

DECEMBER 8, 2022  
6:00 P.M. – UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER** by Commissioner Rutherford at 6:02pm

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** by Commissioner Brown

**ROLL CALL**

☒ = Present   ☐ = Absent

**Commissioners**

- ☐ Angely Andrade Vallarta
- ☒ Kelly Brown
- ☐ Scott Glabb
- ☒ Michelle Murphy
- ☒ Elizabeth Dorn Parker, Vice Chair
- ☒ Cassius Rutherford, Chair\*
- ☐ Vacant

**City Staff**

- ☒ Jason Minter, Parks & Community Services Director
- ☒ Monique Villasenor, Recreation Manager
- ☒ Robert Ryan, Maintenance Services Manager
- ☒ Brenda Green, City Clerk

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**David Martinez** – Advocated for an indoor public open space that's available, during most times that any other public spot would be open and is available for free to the public. Potentially extending community center operations for accessibility.

**Kim Hendricks** – Has concerns regarding Park Ranger shift schedules and receiving notice that Park Rangers are not accessible during peak hours of patron usage and non-compliant activity at Fairview Park.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS**

**Commissioner Brown:** Thanked City Staff for field light adjustments to accommodate time change for the youth sports. Many parents praised the sports complex amenities. Inquired about the Open Space Master Plan status.

**Commissioner Murphy:** Thanked Mr. Minter regarding the light fixture adjustments at Jack Hammett Sport's Complex. Echoed on the status of the Open Space Master Plan, as well as, Fairview Park Master Plan. Looking for review dates and community input opportunities. Excited to see Snoopy House coming along.

**Vice Chair Dorn Parker:** Thanked staff with setting up Brentwood Park visits and outreach from constituents in the neighborhood regarding the infrastructure and resources available to the families in the community. Asked if there is a calendar for the current open projects on the table for the public to see their current status.

**Chair Rutherford:** Thanked staff for a walkthrough of Gisler Park and District two to discuss ideas and community needs. Echoed what Vice Chair Dorn Parker mentioned for a visual list of all improvement/park projects along with the current stage available for the public to reflect the current volume of work happening within the City of Costa Mesa. Asked Staff to return indoor facility rental rates for review to evaluate group rates. Inquired about the application period for Commissioner applications and deferred back to Commissioner Murphy for an announcement.

**Commissioner Murphy:** Informed the public of her resignation of the Commission as she has been elected for the School Board for Newport Mesa Unified School District 2. As some joint use negotiations within the District and City are up for renegotiation. Thanked the Staff and commission for all the work they do to help execute community projects forward in the City.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Minutes – 101322 Draft Minutes**

**MOTION/SECOND:** Vice Chair Dorn Parker made a motion to approve the minutes/Seconded by Commissioner Brown.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Murphy, Vice Chair Dorn Parker, Chair Rutherford

**Nays:** Commissioner Andrade Vallarta and Commissioner Glabb

**Absent:** Vice Chair Dorn Parker

**Motion Carried:** 4 - 0

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. DONATION OF TREE AND MEMORIAL PLAQUE AT JORDAN PARK** City Attorney Mr. Ryan presented.

No public comment.

Vice Chair Dorn Parker thanked the Ward family on their donation of a tree and bench at an Eastside Park and honor their son Mark Ward.

**MOTION/SECOND:** Chair Rutherford made a motion to approve donation of a memorial tree and plaque at Jordan Park/Seconded by Vice Chair Dorn Parker.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Murphy, Vice Chair Dorn Parker, Chair Rutherford

**Nays:** Commissioner Andrade Vallarta and Commissioner Glabb

**Absent:** Vice Chair Dorn Parker

**Motion Carried:** 4 - 0

### **2. DISCUSSION ON PARK RESERVATION PERMITS**

Mr. Minter presented report.

**Public Comment:**

**David Martinez** – Advocated for the park space limit to increase to resemble neighboring cities and eliminate the code as a whole. Hopes the commission succeeds with getting this municipal code updated, along with other outdated code within the section.

**Mat Garcia** – Echoed on the 10 person limit is very restrictive and ordinance is definition is extremely broad. Supported an increase to accommodate spaces to be more accessible to the community, since many members of the community do not have the open space to gather 20 to 40 people. Concerned with selective enforcement as there has been no citations.

**Jeff** – Also in favor of a clearer definition of “organization”, since it does not really define it. Felt that there is no need for this ordinance.

Vice Chair Dorn Parker found this municipal code interesting, as she had no idea that youth could be potentially cited for this code. Advocated for the review of the code and to think about how we can help benefit the community with the adjustment. Asked staff about the special event permit process and additional coding regarding larger organized events.

Mr. Minter provided more background regarding the code verbiage and what it tried to tackle.

Commissioner Brown asked staff what goes into changing the ordinance.

Mr. Minter and Ms. Green provided a rough outline regarding the steps.

Chair Rutherford finds the verbiage restrictive and acknowledged staff concerns regarding damage from organized/business entity park use. Thinks the Commission should really move forward and bring the code in line with what other surrounding cities are doing and set a model as a progressive City by making updates to outdated code.

Vice Chair Dorn Parker agreed that clarification on who exactly is categorized in the 10 or more members. That way the community can have a clear understanding on what the intent is, what the concern is, and what and how it reflects what the other cities are doing.

Commissioner Murphy addressed concerns regarding the current limit and is aware of constant group violations where there is more than 10 in a park. Confirmed that she saw in the report there are no issued citations, but has concerns over the discouragement it has led for some potential users due to the current limit. Inquired if a specified list of parks in the definition along with the kind of activities permitted maybe help with the establishment of the code.

Chair Rutherford was intrigued with one of the reasons of the decrease from 25 to 10 attendees was “concerns of increased trash and the use of profanity by park users.”

Vice Chair Dorn Parker can understand there was a different mindset and spoke about the 1980’s park usage of organized men soccer games and the higher volume usage it brought within the parks, where the solution was to decrease the trash volume of public facilities.

Received and Filed.

## **MONTHLY REPORTS**

### **1. PARK RANGER REPORT - October & November 2022**

Mr. Minter Presented.

#### **Public Comment:**

**Kim Hendricks** – Hopes to see progress with Park Ranger employment to resolve civil matters in public spaces.

Chair Rutherford acknowledged public comment and asked staff if they can follow-up regarding the concerns and any challenges they may face.

Commissioner Brown asked what the current staffing numbers are for Park Rangers and employment status for this position.

Received and filed.

### **2. DIRECTOR’S REPORT - October & November 2022**

Mr. Minter presented. Ms. Villasenor provided a recap regarding previous and upcoming events.

Commissioner Brown would like to see more interactive City events than events selling product. Loved the City Booth take home clay paw print activity during Barktoberfest. Challenged staff to think about what kind of educational components be brought in for future pet events. Examples would be learning about working with animals, learning about professions in which people engage with animals? Q & A with a veterinarian or include a selfie station where you're not buying something, but get to have a fun photograph with your pet for a memento of the event.

Vice Chair Dorn Parker would love to see information on how residents can support shelters with supplies, such as blankets, tennis balls, toys and informational brochures on what a responsible dog owner at our parks look like.

Vice Chair Dorn Parker is thrilled the City continues to bring the Snoopy house spirit as it started within her neighborhood.

Chair Rutherford inquired on the Master Plan update, updates regarding the fly field reopening status and how to get these moving forward and the TeWinkle Lake

Projects.

Chair Rutherford also requested a follow-up on the Ketcham Libolt upgrades and LED lighting at Jack Hammett.

Received and filed.

**ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER MEMBER & STAFF COMMENTS**

Commissioners thanked Ms. Murphy for her services and congratulated her in the new role she will play on the NMUSD Board.

**ADJOURNMENT** Chair Rutherford at 7:37pm

**NEXT REGULAR ARTS COMMISSION MEETING: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.**

DRAFT