
THE COSTA MESA PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

OCTOBER 13, 2022
6:00 P.M. – OFFICIAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER by Chair Rutherford at 6:00pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE by Commissioner Murphy

ROLL CALL

☐ = Present ☐ = Absent

Commissioners	City Staff
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Angely Andrade Vallarta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Minter, Parks & Community Services Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charlene Ashendorf	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monique Villasenor, Recreation Manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Ryan, Maintenance Services Manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Glabb	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Fautua, Executive Secretary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Murphy	
<input type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Dorn Parker, Vice Chair	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cassius Rutherford, Chair	

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ralph Taboada – Longtime resident of Costa Mesa inquired about the allocation of the \$10 million for parks and \$1 million for Ketchum Libolt Park from Senator Min and Assembly Cottie-Petrie Norris and urged the Commission to be involved in the discussions and recommendation to City Council. Also, requested finalized minutes of Commission meeting be published online.

Chair Rutherford requested staff provide a quick status of those funds.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Ashendorf: Attended the grand opening of OCMA and was one of the 10,000 attendees of the weekend. Encouraged the public to visit, since it is a free museum for the next 10 years. Hopes to see the community attend the Scarecrow event this weekend. Excited to see the City hired a new outreach worker at the Costa Mesa Senior Center, Lucy Tseng. Excited to ride on the new electric shuttle to the Angel Stadium. After a hiatus of two years, the City's early childhood participants from the L.E.A.P. program will be visiting the Senior Center for some Halloween treats. Said her farewell to Parks & Community Services Commissioners and staff, as she will now serve her role as a Commissioner in the Arts Commission.

Commissioner Glabb: Thanked Commissioner Ashendorf for her leadership in the City and all the works she does.

Commissioner Murphy: Thanked Commissioner Ashendorf for everything she has done. Asked staff if there were any updates regarding the netting at TeWinkle Park.

Commissioner Brown: Echoed farewell to Commissioner Ashendorf. Would like to see a document become available to the public regarding the funding from Senator Min's office. Would like to see an update regarding the update for the Open Space Master Plan. Wants to know if the Master Plan will be in Spanish and thinking about the accessibility for our community. Do we have a resource to confirm which parks do not have drinking fountains and if there are plans to incorporate some into parks that do not have any.

Andrade Vallarta: Thanked Commissioner Ashendorf for her leadership and welcomed her into the new Arts Commission. Some residents requested maintenance within Canyon Park in the area called Sheep Hills and see if any signage from Park Rangers can be displayed for the specific type of bikes allowed. Thanked City staff for attending the Newport Mesa School District's enrichment meeting to collaborate on opportunities for our youth. Looking forward to seeing updates regarding the Open Space Master Plan when it becomes available.

Chair Rutherford: Thanked Commissioner Ashendorf for her friendship, guidance, and mentorship during her time as a PACS Commissioner. Thanked staff on the rental advertisement regarding the Norma Hertzog Community Center. Encouraged staff to ensure public input regarding the Open Space Master Plan. Highlighted ARTvenue, the opening of OCMA, encouraged the public to attend the Scarecrow Festival this weekend, and to not forget to vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 28, 2022 MEETING

MOTION/SECOND: Commissioner Ashendorf made a motion to approve the minutes/Seconded by Chair Rutherford.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Andrade Vallarta, Commissioner Ashendorf, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Glabb, Commissioner Murphy, Chair Rutherford

Nays: None

Absent: Vice Chair Dorn Parker

Motion Carried: 6-0

NEW BUSINESS – NONE

1. TREE REMOVAL REQUEST AT 1960 SWAN DRIVE

Mr. Ryan presented.

Commissioner Glabb inquired about staff tree evaluation process along with what the impacts the resident incurs and what the City assists.

Commissioner Brown inquired if there is a possibility to remove one (1) of the three (3) trees to improve the quality of life of the resident, since it may be causing more algae build up in her pool filters.

Commissioner Andrade Vallarta inquired if there could be potential netting to prevent tree debris fall into the resident's property.

Commissioner Glabb concurred with Commissioner Brown's comment about reviewing one (1) tree.

Public Comment:

Sue Tarvin – Stressed the usual debris of the tree is constant and her pool and yard is never clean.

Chair Rutherford reminded the Commission on the tree removal request policy Commission and that the trees that are typically seen by Commission do not pose a risk for health and safety. Supports the City staff recommendation to deny the tree removal request unless there is other Commissioner comments.

Rutherford made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Ashendorf.

Commissioner Murphy inquired if there is way to modify it for one (1) tree instead of three (3).

Chair Rutherford let Commissioner Murphy know that it's up to her to make a substitute motion and Chair Rutherford expressed his concerns of the City's time expense/resident, if removed.

Commissioner Glabb made a substitute motion to remove one (1) of the three (3) proposed trees, the tree next to the resident's pool.

Commissioner Andrade Vallarta asked if the homeowners have explored pool covers to prevent pine debris from falling into the pool.

Chair Rutherford encouraged the homeowner to explore everything they can to figure out a solution to the pine needle issue before removing a tree that does not have to be removed, other than for aesthetic issues of her pool.

Commissioner Murphy seconded Commissioner Glabb's substitute motion to remove the one (1) tree closest to the resident's pool.

The substitute motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Glabb, Commissioner Murphy, Chair Rutherford

Nays: Commissioner Andrade Vallarta and Commissioner Ashendorf

Absent: Vice Chair Dorn Parker

Motion Carried: 4-2

Mr. Ryan let the Commission know that staff will need to amend the estimated cost and request a new quote for one (1) tree.

MONTHLY REPORTS

1. Park Ranger Report - SEPTEMBER 2022

Public Comment: No comments.

2. Director's Report - SEPTEMBER 2022

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

Commissioner Ashendorf asked if staff can confirm if the one-day camp's new this year.

Commissioner Brown asked if the light units at Utility fields, such as, Harper Park be turned on earlier for the youth to be able to continue their practices in a lit field.

Commissioner Murphy asked how our one-day camps are being advertised.

Chair Rutherford looks forward to receiving more detailed updates regarding the Open Space Master Plan.

Commissioner Andrade Vallarta would like to see updates from staff on the improvements on the West Side.

Public Comment: No comments.

ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER MEMBER & STAFF COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT by Chair Rutherford at 7:15pm.

Next Meeting: Parks & Community Services Commission regular meeting, December 8, 2022.