
THE COSTA MESA PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

MAY 11, 2023
6:00 P.M. – OFFICIAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER by Chair Rutherford at 6:00pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE by Commissioner Garcia Arcos

ROLL CALL

☒ = Present ☐ = Absent

Commissioners

☒ Kelly Brown*
☒ Cristian Garcia Arcos
☐ Scott Glabb**
☒ Terry Wall
☒ Shayanne Wright
☒ Elizabeth Dorn Parker, Vice Chair
☒ Cassius Rutherford, Chair

City Staff

☒ Jason Minter, Parks & Community Services Director
☒ Monique Villasenor, Recreation Manager
☒ Robert Ryan, Maintenance Services Manager
☒ Laura Fautua, Executive Assistant

**Commissioner Brown entered the at 6:32 P.M. Arrived during New Business 1 presentation*

***Mr. Minter mentioned Commissioner Glabb requested an excused absence*

PRESENTATION: STAFF UPDATE: PART-TIME RECRUITMENT

Ms. Villasenor presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mat Garcia (Zoom): Spoke about sharing the part-time employment opportunities to the Save Our Youth participants, Invited Commissioners to walk Fairview Park for those who are interested to learn more about the flying field.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Commissioner Wright: Attended the Earth Day event and was happy to see the kick-off of community input meetings for Ketchum-Libolt and Shalimar Park. Encouraged the public to partake in Love Costa Mesa Day.

Commissioner Wall: Highlighted the Spotlight and Public Works staff. Attended two (2) outreaches for Ketchum-Libolt and Shalimar Park. Looks forward to the future public outreach.

Commissioner Garcia Arcos: Spoke about a successful collaborative event, *Dia de Los Niños*, that occurred on April 30. Toured the community gardens with staff, saw concern of overgrown shrubs next to Hamilton gardens. Highlighted Love Costa Mesa Day on May 20, is looking forward to planting trees in the community.

Vice Chair Dorn Parker: Did a garden tour with staff where management, parcel beds, membership activity, and the waitlist were discussed. Will be touring with Andy Campbell around Fairview Park to discuss park matters and will be attending Love Costa Mesa Day.

Chair Rutherford: Attended the community meeting at Shalimar Park and happy to see the amount of youth that came out to give input at that meeting. Thanked Commission Garcia Arcos for his garden update.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Minutes – 040823 Draft Minutes

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

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Garcia Arcos, Commissioner Wall, Commissioner Wright, Vice Chair Dorn Parker, Chair Rutherford

Nays: none

Absent: Commissioner Brown and Commissioner Glabb

Motion Carried: 5 – 0

NEW BUSINESS:

1. PROPOSED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 AND THE FIVE-YEAR CIP BUDGET THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2027-28

Mr. Sethuraman, Mr. Dalton, and Mr. Ryan presented.

Public Comment:

Amy: Mom who petitioned and collected 350 signatures to update Brentwood Park and is happy to see \$400,000 for Brentwood Park updates. Advocated for ADA compliant seating, shading structure to alleviate hot equipment during warm weather, additional seating, and more engaging play equipment. Child: Would really like swings.

Brentwood Park Grandparent: His three (3) granddaughters are in walking distance within Brentwood Park and as a disabled Vietnam Veteran, advocated for improvement on playground equipment and better accessibility for people with mobility issues.

Costa Mesa Resident: Supported Brentwood Park improvements. Hopes the Commission approves the budget request and expects the amounts not used last year also roll over.

Amiee G Onizuka (Zoom): Thanked the Commission and excited for Brentwood updates.

Sheila Lang (Zoom): Expressed gratitude and excitement for the proposed budget.

Cristina Fabian (Zoom): Excited to see what is in store for Brentwood Park updates.

Jessica (Zoom) experienced technical difficulties.

Gavin Fabian (Zoom): Spoke about the Brentwood Park updates.

Jessica on Zoom was still experiencing technical difficulties, did not speak.

Commissioner Wall acknowledged the veteran public commenter and ADA compliance within the park.

Commissioner Wright was excited to see the increase in funding for Brentwood and impressed with the amount of park users who came to comment on behalf their local park. Spoke about different community engagement types depending on demographics. Asked staff for clarification on phase definitions.

Commissioner Wall asked staff if there can be overlap in projects.

Vice Chair Dorn Parker inquired if phase one (1) can include external project management to help execute phase two (2) as the community has been waiting for 10 to 15 years for updates.

Commissioner Wright discussed alternative approaches to move Brentwood Park phase transition.

Commissioner Garcia Arcos requested staff to provide an earlier notice to allow opportunity for more community engagement and allow the community to commit to dates accordingly.

Commissioner Brown touched on items in the proposed budget, masterplan status, staff feedback, Fairview Park signage, community engagement, green space and use of creative space within the community.

Vice Chair Dorn Parker asked staff if there could be an engagement to update the Newport Mesa Unified School District joint use agreement to help provide more green space.

Chair Rutherford inquired if there could be a combination of multiple parks in one project. Suggested staff include a review for park space development and a review on the west side for year 5 goal. Also asked about Fairview Park bathroom updates and fencing.

Commissioner Wright feels really honored to be a part of this process, asked about any trends seen from the current Ketchum-Libolt and Shalimar engagement, and asked about the NMUSD joint use agreement.

Commissioners discussed the recommendation and agreed to move forward with the CIP recommendations as proposed with the additional input:

- Review the westside need for recreation, open space, reengage and bring back existing recreation projects “to the streets”
- Review the organization of the phases 1 and include Brentwood, if possible, and look into opportunities to have consultants/staff/outside knowledge to make that possible
- Support the planning of Fairview park. The master plan has to be in place and support the concept of the use of trails, signs, and outside expertise
- Review input of community engagement in a way that makes more sense locally

- Look at city owned parcels and school district green spaces (Start by City owned parcel on Victoria and Pomona)
- Continue to explore pickleball opportunities

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

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Garcia Arcos, Commissioner Wall, Commissioner Wright, Vice Chair Dorn Parker, Chair Rutherford

Nays: none

Absent: Commissioner Glabb

Motion Carried: 6 – 0

2. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Ms. Villasenor presented.

Commissioner Brown explained her letter that was supplemental for this item. Explored the idea of potentially incorporating staff specifically for public engagement or an external agency that expertise's in the field as it is an on-going need to increase the engagement of the community.

Public Comment:

Public Commenter: advocated that there is community interest to place the work and input for engagement needed for projects.

Christina: Spoke about the community seeking validating the need for updates to occur and how passionate people can be in the topics, and help develop data on priority.

David Martinez: Seeks engagement to be out in the community and not just regularly scheduled public commission/committee meetings, and including Spanish notices.

Charlene Ashendorf (Zoom): highlighted Commissioners for their support within their districts. Would like see more networking to help increase community engagement and tackle topics and potentially collaborate with organization to help create solutions on matters that need addressing.

Vice Chair Dorn Parker highlighted that once the community buys in, feel heard and collaborative partners, they take care of the facilities, they then engage in productive outcomes, such as more engagement public meetings, parks, volunteer or attend events. Creating an on-going wave that just gets larger.

Commissioner Wright thanked public commenters and their feedback. Discussed the benefits on enhancing engagement focus can help solve problems the community advocated and show collaborative efforts.

Commissioner Garcia Arcos looks forward to future collaboration to expand on

community engagement.

Chair Rutherford challenged the commissioners that there is also onus on them to help expand the community engagement too and encouraged Commissioners to be proactive with feedback.

Commissioner Brown discussed a need for structural change.

Commissioner Wright would like this returned with a more in-depth overview.

Commissioner Brown and Commissioner Wright identified several key strategies around public engagement worth visiting for future activities.

Ms. Villasenor elaborated on outreach that occurs variety forms depending on type currently.

MONTHLY REPORTS

1. PARK RANGER REPORT – April 2023

Mr. Minter presented.

2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – April 2023

Mr. Minter and Ms. Villasenor presented.

Commissioner Wright if there was a status update on the Luke Davis Field.

ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER MEMBER & STAFF COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT by Chair Rutherford at 9:29 P.M.

NEXT REGULAR ARTS COMMISSION MEETING: THURSDAY, June 8, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.