

APRIL 28, 2022
6:00 P.M. – UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER by Chair Ashendorf at 6:01pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE by Commissioner Murphy

ROLL CALL

☒ = Present ☐ = Absent

Commissioners	City Staff
☒ Angely Andrade Vallarta	☒ Jason Minter, Parks & Community Services Director
☒ Kelly Brown	☒ Monique Villasenor, Recreation Manager
☒ Elizabeth Dorn Parker*	☐ Robert Ryan, Maintenance Services Manager
☒ Scott Glabb	☒ Laura Fautua, Executive Secretary
☒ Michelle Murphy	
☒ Cassius Rutherford, Vice Chair*	
☒ Charlene Ashendorf, Chair	

After election voting for Chair and Vice Chair, Commissioner Dorn Parker became Vice Chair and Vice Chair Rutherford became Chair.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Eric Ortiz: Thanked the Commission for providing an open forum. Requested a pump track to be installed in Costa Mesa and sent the Commissioners additional information.

Zoom Commenters: No comments.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Chair Ashendorf: Welcomed Commissioner Michelle Murphy.

Commissioner Murphy: Stated she is a resident of the College Park neighborhood, has two sons in Newport Mesa schools, goes to multiple sporting events multiple times a week at Costa Mesa fields, and is very familiar with the local parks.

Commissioner Dorn-Parker: Announced families have approached her about the last Council Study Session and were thrilled to see investments into park spaces. Thanked staff for preparing the five-year plan.

Commissioner Andrade Vallarta: Wants to bring attention to the opportunity to have a pocket park on the Westside of Costa Mesa. Specifically, an available unit on the cross streets of Pomona and Wilson.

Commissioner Brown: Reported from a meeting she had with staff member Brett Atencio Thomas and member of the Bikeway and Walkability Committee, Ralph Tabata. She mentioned there might be a potential line item in the future budget to hold an open street event, such as CicLAvia in Los Angeles.

Vice Chair Rutherford: Thanked and congratulated staff for the work put into two recent events, Springfest and Earthday. Thanked Mr. Ortiz for his comment and participation in the meeting.

Chair Ashendorf: Commented on the success of the Earth Day event and mentioned how the events improve every time. Informed everyone the Donald Dungan Library will be having their musical instruments installed in the coming months. On Monday May 9, the featured artist at the Senior Center will be having their artist reception. In addition, the Youth Art Gallery will be installing their new featured organization, Costa Mesa High School. The Orange County Museum of Art is nearly completed. Shared excitement about the new physical Recreation Guide.

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 24, 2022 MEETING

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

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Andrade Vallarta, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Dorn-Parker, Commissioner Glabb, Commissioner Murphy, Vice Chair Rutherford, Chair Ashendorf

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried: 7-0

2. OLD BUSINESS - None

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Parks, Arts & Community Services Commission Election of a Chair, a Vice Chair, and Assignment of Liaison

Public Comment: None.

Chair Ashendorf nominated Vice Chair Rutherford for the Chair position.

Commissioner Dorn Parker seconded the nomination for Vice Chair Rutherford.

Commissioner Andrade Vallarta nominated Chair Ashendorf to remain as Chair.

Chair Ashendorf declined the nomination from Commissioner Andrade Vallarta and entertained the motion for Vice Chair Rutherford to be nominated.

MOTION/SECOND: Chair Ashendorf made a motion to elect Vice Chair Rutherford as Chair/Seconded by Commissioner Dorn Parker.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Andrade Vallarta, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Dorn-Parker, Commissioner Glabb, Commissioner Murphy, Vice Chair Rutherford, Chair Ashendorf

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried: 7-0

Commissioner Ashendorf thanked Vice Chair Rutherford for serving as Vice Chair.

Chair Rutherford thanked Commissioner Ashendorf for her service on the Commission and throughout the community. Would like to entertain a nomination for Commissioner Dorn Parker as Vice Chair.

MOTION/SECOND: Chair Rutherford made a motion to elect Commissioner Dorn Parker as Vice Chair/Seconded by Commissioner Dorn Parker.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Ashendorf, Commissioner Andrade Vallarta, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Dorn-Parker, Commissioner Glabb, Commissioner Murphy, and Chair Rutherford

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried: 7-0

MOTION/SECOND: Commissioner Ashendorf made a motion to elect Commissioner Brown as liaison to the Fairview Park Steering Committee/Seconded by Commissioner Dorn Parker.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Ashendorf Commissioner Andrade Vallarta, Commissioner Brown, , Commissioner Glabb, Commissioner Murphy, Vice Chair Dorn-Parker, and Chair Rutherford

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried: 7-0

b) Earth Day & Arbor Day

Mr. Minter presented.

Public Comment: None.

Commissioner Andrade Vallarta asked staff what strategy is used to inform the community of the events.

Mr. Minter explained they utilize social media and well as other media sources such as the Costa Mesa Minute.

Commissioner Andrade Vallarta would like to see more connection with PTA's for more visibility and variety.

Ms. Villasenor informed the Commission the Public Information Office does a good job of pushing out event information in other avenues such as press releases, through liaisons with the school district, and different newsletters.

4. MONTHLY REPORTS

a) Park Ranger Report - March 2022

Public Comment: None.

Vice Chair Dorn Parker commented on the no leash law violations despite hearing complaints about dogs off leash. Would like to be proactive in the approach to keep dogs on leashes and parks clean from waste.

Chair Rutherford agreed with Vice Chair Dorn Parker's comment and would like to see some aspects of the municipal code updated and more heavily enforced.

Commissioner Ashendorf agreed with the comment of Vice Chair Dorn Parker and recommended to have pet information at City events.

Vice Chair Dorn Parker agreed with Commissioner Ashendorf and would like to see educational resources at the upcoming Concerts in the Park, Spring Bark Bash, and Movies in the Park.

Commissioner Andrade Vallarta asked if there was an opportunity to evaluate how situations with our homeless neighbors can be addressed.

Mr. Minter commented there are outreach services that the police utilize when working with the homeless.

Commissioner Brown asked if a Park Ranger would be able to attend a meeting to have a conversation in regards to camping citations.

Commissioner Murphy recommended for calls in regards to homeless to be directed to the Network for Homeless Solutions team.

Mr. Minter will be reaching out to police and the homeless solutions team for their feedback on camping citations.

Chair Rutherford asked if the Commissioners wanted to reach out to Park Rangers what should they do.

Mr. Minter asked Commissioners to communicate to him or Ms. Fautua for any issues.

b) Director's Report - February 2022
Mr. Minter & Ms. Villasenor presented.

Commissioner Ashendorf thanked staff for the report. Expressed excitement for the art poster project. Asked when the senior center will be available for facility rentals.

Mr. Minter informed the Commissioners they are in the process of creating a rental policy for the senior center.

Commissioner Ashendorf announced she will be painting her local park for I Love Costa Mesa Day and challenged the Commissioners to register for a volunteer shift.

Mr. Minter asked the Commission to participate in community events in order to interact with members of the public. Informed them they will have name tags and business

cards made for them.

Commissioner Murphy asked if any capital improvement projects will be at Neth Park.

Mr. Minter stated if the Commission is interested in a certain project, it can be presented to public services.

Commissioner Andrade Vallarta asked if the R.O.C.K.S program could be expanded to Wilson elementary. Would like to hear about the enrichment aspect of the program.

Ms. Villasenor informed the Commission the R.O.C.K.S sites went from eleven to nine due to staff shortages post pandemic return. The program is still actively hiring to expand the demand of the program needs. If a school is interested in having the R.O.C.K.S program, the principal can communicate with staff to express interest. Ms. Villasenor will be communicating with R.O.C.K.S staff to bring more enrichment opportunities to the program.

Chair Rutherford asked how the utility box program receives its funding.

Mr. Minter will bring a more detailed report back to the Commission about the utility box program.

Chair Rutherford inquired about the progress of the public art policy.

Mr. Minter informed the Commission the Public Art Policy is being created and could be completed in the next four to five months.

Chair Rutherford noted the importance of R.O.C.K.S and would like to move focus on filling vacant positions in order to allow for more participants in the program.

Mr. Minter agreed.

Chair Rutherford asked staff to include updates from the homeless services division.

Mr. Minter will reach out to the homeless services team and inquire if they have any reports already created.

5. ADJOURNMENT by Chair Rutherford at 7:26pm.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: MAY 26, 2022 AT 6:00P.M.