

**AGENDA
CITY OF WHITTIER
PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 13230 PENN STREET
APRIL 17, 2019, 6:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Kevin Kennedy, Chair
Don Mrla, Vice Chair
Jeff Brauckmann, Commissioner
Chris Hardeman, Commissioner
Delia Morales, Commissioner
Ray Wong, Commissioner

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public is invited to address Park, Recreation and Community Services Commission regarding any item of business, with the exception of the public hearing items, or any matter within the body's subject matter jurisdiction. Speakers must limit their comments to three minutes. Pursuant to State law, the Commission cannot take action or express a consensus of approval or disapproval on any oral communications which do not appear on the printed agenda.

5. STAFF REPORTS

5.A. Approval of Minutes

Recommendation: Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 20, 2019.

5.B. Recognition of Whittier Community Foundation

Recommendation: Recognize the Whittier Community Foundation for its many contributions to the City of Whittier for the betterment of the community.

5.C. Park Projects

Recommendation: Receive and file updates on various City of Whittier park projects.

5.D. Update on City of Whittier Homeless Plan Implementation

Recommendation: Receive and file update on City of Whittier Homeless Plan implementation.

5.E. Community Services Division Presentation

Recommendation: Receive and file the Community Services Division's presentation focusing on Senior Services.

6. SECRETARY COMMENTS

7. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND CONFERENCE REPORTS

8. ADJOURNMENT

Disability-related services are available to enable persons with a disability to participate in this meeting, consistent with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Spanish interpreters are also available. For information or to request services, please contact the Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Department at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting at (562) 567-9400.

The agenda packet is available three days before the meeting in the PRCS Department at City Hall (13230 Penn Street), Whittier Central Library (7344 Washington Avenue) and East Whittier Branch Library (10537 Santa Gertrudes Avenue). Additionally, the agenda packet can be viewed on the City's website. Materials distributed to the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission within 72 hours of the Commission meeting are available for public inspection in the PRCS Department's Office.

Los servicios relacionados con la discapacidad están disponibles para permitir que las personas con discapacidad participen en esta reunión, de conformidad con la Ley Federal de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades de 1990. También hay intérpretes en español disponibles. Para obtener información o para solicitar servicios, comuníquese con el Departamento de Recreación y Parques al Servicio a la Comunidad al menos de 24 horas antes de la reunión al (562) 567-9400.

El paquete de la agenda está disponible tres días antes de la reunión con El Departamento de Recreación y Parques al Servicio a la Comunidad en el Ayuntamiento (13230 Penn Street), Biblioteca Central de Whittier (7344 Washington Avenue) y Biblioteca sucursal del este de Whittier (10537 Santa Gertrudes Avenue). Además, el paquete de la agenda se puede ver en el sitio web de la Ciudad. Los materiales distribuidos al Comisión de parques, recreación y servicios comunitarios dentro de las 72 horas de la reunión del Concejo Municipal están disponibles para inspección pública en la con El Departamento de Recreación y Parques al Servicio a la Comunidad.

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing agenda was posted in accordance with the applicable legal requirements. Regular and Adjourned Regular meeting agendas may be amended up to 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Dated this 12th day of April 2019.

/s/ Sheryl Dugas

Sheryl Dugas, Administrative Secretary



Agenda Report

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

Date: April 17, 2019
To: Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission
From: Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services
Subject: Approval of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 20, 2019.

BACKGROUND

None

DISCUSSION

Staff prepared draft minutes and hereby submits the minutes for Commission's approval.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 20, 2019

**MINUTES
CITY OF WHITTIER
PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, 13230 PENN STREET
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2019 – 6:00 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission of the City of Whittier met in Regular Session in the Whittier City Council Chambers, 13230 Penn Street, Whittier, California. Chair Kennedy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:	Kevin Kennedy, Chair Don Mrla, Vice Chair Jeff Brauckmann, Commissioner Chris Hardeman, Commissioner Delia Morales, Commissioner Ray Wong, Commissioner
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PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:	None
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OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:	Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services Sheryl Dugas, Administrative Secretary
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3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Brauckmann led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Victor Ledesma, 14835 Fernview St., Whittier 90604, arrived after the time for Public Comments had closed. Chair Kennedy conceded his time during Commissioners' Comments to allow Mr. Ledesma to address the Commission.

Mr. Ledesma voiced his concerns about the growing population of homeless people camping in Parnell Park. He stated that residents are outraged and afraid to go to the park, this is a very important issue, the "camp" is growing, and he has never seen anything like this before. Mr. Ledesma concluded by saying it was his understanding that the park closed at dusk.

5. STAFF REPORTS:

5. A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Vice Chair Mrla, seconded by Commissioner Brauckmann, and carried, 6 – 0 to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 16, 2019 as presented.

5. B. KABOOM! – BROADWAY PARK PROJECT

Secretary Alaniz reported that the KaBOOM! project at Broadway Parks is moving quickly. The old play equipment has been removed, and the area has been graded and prepared for installation of the new structure on “Build Day”, March 7, 2019. There will be approximately 200 volunteers working together on the project. Amway is the corporate sponsor, and the Whittier Community Foundation has donated \$10,000 to cover the required matching funds, as well as “incidentals”. Volunteers from the Whittier Host Lions Club are helping with preparations on Tuesday, March 5, 2019. Mr. Alaniz invited the Commissioners to participate on “Build Day”. The day’s activities will begin with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. and work beginning at 8:30 a.m. The estimated build time is five hours. Approximately 72 hours is required for concrete curing time before the structure is open for play. Other aspects of the project include creating a mosaic on the amphitheater stage, installation of benches, and changing light fixtures to LED for safety, and Police Department patrol visibility. Commissioner Morales questioned where to park on Build Day. Secretary Alaniz stated that parking at Broadway Park will be “first come, first served”, and parking will also be available at the “Alpha Beta” lot, on Comstock Avenue. There will be a shuttle running to and from the park. Vice Chair questioned the neighborhood participation on this project. Secretary Alaniz noted that the Design Day was the best one so far, with approximately three times the number of participants over past Design Days. Vice Chair Mrla questioned whether the proposed design elements had been included in the final design. Secretary Alaniz noted that many were incorporated into the design.

It was moved by Commissioner Morales, seconded by Commissioner Wong, and carried, 6 – 0, to receive and file update on the KaBOOM! – Broadway Park Project.

5. C. PARK PROJECTS

Secretary Alaniz reported on the following park projects:

Lee Owens Park

Two responses to the Request for Proposal for architectural services for the Lee Owens Park project have been received. Staff will interview representatives from both companies and make a recommendation to City Council. Commissioner Morales questioned the extent of the project. Secretary

Alaniz stated that the work would be done north of the existing restroom building, including the recently purchased lot adjacent to the north border of the park. The project will include construction of a new water feature, installation of new playground equipment, and additional lighting. Any funds remaining following completion of the initial project will be used to improve other areas of the park.

Guirado Park Fitness Equipment

Staff met with representatives from Innovative Playgrounds to discuss installation of fitness equipment, to replace the existing handball courts.

Palm Park Fitness Equipment

Staff is working to replace the old, wooden fitness equipment located on the Palm Avenue side of Palm Park. This project may be done in conjunction with the Guirado Park project, with installation of similar equipment. Vice Chair Mrla noted that there is currently exercise equipment on the Greenway Trail at Palm Park and he would like to see different features in the new equipment. Secretary Alaniz noted that the new equipment will have no moving parts, and will be bright colors that will “pop”. It will be similar to the equipment to be installed at Guirado Park.

Anaconda Park

The City has received a grant of \$50,000 from Los Angeles County Supervisor, Janice Hahn, which will help pay for replacement of the play equipment at Anaconda Park. There are also Measure A funds, in the amount of \$100,000, designated for this project. The Measure A funds are currently on hold due to ongoing litigation. Once those funds are released, the project will proceed.

It was moved by Commissioner Brauckmann, seconded by Commissioner Morales, and carried, 6 – 0 to receive and file updates on various city of Whittier park projects.

5. D. 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW PRESENTATION

Commission viewed the 2018 “Year in Review” PowerPoint presentation, which highlighted many of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department’s events and activities. Vice Chair Mrla commended Secretary Alaniz and staff for all they do for the residents of Whittier. He noted that the City of Whittier is extraordinary because of all of the programs available to the citizens.

It was moved by Commissioner Wong, seconded by Vice Chair Mrla, and carried, 6 – 0 to receive and file the 2018 Year in Review presentation.

6. SECRETARY COMMENTS

Secretary Alaniz advised Commission of the following upcoming events:

- Students in Government Day will take place on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at City Hall. Students from Whittier High School will be participating. The students will Shadow Department Heads, and carry out a mock City Council meeting.
- There will be KaBOOM! project taking place at Broadway Park. The “Build Day” is scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 2019. Amway is the corporate sponsor for this project. The Whittier Community Foundation and Whittier Host Lions are also collaborating on the project with funding and labor.
- This year’s Arbor Day Celebration will take place on Thursday, March 14, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. Michigan Park, 8228 Michigan Avenue, is the site for presentation of the City’s 35th consecutive Tree City USA award. There will be students from a local elementary school, and pre-schools participating. Activities will include planting several trees, various tree related demonstrations, booths, and “giveaways”.
- The annual Eggxtravaganza event will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2019, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Parnell Park, 15390 Lambert Road. There will be egg hunts, photos with the Easter Bunny, inflatable attractions, face painting, a family faire, and more.

Secretary Alaniz reported that the memorial plaque honoring Commissioner Patrick Bouchard has been received and is being prepared for installation at Michigan Park. It has been proposed that the Cedar tree be planted as part of the Arbor Day event on Thursday, March 14, 2019, or it could be sooner. Commission will be notified as soon as a decision has been made on the date.

Secretary Alaniz advised Commission that he will be attending the California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS) conference in Sacramento March 19 through 21, 2019. This annual conference is very informative with many relevant educational sessions available to attend.

7. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND CONFERENCE REPORTS

Chair Kennedy made a motion to place on the March Agenda, discussion of formally recognizing the Whittier Community Foundation, for contributions made to the community. Commissioner Hardeman suggested placing this discussion on the April agenda since Secretary Alaniz will be at the CPRS Conference and unable to attend the March meeting.

It was moved by Chair Kennedy, seconded by Commissioner Hardeman, and carried, 6 – 0 to place discussion of formally recognizing the Whittier Community Foundation,

for contributions made to the community, on the Agenda for the April 17, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Hardeman noted that the homeless encampment at Parnell Park is a serious issue, and that the City, County, and Whittier Police Department are working to resolve the situation. He also stated that he would like to see a very large, public, event demonstrating that the park is being “reclaimed”.

Commissioner Wong thanked staff for facilitating the project to install the memorial tree and plaque honoring Commissioner Patrick Bouchard.

Chair Kennedy conceded his time to Mr. Victor Ledesma, resident of 14835 Fernview St., Whittier 90604, who arrived after the time for Public Comments, had closed.

Chair Kennedy suggested discussion of the topic of homelessness be added to future Agendas. Vice Chair Mrla requested that this be a “standing agenda item”.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

Approved and adopted by the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission on _____.

GREG ALANIZ, Secretary



Agenda Report

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

Date: April 17, 2019

To: Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

From: Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Subject: Recognition of Whittier Community Foundation

RECOMMENDATION

Recognize the Whittier Community Foundation for its many contributions to the City of Whittier for the betterment of the community.

BACKGROUND

The Whittier Community Foundation (WCF) was founded in 2005 to raise funds that would be used to educate, inspire, and advance the community for the greatest common good. Annual fundraising campaigns are focused on special projects that are identified by the board to benefit the entire community. Money is raised through private donations, grants, and fundraisers such as the annual Spooktacular 5K Run/Walk, Dancing with the Whittier Stars, and Boots, Beer, & BBQ events. The WCF has formed valuable relationships with organizations including the Whittier Host Lions Club and PIH Health as well as businesses and individuals. To date the WCF has raised over \$1,000,000 and has given back to the Whittier community in the following ways:

- 2010: Donated "Duke", a miniature horse, to Parnell Park Zoo.
- 2011: Designed and installed the Whittier Police Memorial.
- 2012: Installed new flooring at the Whittier Community Center Theatre and installed 12 fitness stations of exercise equipment along the Greenway Trail as well as Fit Facts healthy living tips signs.
- 2013: Donated "Dinosaur Bones" play equipment to Michigan Park.
- 2014: Donated inflatable 28-foot outdoor movie screen and speaker system. Partnered with KaBOOM! to revitalize the Kennedy Park playground.
- 2015: Donated a security camera to the Whittier Police Department (WPD) and an emergency trailer for use in case of disasters. Raised funds for the Dog Park and to upgrade lighting in the Whittier Community Center Theatre.
- 2016: Partnered with KaBOOM! to renew the York Field playground, funded the Friday Forum Youth program for teens, and installed 12 fitness stations at Michigan Park.
- 2017: Partnered with KaBOOM! to revitalize the Guirado Park playground. Donated art exhibit panels, police canine and car amenities, Wi-Fi system at the Community and Senior Centers, to the WPOA Benevolent Fund, to City Therapeutic Recreation Program, WPD SWAT vests, and memorabilia honoring Officer Boyer.

2018: Donated a disaster preparedness electric cart, WPD canine safety vests, DUI checkpoint traffic safety lighting, and holiday banners.

2019: Helped fund installation of the Bailey House air conditioning system, donated SWAT Unit specialty equipment, partnered with KaBOOM! to rebuild the Broadway Park playground, and is currently raising funds for the Fire Fighter Tribute.

DISCUSSION

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission along with City staff, would like to recognize the Whittier Community Foundation for meeting many of the needs for the improvement of the Whittier community.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

ATTACHMENTS

None



Agenda Report

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

Date: April 17, 2019

To: Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

From: Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Subject: Park Projects

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file updates on various City of Whittier park projects.

BACKGROUND

State Assembly Majority Leader of the 57th District, Ian Calderon gave \$1.4 million in State Park Grant funds to the City of Whittier for various park projects.

DISCUSSION

Staff will give updates on the following City of Whittier park projects:

Lee Owens Renovation
Guirado Fitness Equipment
Palm Park Fitness Equipment

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

ATTACHMENTS

None



Agenda Report

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

Date: April 17, 2019

To: Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

From: Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Subject: Update on City of Whittier Homeless Plan Implementation

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file update on City of Whittier Homeless Plan implementation.

BACKGROUND

The homeless plan provides a framework, and establishes four goals with supporting action items, for preventing and combatting homelessness over the next three years. The plan also proposes key supporting actions the city will undertake to improve existing services and programs, increase service access, identify and strengthen local and regional partnerships, and provide outreach and information to the community regarding homelessness. The plan has incorporated ideas from the two consultants working on the plan, Whittier Police Department, Whittier First Day, Social Services Commissioners, and comments from the community meetings, community surveys, and stakeholder interviews. The plan recognizes the need for additional resources to address the homeless issues in the city, and to provide information to the community on the work being done. Metrics for each goal were set, as appropriate, in coordination with the County and homeless prevention experts over the course of the life of the plan.

DISCUSSION

Staff will update Commission on City of Whittier Homeless Plan implementation.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

ATTACHMENTS

None



Agenda Report

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

Date: April 17, 2019

To: Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission

From: Greg Alaniz, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Subject: Community Services Division Presentation

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file the Community Services Division's presentation focusing on Senior Services.

BACKGROUND

The Whittier Uptown and Parnell Park Senior Centers present a comprehensive program of human services and recreation activities for the mature adult, 55 years of age and older. These facilities offer drop-in programs as well as educational classes, special events, lectures, health screenings, exercise programs, volunteer opportunities, and much more. Membership for each center is \$3 per year for seniors 55 years of age and older. Benefits include discounts for special events, dances, trips, as well as early bird sign-ups for the trips. Also offered are an array of fun and healthy activities and recreation/instruction classes.

DISCUSSION

Staff prepared the Community Services Division's presentation focusing on Senior Services.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

ATTACHMENTS

None