

**MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5655 JILLSON ST., COMMERCE, CALIFORNIA
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2017 AT 6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Perez at 6:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
AND INVOCATION**

Commissioner Zavala led those present in the salute to the flag and invocation.

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Perez
Vice Chairperson Griego
Commissioner: Aguilar, Garcia, Zavala
Absent: None

REORGANIZATION

Nominations opened for the position of Vice Chairperson. Commissioner Garcia was selected for the position of Vice Chairperson by majority vote. Nominations then opened for the position of Chairperson. Vice Chairperson Griego was selected as Chairperson by majority vote.

**APPEARANCES AND
PRESENTATIONS**

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gloria Nezahualcoyotl who resides at 7276 Paseo de Rio, Commerce, approached the Commission with concerns with respect to field trips, noting her experience from the Community Clippers Night, that there was room on the bus for more people and recommended the department overbook seats on the bus as many people do not show up and the department can always get another van if needed. Ms. Nezahualcoyotl also expressed her concerns with respect to Camp Commerce, noting that she was told that there was room on the bus (by a friend) for more people on a weekend that she was told by staff that there was no room for her and her grandchildren, recommending procedure improvement.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Aguilar approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 5, 2017. Commissioner Zavala seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

The Commission reviewed, approved and signed a letter written on their behalf to Performing Arts Coordinator Amber Torres Chavez and all involved in the success of the production of "Greece".

STAFF REPORT

Director Lipton reported on the success of the Veterans Day Ceremony, stating it was a nice event, good decorations and felt good comradery with all in attendance during the luncheon at the Senior Center. Reported on the upcoming 5K Turkey Trot race and updated the Commission on the BVAC railing project on the upper deck and the resurfacing of the Veterans Park outdoor flooring to rubberized flooring for the HIIT classes (approximate \$25,000 project). Mr. Lipton provided a short Veterans Park building update with possible layout ideas.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Zavala reported on her attendance to the Veterans Day Ceremony, stating she was very proud of her son who is Veteran and now a CHP officer. It was a nice event, thumbs up to all staff. Inquired about a trip to Santa's Village and inquired as to why other Commissions do not get introduced a P&R events. Mrs. Zavala also inquired whether her involvement with Relay for Life – Commerce will conflict with her as a P&R Commissioner.

Commissioner Perez reported on her attendance at Clippers Night and the Dia de los Muertos event, requesting a letter of appreciation. *Ms. Perez reminded the department of her letter of appreciation request.

Commissioner Aguilar reported that he did not attend the Veterans Day Ceremony, rather attending a tour of Commerce, learning that there were 4 homes in Commerce where crimes of murder took place. He did however, drive by the event and it looked great. Mr. Aguilar attended a meeting at Bandini Park and noticed the overgrown shrubs covering the building. Reported an observation by his step-daughter while on a tour at the City of Montebello and the unacceptable condition of the public restrooms, she walked out. Reminding the Department to keep our restrooms cleans so that nobody has an experience in our City as such. *Chairperson Griego mentioned that the restrooms at Rosewood Park are always clean, by his observation.

Vice Chairperson Garcia began her report by stating that she understands that we have heavy workloads and deadlines however, she would like a follow up email stating that when the minutes are requested, just a courtesy email that you are unable to send it out when she is asking for it. Communication is key and she would appreciate that. Ms. Garcia continued by reporting on her attendance at the Dia de Los Muertos event and Veterans Day, reporting that the set ups and decorations looked great, the staff were at their stations, it looked wonderful, when she walked in, everyone was at their stations and it just looked great so good job with that. Ms. Garcia commended two of our staff members who displayed great professionalism (Marcus Enriquez and Ray Zamora). Marcus Enriquez, during the Veterans Day Celebration

was very professional, he looked professional, was very well spoken and did a great job. Ray Zamora, he is organized with inspiring instruction and motivating music. Reported on complaints received from a few residents who expressed concerns with Veterans Park, saying that it looks abandoned, observing that the grass looks like it's not being taken care of, it's not being kept up. Noting some holes on the ground near the circle entrance.

Chairperson Griego apologized for not attending the last meeting as he had to work. Reported on his attendance at the Concert in the Parks, both Rosewood and Veterans Park, stating the bands were good but suggested the band timeframe (order) be reconsidered, possibly changing up the order between the classic band with the Alvarez band. Mr. Griego also suggested the department allowing our local travel teams to fundraise during the Concert in the Park, stating that the baseball team would sell. Chairperson Griego also visited the volleyball practices.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned in memory of Connie Ochoa, Wade Downing and Solomia Nicole.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 2017