

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION

MINUTES – June 10, 2020

This meeting was conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with State of California Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Chairman Spiller called the meeting to order at 6:16 pm

Commissioners Present: Brand, Cabales, Dean, Duff, Gorham, Radenheimer, Spiller

Staff Present: Sue Richardson, Director of Community Services; Cesar Romero, Assistant Director of Public Works.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 12, 2020. Commissioner Duff moved, Commissioner Radenheimer seconded. All in favor.

PARK INSPECTION REPORTS: Cesar Romero, the new Assistant Director of Public Works introduced himself and presented focus of park inspection reports:

- Maintenance which will typically be taken care of on the same or next day such as cleaning or stocking of restrooms.
- Minor repairs such as repairing masonry and chain link fencing, gophers, removal of weeds and tall grasses
- Major projects for instance drainage issues at Collier Park, CIP Projects that get submitted with 2- year budget process

Plans to implement a park inspection tracking report to be able to report back on status.

COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE: Director Richardson provided updates:

Collier Park did not receive any competitive Prop 68 grant funds. Still waiting for amount of distribution for per-capita funds. Restroom was purchased in order to spend CBDG funds that had to be spent. Staff will pick up project again now that funding is known. Commissioner Brand asked for a report on the budget and construction costs for Collier Park Phase 2 at July meeting.

The March MacArthur Park Master Plan workshop was cancelled due to COVID-19. Staff is coordinating with consultant to create a prerecord presentation to post with a survey for community input. Target date is by the July Community Services Commission meeting.

The City received a Neighborhood Reinvestment Grant from the County of San Diego District 2 for safety netting around Kuhlken Field for \$65,000.

Commissioners Dean and Brand provided an update on the MacArthur Park Community Garden committee. Applications and sponsorship forms are being finalized, a grant for an AARP Community Challenge Grant was submitted. A grant from the San Diego Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects for \$5,000 for start up, design and education was awarded. A banner for the sign at the club house was ordered.

Director Richardson updated Commissioners on COVID-19 effect on La Mesa's parks and recreation programs. All facilities were closed and continue to follow County guidelines for what can be opened again. Play grounds are still closed. Secret stairs to re open June 19. Day camps are operating with smaller groups, requiring face coverings. Churches have not been meeting in public buildings but one now meets at Harry Griffith Park outside. The Municipal Pool will be opening soon with modified use, starting with lap swim. Sports league cannot have games and only practice as a camp with 12 or less kids in a group. No adult sports.

City hall had a fire as a result of the rioting on May 30, 2020. Some staff is working at alternative locations. The Community Center has been serving as an emergency command center.

Community Services plans to put out a call for artists to help redo and update some of the murals in the Walkway of the Stars and painted utility boxes.

All summer programs in the parks were cancelled, the next scheduled event is Park Appreciation Day in October.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

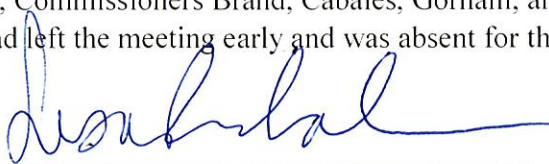
Commissioner Radenheimer recommended that the City work with LMSVSD and GUHSD to see how to support the new school formats with programs such as home school PE or free WiFi in parks.

Commissioner Cabalas recommended graduate students to help provide tutoring for summer school and fall. Food for the weekends for families is available at Spring Valley Academy from 3-5 PM on Fridays. Donations are also being accepted for that food distribution through CityHope.

Commissioner Duff praised City staff for cleaning up Collier Park on June 1 and the public right of way areas in the village where the fires took place.

Commissioner Brand requested a future presentation from Councilmember Parent or Circulate San Diego on slow street concepts.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Dean moved to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Duff seconded, Commissioners Brand, Cabales, Gorham, and Radenheimer voted yes. Commissioner Spiller had left the meeting early and was absent for the vote.



Submitted by:
Susan Richardson, Director of Community Services