

Minutes of a Meeting of the La Mesa Community Relations and Veterans Commission  
Wednesday, October 27, 2021

This meeting was conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with Government Code Section 54953, as amended by Assembly Bill 361.

CALLED TO ORDER: Vice Chairperson Sharp called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Commissioners present: Kappel, Loorya, Sharp, Bloemen, Long and Britland. Absent: Commissioner Gann. Staff present: Megan Howell, Recreation Supervisor and Susan Richardson, Community Services Director.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Britland motioned, Commissioner Bloemen seconded approval of the September 22, 2021 regular meeting minutes. Commissioners Britland, Bloemen, Sharp, and Long in favor; Loorya and Kappel abstained.

INTERGENERATIONAL SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL: Bonnie Baranoff presented information about the City's Intergenerational Safe Routes to School program and invited members to volunteer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

NOVEMBER MEETING DATE & DECEMBER CANCELLATION: Commissioner Loorya made a motion to cancel the November and December commission meetings. Commissioner Britland seconded, all in favor. Commissioner Sharp made a motion to hold a special meeting on December 15, 2021 at 5:30 PM. Commissioner Loorya seconded, all in favor.

VETERANS DAY EVENT: Director Richardson invited Commissioners to attend the La Mesa Rotary meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM to hear a speaker addressing local veteran services.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION PLANNING: Next event to tentatively be scheduled for February and April 2022. Director Richardson recommended a diversity, equity, and inclusion presentation from the San Diego County office of Aging and Equity. A program on disability issues was also discussed to potentially cover accessibility, awareness and programs. Possible partners would be local non-profits and the County of San Diego. A sub-committee was formed with Commissioners Sharp, Britland and Bloemen to further discuss topics and format.

2022 WORK PLAN: Commissioners discussed the 2021 work plan progress and future items for 2022. Chairman Kappel suggested the Good Neighbor awards program be expanded to recognize local high school seniors who enlist in the military. The revised work plan will be presented at a future meeting for approval to forward to City Council by February.

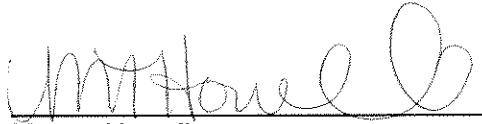
STAFF REPORTS: Supervisor Howell gave an update on classes at the Adult Enrichment Center and the November 6, Park Appreciation Day event. On November 2, a special election will be held for the open La Mesa City Council seat by mail-in or drop off ballot only. Commissioners were invited to attend the La Mesa Boulevard Complete Streets Project walk audit on November 10, at 9:00 AM and a Christmas light walk departing from La Mesita Park on December 22, at 5:00 PM.

Director Richardson reminded Commissioners that interviews were held for two at-large seats on the Commission with appointments on November 9. Applications are being accepted for the new Arts and Culture Commission.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioner Bloemen announced that La Mesa Kiwanis will be hosting the Miracle Mile of Quarters and will be visiting the La Mesa Springs senior housing on December 4.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Loorya motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 PM, second by Commissioner Bloemen to a special meeting on December 15, 2021, at 5:30 PM. All in favor.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Megan Howell", written over a horizontal line.

Megan Howell  
Recreation Supervisor