

UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED
MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SENIOR CITIZENS COMMISSION
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5655 JILLSON ST., COMMERCE, CALIFORNIA
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2017 AT 12:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Elenes at 12:31 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
AND INVOCATION**

Commissioner Jose Zambrano led those assembled in the salute to the flag and the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Vice Chairperson: Elenes

Commissioners: Gibson & Zambrano

Absent: Barragan

Staff: Director of Parks & Recreation Lipton
Senior Center Supervisor Berroteran
Senior Office Specialist Macias
Senior Recreation Leader Pat Perez

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commerce resident Guillermina Reyes addressed the Commission and expressed her thanks for the new treadmills that were brought in to the Senior Center.

**APPEARANCES AND
PRESENTATIONS**

None.

SCHEDULED MATTERS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gibson motioned to approve the minutes of July 5, 2017. Commissioner Zambrano seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**SENIOR CITIZENS SOFTBALL
TEAM**

Sports Supervisor Frank Garcia reported that the Senior Citizens Softball Team is open to residents as well as non-residents. Non-residents are allowed to participate on the team so that there are enough players to complete a team. Residents are allowed to register first and then non-residents are allowed to register to fill up the spots needed to complete a team. The season begins in October and lasts until August/September of the following year. During registration the participants turn in their forms and give their uniform sizes. The team participates in the Tri-City League which includes the cities of Duarte, Artesia, Diamond Bar, and others. They also play in two tournaments throughout the season. They also played in the Senior Olympics this past season and won the championship.

Commissioner Zambrano feels residents should have priority and mentioned that non-residents should probably a fee.

Mr. Garcia mentioned that they do charge non-residents \$25 and this covers their uniform.

Mr. Lipton reassured the Commissioners that residents are not charged a fee to play on the team.

Commissioner Gibson has no problem with the current policy for the softball team.

CITY OF COMMERCE VOLUNTEERS

Senior Center Supervisor Berroteran reported on the city-wide process to becoming a volunteer. There are conditions to passing clearance through the Human Resources Department. The Senior Center does not recruit because there is not a lot of work for volunteers. There are volunteers that come to help for the LA County food bank and there are also volunteers who help during the lunch program run by the Human Services Association. These are volunteers that work for the Human Services Association and not through the city. She does use some volunteers for special events and they are all certified through the Human Resources Department. When individuals request to volunteer and she will hand them the city application packet. Once they fill out the packet and return it to her, she then submits it to the Human Resources Department. Human Resources then obtains the applicants fingerprints and conducts a background check. If Human Resources clears the applicant, she is then notified that the applicant can begin their assignment. She then lets the new volunteers know when they can volunteer. She gets a lot of school volunteers that have already been cleared by a school program. They are usually short term volunteers.

Commissioner Zambrano asked if the student volunteers get credit volunteering.

Ms. Berroteran said yes they usually get school credit. Some schools are requiring community service hours and this is a way for them to complete it. Sometimes they get college students that require longer volunteer assignments to complete their bachelor's programs.

PERSONAL ASSISTANCE FOR SENIORS AT CAMP COMMERCE

Mr. Lipton reported that this issue was raised when a resident attending Camp Commerce brought an aide with them that was not a resident. Some Seniors require aides to help them throughout the day and sometimes these aides live with them. These Seniors have asked if their aides can also attend Camp Commerce to help them get around. The Department allows them to bring their aides

in order for them not to miss out on the opportunity to attend Camp Commerce. The aide also pays the fee. It would be difficult for someone who lives in Commerce to find someone else who lives in Commerce that they can hire as an aide.

Vice-Chairperson Elenes mentioned that he heard that non-residents are going to be allowed to attend Camp Commerce and he asked if this statement was true.

Mr. Lipton said yes, only if they are an aide accompanying a resident.

Ms. Berroteran mentioned that it is a resident's right to attend Camp Commerce and if they are in need of an aide to go with them we will accommodate that. This will also keep us in compliance with the American with Disabilities Act.

Commissioner Zambrano feels they have the right to have aides, but staff should check their records. How is the department going to determine who is actually an aide and who is not.

Ms. Berroteran said that Camp staff has called and asked for certain individuals to bring assistance. We cannot question individuals when they are saying they need aides. It would be against the law. As of now, no residents have ever been displaced from Camp Commerce because of a non-resident aide going to Camp.

Commissioner Zambrano has noticed Camp staff help individuals when they need it.

STAFF REPORTS

Senior Center Supervisor Berroteran reported that last night the Senior Center held a National Night out party. Last night's event was probably their best one yet. It was very well attended by city staff, including firefighters, sheriffs, Search & Rescue team members, CSOs, ComCats, and Community Services staff. Today Anthem Blue cross gave a class on healthy cooking. August 3 is a trip to the Anaheim Packing District. It is a multi-level foodie haven. The group will then go to the Orange Circle to look at antiques.

August 9 is Food Bank day

August 16 is a trip to Del Mar Race Track

August 24 there will be a "Paint and Sip" class sponsored by Apple Care

August 30 trip to Del Mar Race Track

September 14 trip to Nixon Library and Museum. The cost is \$14.

September 19 Balboa Park in San Diego

Oct 3 trip to Glen Ivy Hot Springs Spa

Oct 18 trip to the Farmer's Market and Golden Corral

Oct 31 is the Halloween Dance

There may be a end of Summer barbecue.
Andrea Grajeda is officially off on maternity leave and she along with the rest of the Senior staff wish her the best.

Mr. Lipton reported that he had a great time attending all the different locations of the National Night. The Department is bringing Summer to a close and moving forward into Fall. There will be a couple of concerts in the park coming up soon. On Sep 16 we will be having the Fiestas Patrias celebration at Bristow Park.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Gibson attended many National Night Out parties and really enjoyed the Senior Center party. She was glad to see that most of the Community Services staff was present. She was glad to see that they all gave speeches at each event they attended. She was glad to see that all the council members attended. She is also glad to see that more councilmembers have been visiting the Senior Center more often than before.

Commissioner Zambrano said he also felt the National Night Out was a success. He also reported that there are Seniors who are concerned about the driver's of the Medi-van asking them what time they will be finished with their doctors appointments. He said it is hard to predict what time a doctor's appointment will end.

Mr. Lipton mentioned we will ask Transportation staff to attend the next meeting to clarify the policy.

Vice Chairperson Elenes reported that he is glad to see Commissioner Zambrano on the Commision. He would like to see the Commission finally reorganize.

Mr. Lipton said as soon as we have five Commissioners at the meeting we will reorganize.

Vice Chairperson Elenes reported that he attended the Senior Centers Night Out as well as several others around the community. It was a good event with a lot of people. He asked if the pool room TV can be replaced because it doesn't work. There also used to be an icebox in there and it is not in there anymore.

Mr. Lipton will look into getting a new TV in there.

Vice Chairperson Elenes reported that there is a hole in the pathway when you come out of the center. Mr. Lipton asked him to show it to him after the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m. The next Senior Citizens Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2017.