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# CITY OF COSTA MESA

June 24, 2021

## MEETING OF THE PARKS, ARTS & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION OFFICIAL - MINUTES

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1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Chair Ashendorf at 4:02pm
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Commissioner Andrade-Vallarta
3. **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Chair Ashendorf, Vice Chair Rutherford, Commissioner Glabb, Commissioner Andrade-Vallarta and Commissioner Dorn Parker

**Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jason Minter, Parks & Community Services Director; Monique Villasenor, Recreation Manager; Robert Ryan, Act. Maintenance Superintendent; Raja Sethuraman, Public Services Director; Cynthia D'Agosta, Fairview Park Administrator and Sylvia Chalmers, Executive Secretary;

4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 27, 2021**

**MOTION/SECOND:** Vice Chair Rutherford moves to approve the minutes with amendments /Seconded by Commissioner Dorn Parker. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**Ayes:** Vice Chair Rutherford, Commissioner Glabb, Commissioner Andrade-Vallarta, Commissioner Dorn Parker and Chair Ashendorf

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Carried:** 5-0

**Public Comment:**

**Bettina Eastman:** Thanked Vice Chair Rutherford for giving attention to the language of the motion regarding the fly field.

**David Martinez:** Wanted to make a correction in the Park Ranger Monthly Report Public Comment section in the minutes. He stated last month's ticket made for the seventh ticket at Talbert Park since October.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Jim Erickson:** Would like to see more support for pickleball. Stated there is an empty lot on Charle Steet he thinks would make a great park. He also inquired when the meetings will be later to accommodate some members of the public.

**David Martinez:** Thanked the Commission for the new bike rack at Shalimar Park. He is looking forward to all parks having bike racks.

6. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

**Vice Chair Rutherford:** Thanked the staff for reopening programs.

**Commissioner Glabb:** Went on a tour of city facilities with staff and saw the programs being offered. Thanked staff for their time.

**Commissioner Andrade-Vallarta:** No comment.

**Commissioner Dorn Parker:** Has been in communication with families in Costa Mesa about park maintenance. Thanked Mr. Minter for a conversation in relation to public service with limitations due to budget and time. Would like to support the pickleball craze.

**Chair Ashendorf:** Requested the fall recreation guide be mailed to residents. She announced OCME has received a \$5,000 grant, which they will be using to rebuild their trestle building. Announced there is an informational meeting at the Senior Center from 6pm to 8pm tonight. The meeting will offer updates regarding vaccines, rental assistance, food security and housing. The seniors are happy to be back and participating in programs at the center. Would like staff to consider bringing back the Chairperson Award and the Rec Landscape Streets Beautification Award.

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR** – There are no consent calendar items.

8. **OLD BUSINESS** None

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

a.) Tree Removal Request – 1624 Sandalwood Str.

**Mr. Ryan** presented.

**Public Comment:**

**Nancy Richardson:** The sister of the applicant informed the Commission the tree causes problems when visiting. She stated the sap and pinecones cause damage to their vehicles. She also mentioned her sister is willing to pay for the removal and will allow the tree to be adopted. She hopes the next meeting is in person.

**Jay Humphrey:** A neighbor of the applicant informed the Commission that the tree drops needles and pinecones year round, much more frequently than similar surrounding trees. He stated the applicants request for removal should be approved because it is the wrong kind of tree for a neighborhood setting.

**Flo Martin:** Informed the Commission that she has planted a tree similar to the applicants in her yard, and does not struggle with the maintenance. She opposes cutting down the tree.

**Commissioner Glabb:** Went to view the tree in person and did find several pine needles had fallen. He stated the street has already had some trees removed. He asked staff if the city or owner would have to cover the cost of property damage if the tree falls.

**Mr. Ryan:** Answered, in the case of a tree falling the situation would be handled in a claim process.

**Vice Chair Rutherford:** Would like to approve staff recommendation due to this case being less severe.

**Commissioner Dorn Parker:** Asked staff if it was possible to remove the tree and replant it in one of the parks.

**Mr. Ryan:** Stated the tree would most likely not survive transplanting.

**Commissioner Dorn Parker:** Asked if there was a claim process if the city tree's pinecones causes damage.

**Mr. Ryan:** Confirmed there is a claim process if a city tree causes damage.

**Commissioner Glabb:** Asked if the residents are allowed to trim the trees if the branches go onto their property.

**Mr. Ryan:** Responded city trees are to be maintained by the city contractor.

**Chair Ashendorf:** When visiting the property she noticed neighbors had the same trees.

**Commissioner Glabb:** Clarified she mentioned if a tree were to fall on the house.

**MOTION/SECOND:** Vice Chair Rutherford moves to approve staff recommendation /Seconded by Chair Ashendorf. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**Ayes:** Vice Chair Rutherford, Commissioner Glabb, Commissioner Andrade-Vallarta, Commissioner Dorn Parker, and Chair Ashendorf

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Carried:** 5-0

b.) Open Space Master Plan Update

**Mr. Minter** presented.

**MOTION/SECOND:** Chair Ashendorf moves to receive and file this report/ Seconded by Commissioner Dorn Parker. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**Ayes:** Vice Chair Rutherford, Commissioner Glabb, Commissioner Andrade-Vallarta, Commissioner Dorn Parker, and Chair Ashendorf

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Carried:** 5-0

**10. Park Ranger Monthly Report**  
(May 2021)

**Commissioner Dorn Parker:** Asked if there is an open process of obtaining a bike license

**Mr. Minter:** Stated the police department front desk is open to process bike licenses.

**Public Comment:**

**David Martinez:** Commented Westside parks are receiving the majority of the citations. He also mentioned the Bikeway and Walkability Committee has sent a letter to City Council to request a revision to the Municipal Code on the bicycle section.

**Flo Martin:** Has seen many people at the skate park not wearing helmets. She requests park rangers to enforce all the rules at the skate park.

**Ann Harmer:** Commented there are many dogs not on a leash at Fairview Park.

**MOTION/SECOND:** Commissioner Dorn Parker made a motion to receive and file the report/ Seconded by Chair Ashendorf. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**Ayes:** Vice Chair Rutherford, Commissioner Glabb, Commissioner Andrade-Vallarta, Commissioner Dorn Parker, and Chair Ashendorf

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Carried:** 5-0

**11. Parks & Community Services Director's Report**  
(May 2021)

**Mr. Minter and Ms. Villasenor** presented and answered follow-up questions commissioners had.

**Commissioner Glabb:** Asked if Ms. Villasenor was in charge of SMART Camp.

**Ms. Villasenor:** Responded SMART Camp is a partnership between the department and the school district.

**Public Comment:**

**David Martinez:** Asked if there will be cooling center available during the summer.

**Mr. Minter:** Reassured everyone there is a plan for cooling centers.

**MOTION/SECOND:** Chair Ashendorf made a motion to receive and file the report. Seconded by Vice Chair Rutherford. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

**Ayes:** Vice Chair Rutherford, Commissioner Glabb, Commissioner Andrade-Vallarta, Commissioner Dorn Parker, and Chair Ashendorf

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**Motion Carried:** 5-0

12. **Adjournment** meeting adjourned by Chair Ashendorf at 5:06pm

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING: JULY 22, 2021 AT 4:00 P.M., VIA ZOOM WEBINAR**