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THE COSTA MESA PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

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MARCH 14, 2024  
6:00 P.M. – OFFICIAL MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER** by Vice Chair Dorn Parker at 6:00pm.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** by Commissioner Wright.

**ROLL CALL**

☒ = Present    ☐ = Absent

**Commissioners**

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

**City Staff**

☒ Monique Villasenor, Recreation Manager  
☒ Robert Ryan, Maintenance Services Manager  
☒ Laura Fautua, Executive Assistant  
☒ Kathia Viteri, Office Specialist II  
☒ Kelly Dalton, Fairview Park Administrator

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Leticia Ortiz: Spoke on behalf of Shalimar Park community. Expressed interest in being involved in the Shalimar Park project. Awaits updates.

Jacob Sanchez: Expressed interest in becoming involved in the Shalimar Park Project and looks forward to providing input. Thanked for the new trees on Shalimar drive. Extended an invitation to partake in Love Costa Mesa Day scheduled for May 18.

Juana Trejo: Part of the non-profit, *Promotores de Salud*. Thanked the community for a positive change in Shalimar Park and invite the continuance within the whole community in Costa Mesa.

Zoom Speaker: Urged the commission to work with staff to eliminate invasive plants from our parks, particularly, and from our parkways and medians.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS**

**Commissioner Wright:** Highlighted that the Planning Commission reviewed the pedestrian Master Plan draft and notified that it would be going to council soon. Encouraged the public to give feedback to Councilmembers on walking accessibility within the community.

**Commissioner Wall:** Highlighted Public Works fast turnaround response regarding maintenance in the City.

**Commissioner Rutherford:** Highlighted staff's work and highlighted the importance of community input.

**Commissioner Glabb:** Thanked staff for their approachability and welcoming service at City Hall.

**Commissioner Garcia Arcos:** Thanked public commenters and those who spoke out regarding the Shalimar Park community. Shared importance of educating on tree maintenance and care as a means to be more financially sustainable.

**Vice Chair Brown:** Thanked City staff and spoke about the importance of governmental process and community engagement and feedback. Acknowledged Mr. Dalton on his work with Fairview Park and the complexities of the projects he is working on.

**Chair Dorn Parker:** Thanked staff and highlighted the ACCESS Friendship Dance and recognized how staff are looking at diversity in the city and identifying which services are needed. Requested more agenda items regarding the resources coming into the parks for the community to see.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Minutes – 01/11/2024 PACS Draft Minutes**

**Erik Roberts:** Mentioned the footer stated ARTS Commission and not PACS Commission.

**MOTION:** Approve the amended minutes of February 8, 2024 Commission meeting.

**MOVED/SECOND:** Commissioner Rutherford/Commissioner Wright.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

**Nays:** none

**Absent:** none

**Motion Carried:** 7 – 0

### **2. DONATION OF TWO TREES, MEMORIAL BENCH, AND PLAQUE AT FAIRVIEW PARK**

Mr. Robert Ryan, Maintenance Services Manager presented.

Discussion ensued regarding the type of tree and impact it may have on the park. Questions relating bench and plaque installation processes were also discussed, review of the Fairview Park Steering Committee motion, as well as staff recommendation and if alternative locations were provided to the requestor prior to the review of the donation.

#### **Public Comment:**

Andy Campbell: Spoke in favor of the Fairview Park Steering Committee recommendation to approve the bench and plaque with no concrete pad and defer the tree donation to another park within the City.

Jennifer Thomas: Shared concerns with the bench placement and potential impact on native plantings due to tree species foliage and hopes a tree with less foliage be considered to prevent harm to the current native ecology at Fairview Park.

Erik Roberts: Requested the Commission to think of a compromise motion or possibly delay Commission recommendation until the Fairview Park Master Plan is complete.

Zoom Caller: Asked for a specific policy be created regarding request for Fairview

Park donations of trees, plaque, and bench.

Zoom Caller #2: Stressed specific donation policy for Fairview Park be implemented for future requests.

**Motion:** The request for a bench and a plaque is honored, but not the trees. Staff to reach out to the family to convey to them concerns and strategize for the trees to be planted at another park that could utilize the trees.

**MOVED/SECOND:** Vice Chair Brown/Commissioner Garcia Arcos.

Commissioner Wright inquired for clarification on the substitute motion.

Commissioner Brown asked if ground penetrating radar would be used as there may be significant archaeological value.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** Approve the staff recommendation with adjusting the selection of the tree, location of planting and evaluating the impact of the tree on the native historical site. The tree is to be selected from the species of trees given by the consultant of the Fairview Park Master Plan.

**MOVED/SECOND:** Commissioner Rutherford/Commissioner Glabb.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**Ayes:** Commissioner Glabb, Commissioner Rutherford, Commissioner Wall, Chair Dorn Parker

**Nays:** Commissioner Garcia Arcos, Commissioner Wright, Vice Chair Brown

**Absent:** none

**Motion Carried:** 4 – 3

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1. DONATION OF A MEMORIAL BENCH AND PLAQUE AT LIONS PARK**

Mr. Robert Ryan, Maintenance Services Manager presented.

Commissioner Garcia Arcos inquired about the selection of tree.

**Public Comment:** None.

**MOTION:** Approve the memorial bench and plaque.

**MOVED/SECOND:** Commissioner Rutherford/Commissioner Wright.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

**Nays:** none

**Absent:** none

**Motion Carried:** 7 – 0

### **2. 2023 ANNUAL REPORT FROM MAJOR LEAGUE SOFTBALL**

Ms. Ashley Thomas, Recreation Supervisor presented.

Commissioner Wall inquired on the capacity of the program.

Commissioner Wright: Shared personal anecdote of direct involvement with the program.

**Public Comment:**

Shannon, MLS Representative: praised the adult program, stating their teams love it and participation numbers are consistently high with minimal complaints. Also highlighted the enjoyment of participants, including officials and league directors, which is notable in adult sports.  
Item was received and filed.

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

**1. PARK RANGER REPORT – FEBRUARY 2024**

Ms. Villasenor, Recreation Manager presented.

Chair Dorn Parker would like to see backup data of arrests and citations.

**Public Comment:** None.

**2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2024**

Ms. Villasenor, presented.

Vice Chair Brown inquired on the Fairview Park Master Plan timeline.

Commissioner Wright inquired about the gardens waitlist and staff exploration for additional location due to the large waitlist.

**Public Comment:** None.

**ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER MEMBER & STAFF COMMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT** by Chair Dorn Parker at 8:05 P.M.