parks and neighborhoods, the lighting needs and impacts at each park, and the plan for community outreach to seek neighborhood support of the operating hours.

DISCUSSION: Chair Whitecomb stated that she wanted to pilot parks to see how it goes and she wants to do community outreach. She also stated that she wants community parks to be open until 10:00pm. Assistant Public Works Director, Steve Howlett, clarified that the community parks are Durley Park, Colonia Park, Community Center Park West, and Del Sol Park. Commissioner Garcia recommended that the first step should be changing the hours of operation and then look at changing the lighting.

ACTION: Chair Whitecomb recommended that all community parks stay open until 10:00pm, regional parks with lighting stay open until 10:00pm, and neighborhood parks go on a pilot basis based on community outreach. Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion.

E. REPORT OF THE COMMISSION SECRETARY

The Commission Secretary shall report on items of interest to the Commission occurring since the last meeting. The Commission cannot enter into detailed discussion or take action on any items presented during this report. Such items may only be referred to the Secretary for administrative action or scheduled on a subsequent agenda for discussion.

1. SUBJECT: Parks Division Updates

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive an update on current park projects in the City of Oxnard including projected completion dates.

DISCUSSION: Public Comment

1. Pat Brown spoke in regards to requesting a park around the east side of Oxnard Blvd north of Five Points, since there are a lot of families within her neighborhood.

Steve Howlett, Assistant Public Works Director, provided updates in regards to the continuation of extensive copper wire theft at College Park. Community Center Park

West and Colonia Park signs being posted on the bathrooms where the nearest bathroom is located. Second Durley Park Community Outreach is set for October 12 from 12-2pm. There are currently three playgrounds out for bid, which are Dunkirk, Brekee, and Marina West Parks.

ACTION: [None.]

2. SUBJECT: Recreation and Community Services Division Updates
RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive an update on upcoming Recreation and Community Services events and programs.
DISCUSSION: Jessy Tapia, Cultural and Community Services Manager, provided updates regarding the Oxnard Scholars After School Program and City Corps ASES programs. In addition, provided upcoming events such as the Inaugural International PAL Boxing Championships happening from October 1 through 5, Fall Fest on October 19, OSP Trunk or Treat on October 25, Day at the Park on October 26, and the Halloween Float that will happen from October 22 through 30.
ACTION: [None.]

F. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

1. Vice Chair Fernandez commented on attending the rededication of the Japanese Cemetery and the following luncheon.
2. Chair Whitecomb stated that she attended Meet Up Clean Up at Campus Park. She also stated that met with Councilmember Teran, Steve Howlett, and others about what can be done at Campus Park where the old pool was located.

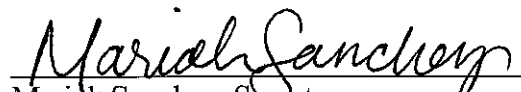
G. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

1. Report to summarize the lighting at the parks and if there were any upgrades to lighting fixtures
2. Report on City landscaping standards and drought tolerant plants
3. Review park policies, field usage, and fees
4. Adding a home plate at some baseball fields
5. Look at parks short term options
6. Report on recreational facilities and usage
7. Turn on Sprinklers at PAL and add some landscaping around facility

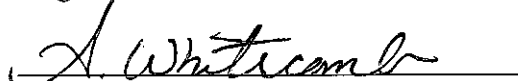
H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm

Mariah Sanchez


Mariah Sanchez, Secretary

Angela Whitecomb


Angela Whitecomb, Chairman