

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5655 JILLSON ST., COMMERCE, CALIFORNIA
THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2019 AT 6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

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

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

Chairperson Griego

Vice Chairperson Zavala

Commissioner: Garcia and Perez

Absent: Commissioner Aguilar

Interim Director Marquez

Senior Office Specialist Macias

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident and Planning Commissioner Johncito Peraza thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for allowing the Public Works and Planning Division have a booth during the 4th of July celebration where they had great community input on what they want for the future of our city. Some suggestions were a pharmacy, grocery store, and retail stores. He thanked the Parks & Recreation Department for the partnership.

Resident Gloria Nezahualcoyotl addressed the Commission on her concerns for the Camp Commerce kitchen staff. She attends Camp Commerce about six times a year and she says every time she goes she notices that the kitchen staff is in desperate need of more help. The small staff they have do an amazing job and are always working very hard. She very much enjoys the food they make and thinks Camp Cook Lourdes Ortiz is an amazing chef and worker. She feels that they need more help. And they need more equipment. She feels the City is spending too much money on fixing the council cabin. She asked why? This money can be placed into something else, not into something that only a handful of people are going to enjoy like this new council cabin in Camp Commerce. It should be spent on something that should benefit the whole community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chairperson Zavala motioned to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of July 11, 2019. Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion with one correction. Motion passed unanimously with one correction.

**2019 CULTURAL
EXCURSION REPORT**

Teen Center Supervisor Marcus Enriquez reported on the 2019 Cultural excursion that he chaperoned along with Recreation Administrative Coordinator Patricia Borunda. Mr. Enriquez presented a slide show with pictures of the various places they visited during the excursion.

Some of the sights they visited were New York Times Square, Broadway, Statue of Liberty, Wall Street, Empire State Building, Washington D.C, Capitol Hill, and many other they visited. Mr. Enriquez reported that the trip went very well and everyone had a wonderful time exploring and learning. Many of the participants had never been to the East Coast so it was a special trip for them. Participant Michelle Perez also spoke on the trip and she felt everyone had a great time and it was a good trip. She said they saw many historical sites and it was interesting to learn about them. She thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for the opportunity to attend.

STAFF REPORT

Interim Director Marquez reported that the cultural excursion group came back safe and happy. Staff did a good job about making quick decisions during the sudden blackout in New York city. Currently we have four teams competing out of the state. Girls and boys water polo is in Hawaii for a tournament. Girls and boys soccer are in Virginia for a tournament. Last Friday was the first theater in the park which went with our summer theme "Creative Arts." We also played an outside movie that same night as well as had the community art boards out for the community to paint. The boards will be displayed for the City's 60th birthday around the community. The arts & craft division have been taking these boards around to different locations and events so they can reach people in our community to contribute to the art. The next theater in the park will be held on Friday, August 23, 2019. Our teen center performing arts will partner with the ELA College theater group and present an outdoor play. There will also be an outdoor movie played that evening and food trucks. The free Concert in the Park and car show is going to be held this Saturday at Rosewood Park at 4 p.m. This Friday we are having the Day Camp Showcase at Rosewood Park at 6 p.m. City wide pass for the City's Fitness Weekend at Camp Commerce. The Summer End Bash and Glow Run is coming up as well at Veterans Park on Friday, August 16, 2019. Preschool registration is on Saturday, August 17 in the council chambers. Suggestion made by Commissioner Perez to have a banner for Concert in the Park. The banner was up in one week. And we also added the Swap Meet banner for the United Family of Bristow.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Vice Chairperson Zavala reported that July was a little slow for her. She attended the Council meetings and some Commission meetings. She knows that if she can't attend something she can remain up to date by visiting social media. She attended the recent Planning Commission meeting. They asked if it would be possible to add flyers for their events to the Parks & Recreation flyer passouts. Director Marquez mentioned that he would speak to the Planning Commission liaison concerning this request. Commissioner Zavala is looking forward to the upcoming National Night Out.

Chairperson Griego reported that he saw the travel team soccer practice and prepare for the tournament in Virginia they are currently in. He feels coach Fernando Castillo is doing a great job with his teams.

He also acknowledged the water polo teams that are currently in Hawaii. He knows they are well prepared. He also asked everyone to keep Commissioner Aguilar in our prayers.

Commissioner Garcia had a few questions. She asked if the Commission could get an update on the progress of Veterans Park. Specifically the maintenance as she noticed the grass area outside is patchy and there are areas with dead grass. Is maintenance out there daily? Director Marquez suggested that a representative from Park Maintenance address the Commission during the next meeting to give a presentation. Commissioner Garcia said that would be great.

Commissioner Perez reported that she attended the "Together in Art" and it was a great event. She commended Director Marquez and the staff who organized it. The theater in the park was outstanding. She loved that it was outside and out in the open. There were a lot of people there to watch the movie. She is very thankful that we are still doing the movie at the park especially for families that cannot afford to take their kids to the movie theater. Two of the food trucks did very well. However the third truck left early because they were not making enough money. She suggested that some canvases from the community art be dropped off at the Teen Center and the Senior Center. The Senior Center is having watercolor painting classes and the participants were interested in doing art on the canvasses. She visited Commissioner Aguilar yesterday and he is doing great. He just needs to take it easy for at least 6 weeks.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned in hopes of a speedy recovery for Parks & Recreation Commissioner Joe Aguilar. The next meeting is scheduled for September 5, 2019.